



Southend High School for Girls

AN ACADEMY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Southchurch Boulevard, Southend-on-Sea, SS2 4UZ

Headteacher: Mr J Carey MEd (Cantab), BA (Hons), LLE, NPQEL

Friday, 7th July 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Please find below information and updates from this week.

Open Evening

On Thursday, 6th July we welcomed over six hundred families to SHSG for our Open Evening event. I was joined by Mrs Leman, Carissa (Head Student), Francesca (Head Prefect) and a team of Year 7s in my Headteacher talks. The Hall was packed with over three hundred people for each of the three presentations. Hundreds of SHSG students helped as tour guides and subject ambassadors, along with all of our teaching and support staff. Thank you to all staff and students for helping to make this event such a success, and not forgetting the Parents' Association as well. It was a real team effort.

I cannot begin to describe just how proud I felt as I spoke with parents and their children and heard just how much they loved the school. Perhaps what stood out the most in the feedback was the comments about staff and students' energy and the passion for SHSG.

I have put below some comments from the feedback:

- All the girls we met were lovey, polite and very welcoming. Our daughter is now determined to succeed in her 11+ so she can attend SHSG!
- My daughter felt like home straight away
- The first impressions were absolutely amazing, the students/tour guides were very helpful. Teachers were very kind and my daughter said "I would like to come here the students are very kind."
- How well run it was
- My daughter has taken part in some of the launchpad sessions and has come out so excited!!! Feels like the school for her.
- Meeting the girls, hearing the traditions and how you support the girls. Our daughter loved the activities, it allowed her to feel at ease and get involved, she was anxious beforehand

Offer Holder Event

This week, SHSG Sixth Form invited our offer holders to attend an event to welcome them to SHSG Sixth Form. We receive nearly one thousand applications but restrict the offers to the top three hundred. These are students who currently attend schools other than SHSG and based on their predicted grades have been offered a place to study with us from September 2023.

Ms Boyson, Mrs Neill, our Head Student Team and I presented and informed the students about life at SHSG and our expectations around hard work and getting involved in the life of the school as a sixth former. Students then had the opportunity to speak with our senior prefects and captains in Scholars over refreshments and then attended our Subject Fair.



The feedback from Offer Holders has been fantastic; students have enjoyed the opportunity to speak with our best ambassadors - our students, and were able to gather information about what their studies at SHSG Sixth Form will look like.

We look forward to confirming A Level subjects with SHSG Year 11s and our offer holders on Thursday 24th August, GCSE results day.

Year 12 Trip to University of Cambridge Open Day



On Thursday 6th July, we took thirty Year 12 students who are interested in applying to the University of Cambridge to its annual Open Day. Students enjoyed sample lectures in subjects including Theology, Geography, Pharmacology, Law, and Classics. Students visited a range of the beautiful colleges at Cambridge and had the opportunity to speak to Directors of Study about their applications. Keala B said, 'I really enjoyed being able to wander around so many colleges, and the trip gave me a much better understanding of the collegiate structure of the university.'

Blasian Showcase

The Blasian Showcase of the year took place on Tuesday, 27th June. Students in Years 7-10 took part by celebrating traditional dress in a fashion show. There were also some great dance performances! We look forward to more of this on Culture Day on Tuesday, 18th of July.



SHSG Awards Evening - Monday 17th July 2023

Guest speaker: Professor Jane Clarke, President of Wolfson College, Cambridge

Our annual awards evening is taking place at the Palace Theatre, Westcliff on Sea, on Monday 17th July. We are delighted to confirm that Professor Jane Clarke, President of Wolfson College, Cambridge is our guest speaker. Professor Clarke is Professor of Molecular Biophysics and will be spending some time in school during the day with students in the science departments.

The event starts at 7.00pm.

- Reminder for Parents/Carers of Students Receiving an Award

On the evening, the theatre doors will be open from 5.30pm onwards. All award winners must have registered and have taken their seats in the auditorium by 6.15pm at the latest in order for us to make the final preparations. Guests will be able to take their seats from 6.30pm. Refreshments will be available on the evening from the theatre bar. We are looking forward to celebrating with students on the night. Congratulations to all students who have been selected to receive an award.

Media Magazine Production Awards

We were very proud to support Kate and Max at the final of the Media Magazine Production Awards which was held at the British Film Institute on the Southbank in London. Out of over 200 entries, SHSG was the only senior school to have two students in the final. Kate and Max and their parents were able to watch their music videos on the main screen at the BFI and heard praise and adjudication from top industry professionals.

Kate and Max chatted to other finalists from around the country who had come from as far afield as Birkenhead and Derby and our biggest rivals, Hartwood House. They discussed their future plans with judges from the National Film and Television school, whose summer programme is open to applications now <https://nfts.co.uk/access-nfts-summer-sessions>.

You can see the high quality of the finalists' productions:

<https://www.englishandmedia.co.uk/competitions/production-competition-2023-tell-us-a-story-the-shortlist/>

Current Media students take note, this is the standard we expect from you!

In addition, Year 12 student Hannah P had spent her work experience week at the English and Media Centre in Islington. She secured this exciting opportunity after submitting an article for the Media Magazine after attending their student conference- also held at the BFI earlier this year. Hannah so impressed the director with her high level of journalism that she was accepted as their first WE student. Part of her job role was to produce the programme for the competition. So, a really successful and inspirational experience for our talented SHSG Media Students.

Cambridge Chemistry Challenge

This year all A level Chemistry students were given the opportunity to participate in the prestigious Cambridge Chemistry Challenge. This competition aims to stretch and challenge students interested in chemistry. Set by an experienced team of teachers and university chemists, it is designed to be accessible to Year 12 students but will take them significantly beyond the syllabus and encourage them to think about science in the way they would at university.

To achieve the Copper Award, students needed to be in the top 65% of those taking the challenge. 9 of our Year 12 chemists achieved the award. These students were Zara C, Anna M, Miguel E-O, Rosie C, Beth R, Alexander P, Kalyani N, Anya K and Lauren F.

To achieve the silver award, students needed to be in the top 30% of all the students that took the challenge. Two of our Year 12 students achieved this - Anna H and Tejeshvar A.

Congratulations to all those who took on the challenge!

Key dates

The calendar on our website is regularly updated and contains key dates of activities and events that are taking place in school. A full list can be found [here](#).

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Carey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot at the end.

Jason Carey
Headteacher



Garon Park HAF Programme

@wellbeing_garonpark_cic



Is your child aged between 8-15 years old and is entitled to free school meals?

If so why not give them the opportunity to to get involved with some exciting activities at Garon Park over the summer holidays. We are running our HAF programme over 2 weeks of the holidays in August 2023.

Please use the QR code below to book your places

- Wood Work
- Animal Workshop
- Arts and Crafts
- Nutritional Education
- Outdoor Games
- Taste Testing
- Planting



01702965959

enquiries@garonparkcic.com

www.wellbeingatgaronpark.com



JOIN US THIS SUMMER

ACTIVE ACADEMY

HAF & HOLIDAY CLUB

RUNNING MONDAY - THURSDAY
24TH JULY - 17TH AUGUST
11am-3pm at Chase High School

daily food activities, sports and themed weeks to
cater to all young adults

glow in the dark laser tag | dodgeball | nerf wars
daily cooking activities | football | water fights |
arts and crafts | handball | archery tag

FREE with a HAF code, or £25 per child, lunch
included. book via www.active-academy.co.uk