



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, 13th September 2024

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Please find below information and updates from this week.

Culture Day Tuesday 17th September

Next Tuesday students and staff will be engaged in a whole day devoted to celebrating the cultural diversity within the SHSG school community. As such, there is a whole host of activities which have been planned ranging from dance to having an introduction to a new language and learning about particular traditions within different cultures. Students as well as staff are taking the lead on delivering the activities and we would like to also thank those parents who have volunteered to give up their time to support this day by leading activities.

The culture day will be a non uniform day so that we can invite students to wear cultural dress. Please note that students in Years 7-10 will be off timetable all day; students in Year 11 will be off timetable in the afternoon (lessons 4 and 5) only; and students in Years 12 and 13 will be off timetable in the morning (lessons 1 and 2) only. We are very much looking forward to what promises to be a very enjoyable day. I would like to thank in advance everyone involved in making this day happen, but particularly Mrs. Robinson who is leading the event.

Reminder Year 12 Parents' Introduction to A Levels Evening, Wednesday 18th September

A reminder that all Year 12 parents and carers are invited to an 'Introduction to A Levels' information evening on Wednesday 18th September from 6.00pm to 7.00pm in the Main Hall.

The event will be for parents and guardians only, and we hope it will give you all the information you need to support your daughter or son in their transition from GCSEs to Sixth Form. We will set out the expectations that we have for our students, and how we can work together to help them achieve their potential. We will also run through key milestones for the year ahead.

Year 7 Welcome to Lower School Evening – Thursday 19th September

A reminder that parents and carers of students in Year 7 are invited to a 'Welcome to Lower School' evening from 6.15pm-8.00pm on Thursday 19th September. The evening will consist of a presentation from the Headteacher and a series of talks from our Directors of Faculty/Heads of Department. These talks will outline the roadmap for learning in each faculty area, opportunities for enrichment and how parents can best support their child at home. I look forward to seeing you at this event and working together to make this a successful and enjoyable year for your child.

Reminder Year 7 Parent/Form Tutor Consultation Evening, Thursday 26th September

On Thursday 26th September there will be a virtual Year 7 parent/tutor consultation evening from 4.00pm-8.00pm. Please note that some tutors will be taking appointments instead on Wednesday 25th September. This evening will provide you with an opportunity to discuss with your child's tutor how well they have settled into life at Southend High School for Girls. Please note that this is not an event to report on academic progress and attainment; there is a parents' consultation evening on Thursday 23rd January for this.

We will be using an online platform called School Cloud, which will enable you to book a one-to-one video appointment, lasting four minutes with your child's tutor. Details will follow via a separate letter on Wednesday 18th September regarding how to make appointments and which tutors are available on which night.



Sims Parent App

We would like to remind parents and carers that Southend High School for Girls uses the SIMS Parent App to facilitate communication of key information between home and school, such as reports and attendance. Please find attached a [link](#) to our parent guide to using this app. As we are at the beginning of the school year, we would advise that you check that you can log in and access the app. Any problems please contact, parentsupport@shsg.org.

International athletes

Eliza D in Year 12 has been selected for Team England Cheerleading squad. She will be representing Team England at various competitions throughout the year including attending the World Championships in Orlando in April 2025. Congratulations, Eliza!



European Under 20s Athletics – championship record

At the end of July, Shiloh travelled to Slovakia to represent Great Britain in the European Under 20s competition. The team qualified comfortably for the finals of the medley relay and Shiloh ran the anchor leg. She ran such a strong leg on the relay and brought the team back into bronze medal position. This broke the national championship record as well as being a national U18 record.



Year 11 Careers consultations

As part of our Careers curriculum, we offer all Year 11 students the opportunity to have a one-to-one, in person 40-minute careers consultation with an independent advisor from careers specialists, 'Connexions'. This gives students the opportunity to consider their post-16 and wider ambition options.

The first interviews took place this week with more to follow across the autumn term. Year 11 students should check their emails for their invitation and are also advised to also double check with their form tutor or Careers Coordinator, Ms Casson.

To help prepare, and for students to make the most out of this experience, I would invite parents and carers to discuss options with their child in advance of the consultation and help them prepare some questions. More help and advice for parents can be found here on the Connexions website [Careers Advice for Parents/Carers | Southend Connexions Career Service](#).

If your child is absent on the day of their consultation, please let Ms Casson know (vcasson@shsg.org) so that it can be rescheduled.

World Mental Health Day

On Thursday 10th October 2024 the school will be taking part in the 'Wear something yellow for World Mental Health Day' campaign. Any student wishing to wear a yellow item of clothing on this day should make a £1 donation to the YOUNGMINDS Charity via parent pay. Further information will be provided to students via the registration programme.

Business & Accounting Event with PwC, BDO, KPMG & more!

Please find information below regarding an exciting, free, online opportunity from Young Professionals. Students, please remember to add this to your Unifrog locker if you participate

Calling all aspiring business & accounting professionals...This is an event that you do not want to miss!

Are you an ambitious business professional or an aspiring accountant who is looking to learn more about the industry and gain some advice to help you nail your dream role? If so, then this event is for you!

We are thrilled to invite you to a very exciting, very huge online business & accounting event on Monday 16th September, from 5pm - 7pm.

During this event, we are delighted to be hosting 2 of the big 4 accountancy firms – PwC and KPMG, alongside the incredibly prestigious AICPA & CIMA, Forvis Mazars, BDO, Evelyn Partners, Amazon Accounting Division and Grant Thornton.

This multi-employer business & accounting event will include a keynote session from a senior member of staff from each of the above employers, as well as a rare opportunity for students to ask direct questions to leaders at these global firms throughout the evening.

Students will gain a vast insight into the upcoming work experience, graduate and apprenticeship opportunities with the likes of PwC and benefit from the first-hand advice and key tips from these hugely successful, powerhouse companies, ensuring you are well equipped to excel in any recruitment process!

Following the event, you will receive a certificate of completion within 7 working days.

This can be used on your CVs or LinkedIn profile and will undoubtedly enhance your applications for upcoming opportunities and help your CV to really stand out!

This event is open to all students in school / college from across the UK & Ireland.

Our events are very popular so make sure you sign up below as soon as possible to confirm your place at this incredible event.

Application Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MYSSXZZ>

Mental Health & Wellbeing at SHSG

At SHSG we often talk about how to look after our health in lessons and in tutor time. We have recently explored the field of Positive Psychology, and we found out that research has shown that being kind, generous with our time, spending time and money on experiences rather than material things are strong predictors of our future wellbeing. However, we also acknowledge that life can get tough sometimes.

If you need support or information about how to cope with your emotions, you can visit the school website and look at [Mental Health & Wellbeing - Southend High School for Girls \(shsg.org\)](https://shsg.org).

There, you will find some articles, videos and useful links. The school has also put together a Padlet for Lower and Middle school and one for Sixth Form for you to browse. Please find the links below:

[Lower and Middle school SHSG Mental Health Board \(padlet.com\)](#)

[SHSG Mental Health Board \(padlet.com\)](#)

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](#).

Have a lovely weekend!

Yours faithfully,

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

Jason Carey
Headteacher