



Summer Term

Southend High School for Girls

Gazette



≡CHICAGO≡



www.shsg.org



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Operation Theatre Live – A write up from the Science Captains

Year 12 Biology students had the chance to participate in a live dissection hosted by 'Operation Theatre Live'. This immersive experience involved collaborating with classmates to explore the anatomy of a pig, allowing us to examine closely its internal structures. Working together, we gained a comprehensive understanding of the pig's heart, lungs, eyes, head, and digestive system. Throughout the day, the instructor provided detailed demonstrations of the dissection process and shared fascinating insights into medicine and human anatomy, enriching our learning experience. Following the instructions, we organised ourselves into groups to conduct the dissection, which fostered initiative and heightened our scientific curiosity.

This experience not only deepened our grasp of the A-Level Biology curriculum, but also served as valuable preparation for those interested in pursuing Medicine or other biological studies after school.

We extend our gratitude to Operation Theatre Live and the Biology Department for this invaluable experience!



Create Week

During the Creative and Performing Arts Faculty *Create Week*, students in Years 12 and 8 worked collaboratively on a Dutch Delftware inspired project. First, the Year 8 students used cobalt oxide to work on a tile each to recreate a mural drawn by a Year 12 student, who was inspired by boats in Leigh-on-Sea. Each student also received an individual tile to create a delftware inspired self-portrait using the same cobalt oxide to give that distinctive, recognisable finish. We think you will agree that the results were phenomenal!



SHSG Success ~ British Dressage Youth Inter Regionals

Dakota and her pony, Eclipse were selected to represent the south and east region at the British Dressage Youth Inter Regionals. This is a national competition where all the best under 25s in the country compete.



SHSG Bake Off Competition

A huge thank you to all students that took part and producing such amazing bakes for the Bake-Off competition. First and second place are shown below for each category.

Cupcakes	Cookies	Brownies	Celebration Cake	Game Changer
1st: Priyanka P 2nd: Evelyn D	1st: Nicole D 2nd: Jasmine S	1st: Aayah R 2nd: Georgie D	1st: Tali S 2nd: Katie A	1st: Francesca R

The overall winner was Tali S with her showstopper celebration cake! Well done!



Sociology Lunchtime Lecture

Guest Lecturer Professor Heidi Mirza Speaks to Sociology A level students

As the first speaker in the Sociology A level Summer Lunchtime Lecture Programme, in June, Professor Heidi Mirza delivered an online lecture to A level students.

Professor Mirza leads on Race, Faith and Culture at Goldsmith University and is the Emeritus Professor of Equalities Studies in Education at the Institute of Education at UCL. She has worked with various Governments to advise on school improvement in areas of diversity and inclusion. Professor Mirza is a key theorist on the Sociology A level course. She is a leading Black Difference and Intersectional feminist.

Students were interested to hear about her route into academia and experiences as a black female academic. She was one of the first black female professors in the UK and she spoke about the sexism and racism that she has faced in her career.

Professor Mirza spoke about her seminal work 'Young, Female and Black' where she researched the experience of black girls in schools in the 1990s. She also spoke about her more recent research on the experience of Muslim girls in the education system.

Hearing from Professor Mirza directly about her research was inspirational for the students and really enriches their academic experience. We are very grateful to Professor Heidi Mirza for giving up her time for us.



Sociology Lunchtime Lecture Programme

Social Science at Oxbridge

Miss Sangha, delivered a presentation to social science A level students explaining the process of applying to Cambridge and Oxford to study social science related subjects.

Miss Sangha spoke about her experience of studying Psychology at Cambridge university. She told students about the array of opportunities available to them, and how they can prepare for the application and interview process. This was a great opportunity for students to ask questions and debunk any myths that they may have about the process.

Thank you to Mrs Fellowes for organising.

Sociology In Action Trip

Eighteen A level sociology students attended the Sociology in Action conference at the Emanuel Centre in London. Renowned feminist Professor Ann Oakley spoke about her fifty-year sociology career and research. At age 79, Prof Ann Oakley, is still working in the field, and her research is still making a difference to gender based social policy. Students were inspired by hearing Professor Jason Arday speak about his experiences breaking through in the education system as a young, black, autistic student with global delay. He talked about his research about ethnicity and inequalities in the education system, and the importance of celebrating and promoting Black History in the curriculum. He is the youngest ever professor to be appointed at Cambridge.

Sociology Lunchtime Lecture Programme

Sociology A level students have been visited by a range of guest academics this term, as part of the Lunchtime Lecture Programme. In recent weeks students have attended online lectures from Professor Heidi Mirza from UCL, Dr Skinner from Bath University, Dr Cecile Menghini from Exeter University, Professor Gillborn from Birmingham University and in-person lecture from Dr Katy Wheeler from Exeter University. Speakers have lectured on a range of topics related to the Sociology A level, including Education, Disability Inequality in Society, The Sociology of Consumption and Criminology research into gang crime.

Year 10 students joined us for the criminology talk as part of their careers programme.

The lectures have really brought sociology to life for students and are excellent enrichment. They have learnt how quantitative and qualitative research is carried out in the field as well as the impact of sociological research on social policy.

In the Autumn term, we look forward to hearing from Professor Louise Archer from UCL speaking about her research into social class, gender and educational achievement, Professor Steve Tombs speaking about Grenfell Tower, and a representative from Hertford College, Oxford University talking about the PPE course.

Sociology Lunchtime Lecture Programme

Social Science Magazine – Genazine

This has been a successful year for the social science magazine 'Genazine'. Led by Co-Editors Tracy and Charlie Wright, the editorial team of sixth form social science students have produced articles on topics ranging from 'Understanding The Impact of Sanctions on Russia', 'The Windrush Scandal' to the recent topical question of 'Should 16 Year-olds Be Given The Vote'. We also ran a competition for Year 10 Life Skills students on the theme of 'Youth of Today' with the winner, Mia Keith having her article published. Genazine articles are read as part of the registration programme by Year 10 to 12 students, with an opportunity to discuss the issues raised the article as a class.

Well done to the editors, writers and design team who have worked hard to produce articles of such a high standard.

Past copies of the Genazine magazine articles can be found on the website here:

[Genazine - Southend High School for Girls \(shsg.org\)](http://shsg.org)



Celebrating Success

National Sociology Competition Winner

The Sociology Department are proud to see Year 12 student, Chinedum Chima, announced as the Tutor2u National Sociology Essay competition winner. In response to the title 'Is There Value Consensus in Contemporary Society', Chinedum concluded that in today's multi-cultural society there is no longer just one set of shared values. The essay explored sociological perspectives of Functionalism, Marxism, Feminism and Postmodernism and applied theory to contemporary events such as clapping for the NHS during the pandemic, as well as exploring the impact of different religious views and considering intersectional feminism.

Chinedum is planning to study sociology at university at both undergraduate and postgraduate level.

Geography Southchurch Park Trip



Year 7 enjoyed their first experience of a Geography fieldwork trip looking at biodiversity at Southchurch Park. Whilst all classes completed the same fieldwork and booklet, each day was very different from a soggy Monday morning to a warm sunny Wednesday!

The students worked hard throughout each morning looking at plant species in transects across different sections of the park. They utilised plant species guides and the expert knowledge of Mrs Brierley and Mr Gilson throughout the mornings to identify the correct names of plants ranging from foxtail and common grass, to chamomile and spotted medic. They also completed soundscapes, a unique fieldwork technique, to see how sound varied across the park. Students will now use the data collected in two follow up lessons back in the classroom to present and analysing the data they collected against a hypothesis.

A special thanks to Mrs Brierley and Mr Gilson for their expert knowledge, and Ms Spilstead, Mrs Robinson, Mrs Law and Ms Graham for all their help on the trips.





By Ashlyn C, Elsa K-W and Samriti B

We went into London to present our final app design to Amazon. We worked hard on our mental health app design throughout the competition and were honoured to be able to compete in the finals consisting of the top three app designs in the UK.

We had so much fun and learnt a lot from this experience. The other two teams had amazing app ideas: British Sign Language (BSL) and safe navigation. We managed to come second overall with only a half a point difference.



It was a great experience and day overall and we feel that we have improved our understanding on marketing, designing, presenting and public speaking as well as our confidence. We listened to a talk about careers on technology and the under representation of women in this department. We would like to thank the CS department for giving us this opportunity, organising this experience with Amazon, and allowing us to showcase our app ideas and abilities.

From Mr Highmore and Mrs Chumley

Our SHSG trio of Computer Science students (Ashlyn, Elsa, and Samriti) performed admirably presenting their ideas of an application for smart phones aimed at improving 13–18 years olds mental health, with innovative and complex concepts including cloud storage and web APIs to store, retrieve and process data. They discussed their wireframe application design of each screen, the rationale and research behind the idea, feedback from a variety of sources to refine the idea, and the final application design and walkthrough.

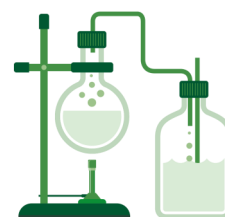
After the presentation they fielded a range of challenging questions from the judging panel working as a team to discuss and give reasoned answers.

Their 10-minute presentation was highly praised by a panel of industry leaders from the BBC, Amazon AWS and Lego. In the end they were a close runner up to the winning team, the feedback they received was extremely positive and this competition is seen as the “World Cup” of application development for students, with hundreds of entrants across the whole of the UK. Our students participated in a tour of the headquarters with a view of the surrounding London city Landscape from the roof which was breathtaking. The Amazon team who hosted us were very welcoming and we came back with goodie boxes of AWS hats, wireless headphones, water bottles and for the adults AWS socks! As teachers we were so impressed by our students’ fantastic attitudes, behaviour, innovative ideas, and confidence to present to others at industry level. Well done!






SHSG's Science week was a resounding success with activities every lunch time. The Computer Science captains leading a group of students to build and program a breakdancing robot. The Biology captains explored the five senses with students looking at how the senses evolve as we age. The Physics captains helped the students to create parachutes to protect items dropped from a height. The Chemistry captains and students worked together to solve the murder mystery of who killed the Chemistry teacher. The week ended with students working in their houses on a science quiz.



SHSG HOUSE CUP WINNERS 2024 – CONGRATULATIONS TO HERMES HOUSE!

Students in Hermes House celebrated after being crowned 2024 House Cup Winners – for the second year in a row! Hermes beat Athene by 978 points to secure the top spot. Mr Carey announced the results in a whole school assembly and presented the trophy to Hermes house captains Bolu, Madelaine and Ella. The winning house captains gave a special message of congratulations to all students in Hermes and proudly raised the trophy to huge cheers. The final standings for the House Cup competition 2024 are below:

House	Total House Points
Hermes (Miss Ford)	20893 
Athene (Miss Riebold)	19915
Aurora (Mrs Leman)	18028
Hera (Mr Boney)	17960
Aphrodite (Mrs Bowman)	17904
Artemis (Ms Boyson)	17650

The winning house took a celebratory trip to Adventure Island Amusement Park in Southend!

Thank you to all the Sixth Form House Captains for the commitment and energy they have shown in their roles and for organising a range of enjoyable and action-packed whole school events.

A message from our Hermes House Captains Bolu, Ella and Madelaine:

“Congratulations Hermes, we are all so proud of how much effort you have put in this year entering House competitions and as well as all your individual efforts and achievements.

I am so proud to be one of your house captains.” ***Madelaine***

“I’m so proud of everyone in Hermes for putting in the hard work for this amazing win! Everyone always goes above and beyond in the SHSG community, and I’m so pleased to be one of the winning House Captains. Well done Hermes!” ***Ella***

“Everybody wants to know what we would have done if we didn’t win... I guess we’ll never know” ***Bolu***

SHSG HOUSE CUP WINNERS 2024 – CONGRATULATIONS TO HERMES HOUSE!



Essex University Trip

As part of the continuing Careers education provision at SHSG it is important that we enable students to have a hands on experience of what university life may be like. We work in conjunction with the charity '[Make Happen](#)' who aim to make all students aware of their post 18 choices. Year 10 had a fantastic day out at Essex University. They had a tour of the extensive campus from student ambassadors and had a really detailed talk about student life, going into details such as the wide variety of societies that are available to how to do ones laundry. The students got to sit in sample lectures in law and sport psychology. It was a very warm but inspiring day, for many of our students it was their first experience of a campus university and will give them lots to consider for their future.



We visited the Royal Holloway University where we represented the school for the very first time at their annual essay competition. For the competition, we had to create a video and a poster responding to the question “How can psychologists/psychology promote healthier working environments in schools?”. After arriving at the university, we briefly walked around the campus, admiring the stunning architecture, before heading in for an introductory talk by Dr Mirta Stantic. After the talk, the first out of two poster sessions began (which was our session) and we were approached by judges, including PhD students and professors at the university, who listened to us present our poster and asked us questions to challenge our psychological brains. In between the sessions, we had the pleasure of listening to Dr Gemma Northam deliver a talk on neuropsychology and Professor Jessie Rickets, who considered whether reading could be considered a virus. We enjoyed these fascinating talks as they linked quite closely to the areas of psychology we are interested in. At the end of the day, they announced the winners. Although we did not win, what we came out with was a deeper understanding of the plethora of careers available in psychology and a sense of pride in ourselves for participating. The competition was an invigorating experience, and I highly recommend it for any future psychologists.



Written by Katrina N (psychology subject captain)

Mrs Fellowes and Miss Dunlop had the pleasure of attending the competition with the three students, Katrina, Ella and Habiba, that had entered the competition. This was the first time that SHSG had entered the competition and as such, the students had little knowledge in terms of the expectations and quality of their competitors. The students did SHSG proud and they were able to show off their knowledge and understanding of the subject whilst answering the judges' questions.

One of the professors even lost track of time, he was so engaged in conversation with them.

Well done to all the students that took part.

Written by Mrs Fellowes (Head of department)

Psychology in Action conference

Year 12 Psychology guest lecture

Year 12 psychology students had the opportunity to attend an online guest lecture with Prof Becky Milne from Portsmouth University. She has a wide array of experience in psychology and criminology but of particular interest to us was her experience working with the police in developing the Cognitive Interview to help make eyewitness testimonies a more accurate form of evidence. Prof Milne has worked not only with police departments in the UK and Ireland but also around the world including Australia, New Zealand, and Singapore. She has been heavily influential in researching in this area, but also in writing policies, training the police and she has worked on several high-profile cases. The students enjoyed hearing about her first-hand experience in this field and it gave them a real insight into how important psychological research has been in aiding our understanding of human memory in the real world. Prof Milne was also able to provide some practical memory revision tips and she has passed on some related wider reading for students to engage with. We thank her very much for giving up her time and look forward to hopefully seeing her again in the future.

Planet Action Eco-Sale



The non-uniform day was an amazing opportunity to receive a huge number of items that needed a new home as were surplus to our students' requirements.

The subsequent selling of these items, we raised almost £400.

This money was split equally amongst three charities working on environmental issues at a local, national and global level. We also gave students at the Eco-sale the chance to get a free pair of period knickers to try – we gave out over 300! Hopefully, this may give some students the opportunity and confidence to try more environmentally sustainable sanitaryware.

Leftover items at the sale went to Havens hospice in Shoburyness (books), Rayleigh MegaCentre (toiletries) and the One love project had the clothing items.

Therefore, nothing was wasted!

The geography department would like to thank the students, staff and parents for supporting this endeavour!

Year 8 Rhineland Residential 2024 – Mr Shipton's reflections

Year 8 students had their first taste of Germany. They were amazed to find themselves in the picturesque Rhine Valley after a ten-hour coach journey from Southend.

On the first full day, students immersed themselves in medieval history on a guided tour of Eltz Castle asking the guide many questions. The castle refectory gave students their first opportunity to practise their spoken German. Two hours later we were calmly being elevated by chairlift to the famous Vierseenblick in the hills above Boppard for a spectacular Rhenish panorama.

On the second day, students climbed the Drachenfels in Königswinter and learnt of the German sagas and legends of the Rheingold and Nibelungen. Later that afternoon, students explored the Deutsches Eck in Koblenz peering into the depths of the Rhein/Mosel confluence. There was also time to ride the cable car over the Rhine to the impressive fortress of Ehrenbreitstein. In the evening a pilgrimage took place in the village where we were staying and our students were complimented on their courtesy and thanked for their support as the procession passed the hotel.

On the final full day students scaled the Loreley Rock having been enthralled by the legend on our approach. A short drive took us to Rüdesheim where we soared above the vineyards in a cable car towards the striking monument overlooking the Rhine. Students practised their language skills once more in the streets of Rüdesheim taking in the Drosselgasse and impressing many American tourists who had descended on this delightful town. Students also got into the spirit of the Euros by wearing German flag deely boppers, given out free with every purchase. Our hotel accommodation overlooking the Rhine was perfect and taste buds erupted as students tucked into the finest German fayre served every evening in the restaurant.

Students behaved impeccably throughout, and staff were impressed with their willingness to get involved. All students are looking forward to visiting Germany again in Year 10.



Mock Elections

Election fever gripped SHSG. The students formed themselves into Political Parties, elected leaders and researched manifesto promises. They worked passionately and tirelessly to campaign; creating posters, filming Party Political Broadcast videos and canvassing for votes. The Party leaders especially impressed during the hustings debate. All students voted on Thursday 4th July and everyone waited eagerly for the results. Like the General election, Labour won a landslide victory in school and the Labour leader Ruby McGauley gave a stirring victory speech. Well done to everyone involved for a fantastic show of democracy in action and thank you to everyone who voted.



Conservative Party	103
Labour Party	393
Lib Dems	63
Green Party	155
Reform UK	89

Year 7	Conservative Party	Labour Party	Lib Dems	Green Party	Reform UK
Total	23	100	10	29	10

Year 8	Conservative Party	Labour Party	Lib Dems	Green Party	Reform UK
Total	13	80	5	44	2

Year 9	Conservative Party	Labour Party	Lib Dems	Green Party	Reform UK
Total	18	75	11	30	27

Year 10	Conservative Party	Labour Party	Lib Dems	Green Party	Reform UK
Total	20	95	12	24	14

Year 12	Conservative Party	Labour Party	Lib Dems	Green Party	Reform UK
Total	29	43	25	28	36

Media Magazine Production Competition 2024

Safa-Noor M and I recently attended the final showcase for the Media Magazine Production Competition 2024. We were fortunate enough to have our short film, “To Be Perceived” shortlisted for “Best Drama Short”, and although we did not win, we still found it to be a valuable experience that has inspired us for the future. It was amazing to watch everyone’s films, the talent was immense, and it was clear there had been a great deal of hard work put into all of them. The [winners were](#) truly deserved, and it was lovely to talk to some of them and feel the level of mutual support that came from everyone. We also gained some very useful advice and information from industry professionals, and even connected with people we previously shared filmmaking experiences with. We were left brimming with ideas for future short films, and tips on how to take our work further.

Written by Isobel K.





GEOGRAPHY

Competition!

submit entries to the geography office by: 13 September 2024

YOUNG GEOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2024

#ChooseGeography

scan here for rules & criteria!



submit a poster that encourages students to #ChooseGeography, including:

KS3

- why studying geography is a good choice
- what parts of geography you find most useful to study and why
- at least 2 ideas of where studying geography can take you

KS4

- why studying geography is a good choice and what skills it provides
- how studying geography can help you to understand the world in which we live
- at least 3 ideas of where studying geography can take you

KS5

- why studying geography is a good choice and what skills it provides
- how studying geography can help you to understand the world in which we live
- highlighting the range and breadth of careers studying geography can lead to

Media Magazine Production Competition 2024

We would like to thank all of our parents, alumni, governors and friends of the school who have supported us this academic year in facilitating our careers offer. We have been able to offer meaningful experiences in person and online for all of our students.

You can see reports on all of the experiences that have been offered via our [newsletter here](#).

Students are able to log all of their careers experiences via the online platform [Unifrog](#) that students can access from home.

[Unifrog - The universal destinations platform.](#)

We help students compare every opportunity, then apply successfully.
We also empower teachers and counselors to manage the progression process effectively.

www.unifrog.org

I would like to invite parents, carers and alumni to join us on [Linked in](#) here.

We can not provide high level, relevant experiences that reflect the local labour market without this support, so thank you.

We are planning our Careers programme for next year and would really appreciate support for the following events.

Friday 27th September- Careers Carousel for Year 10.

The commitment for this events would be for a 20 minute talk with an activity repeated six times in person in the morning only.

We also offer half termly Monday morning online registration talks about careers. These are offered via Teams from 8.35am to 9. 00am.

Please get in touch and sign up here <https://forms.office.com/e/xgauMpccLb> or scan this QR code

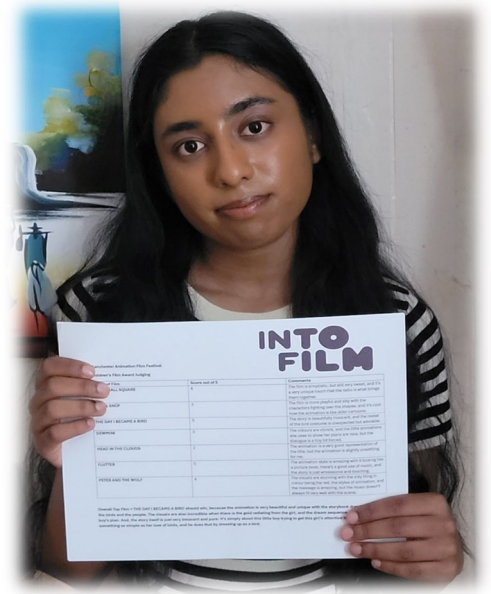
If you feel you would be able to commit to help us with one of the following events that serve to educate our young people about their Careers options.

Careers support for academic year
24-25

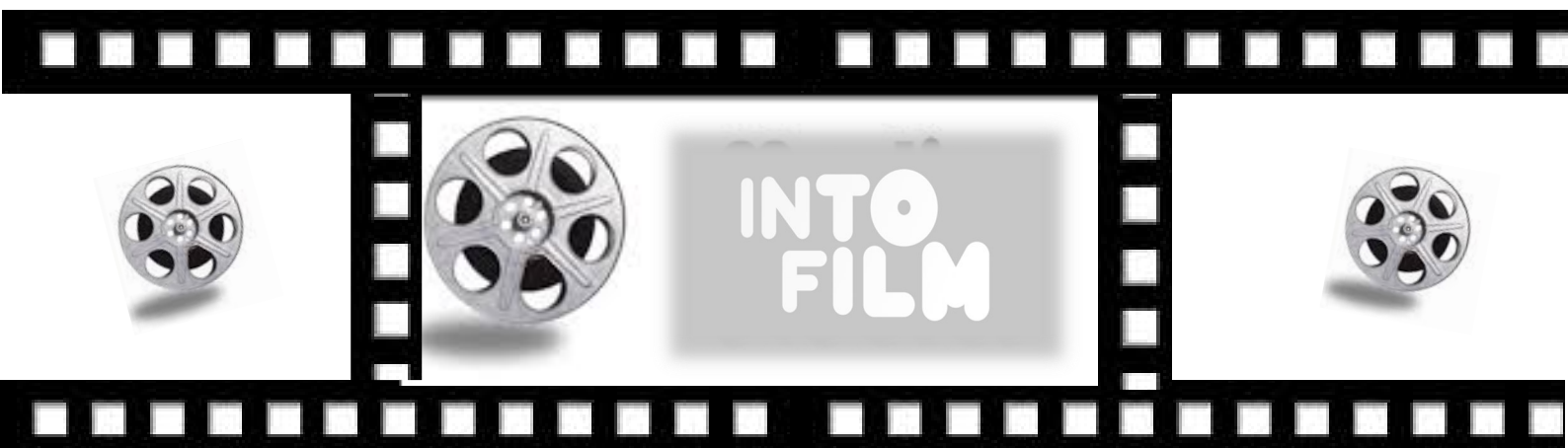


Into Film:

I first found out about Into Film when I was 7 years old from my dad. His school often ran competitions or activities related to the organisation, and it got me very intrigued as to what it was. Into Film is a UK-based charity, that focuses on using the power of film as a way to engage and educate young people, whilst also providing remarkable opportunities for young people in the industry. Once I had learnt more about them, I decided to apply to become a member of the Youth Advisory Council and ambassador for Into Film and was asked many questions about my love of movies, and what I thought was important about them. To my delight, I was selected as one of the ambassadors for London. Currently, I am in my second year, and have been a part of many amazing opportunities, thanks to Into Film. I have been a part of many Q&As with very famous names in the film industry (last year we even got to meet Naomie Harris and Barbara Broccoli from the Bond films!) and got to ask them about their experiences and advice, and often have worked with companies like the BBC, who want to hear how their resources help children. It's not all meetings though, as we have also done things like judge competitions such as the Manchester Animation Festival, and even had the opportunity to attend premieres for films like the upcoming 'Wonka'. All in all, this has been one of the best experiences of my life, and I strongly recommend to anyone who loves movies as much as me to consider it!



By Sitara S, Year 10 (now Year 11) Media student.



Adventure Island Trip



Year 7 Colour Run



Year 7 Colour Run



Minigames Madness! Sports Day



Sports Day



Sports Day



Sports Day

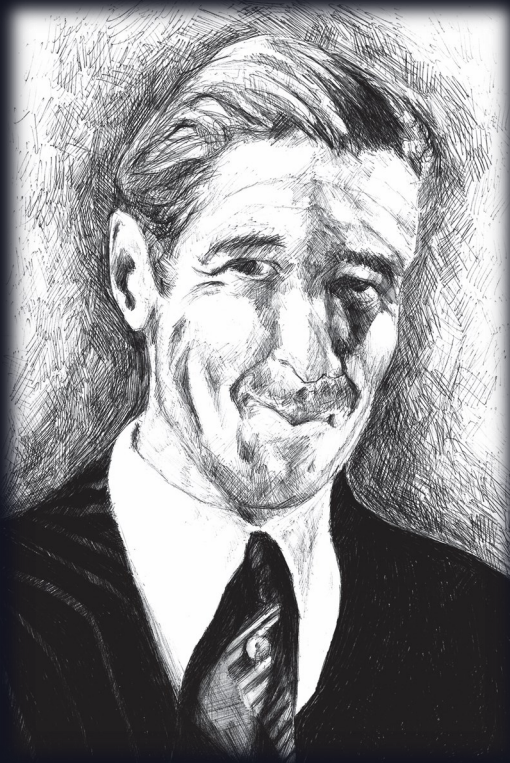


Chicago Portraits from SHSG Year 12's

CHICAGO



Velma Kelly ~ By Lily. P



Billy Flynn ~ By Ibadat. S



Roxy Hart ~ By Deia. D

CHICAGO



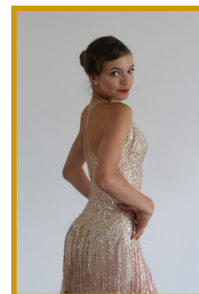
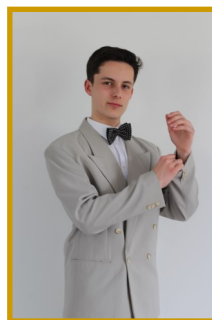
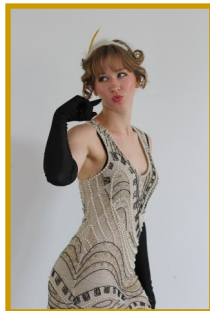
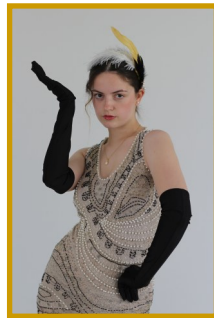
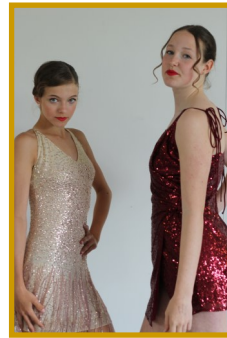
Mama Morton ~ By Vongai. K



Mary Sunshine ~ By Gabriel. B

Chicago Rehearsals

CHICAGO



Chicago Write up

Chicago – By Aled C Year 12

Going into Chicago I already had high expectations, Southend High School for Girls has yet to put on a production that has not exceeded the typical standards of what a school can achieve on a limited budget. But this being my first experience of Chicago means that I cannot comment on the production's accuracy or compare it to other versions, so this article will be reviewing Southend High School for Girl's latest musical as a stand alone.

The first element I feel I must comment on is the spectacular costumes and set designs. Roxy and Velma's costumes clearly set them apart from the rest of the cast, emphasising their importance in the narrative. The clothing was often simple yet completely elegant, notably Velma's dress for 'All That Jazz'. The ensemble did not fail to match the bar set by the leads, with period accurate and danceable costumes. What I especially noticed was the inclusion of a masculine variation that still blended with the rest of the group, a very difficult endeavour when all bar one of the ensemble were wearing matching dresses. On a similar note, the set design stunned me. Obviously as a student I had walked past items like the prison bars in the corridor, but I had not expected it to all come together so cohesively on stage. I felt fully engrossed in the 'Cell Block Tango' and Court Room scene due to their sets and the seamless scene changes, aided by the directors Safa and Isobel. There was no hindrance on the audience's absorption in the narrative (something even professional productions can falter with).

Linking to the professional skills displayed by this school production, the choreography throughout the entire show definitely deserves mentioning. From the start it was clear the choreography was carefully constructed and rehearsed down to perfection. During 'Overture/All That Jazz' the entirety of the stage was filled with dancers keeping busy and almost constantly moving. The audience, myself included, could not help but have their full attention grasped by the stage, constantly having a new person or action to focus on. The juxtaposition of this with the fluidity of Velma was the perfect kind of whiplash that truly encapsulated the standout dialogue, "That's Chicago!" The aerial choreography for 'Cell Block Tango' was completely unexpected and had the audience on the edge of their seats. Whilst not so extreme, the use of the set as part of the choreography for 'When You're Good to Mama' had me equally fascinated. The use of the prison bars as a form of prop in the dance was immensely entertaining to watch as well as ingenious for the students, namely Freya, who choreographed the production. And of course, I have to finish this section by gushing about the long-awaited duet between Roxy and Velma in Act Two. The two actresses were perfectly in sync with one another, no easy feat, especially considering how little time they must have had to practice.

Not only was Chicago tense and beautiful at times, but also downright hilarious. The dialogue in 'Cell Block Tango' had me laughing harder with the introduction of each new prisoner. Standout lines included, "I fired two warning shots. Two warning shots into his head," and, "We broke up over artistic differences. He saw himself alive, I saw him dead." The humour combined with the deadpan deliverance was absolutely perfect and I would find it difficult to believe any member of the audience did not find it funny. Another one of my favourite moments has to be the physical comedy from Billy and Roxy in 'We Both Reached for the Gun'. The puppetry motif and choreography reflected the lyrics in the best and funniest way possible.

Chicago Write up

Now I feel it suitable to talk about the memorable actors, each in their own paragraphs, of course starting with Roxy. Isabella completely embodied the limelight of Roxy, filling the stage with her personality. Her vocals never faltered and apart from one dialogue slip-up, her acting was impeccable for an individual so young. I may not have seen the alternate cast, but I have heard from many that Emily was as equally talented in the lead role.

Elicia had the most powerful vocals in the production, in my opinion, as Velma. Her performances in songs such as 'I Can't Do It Alone' and 'My Own Best Friend' showed off not only her musical abilities, but also her grasp on acting. The audience could feel the emotions oozing out of Velma as she lost fame to Roxy and recounted always being her "own best friend". As with Isabella's counterpart, I only heard glowing reviews for the alternate Velma, Ella.

Didi was the perfect Amos (though I do anticipate equally matched by Jessica). Despite not having the most lines, I felt the uttermost pity for Amos, especially after 'Mr Cellophane' due to Didi's spectacular performance. It was to the point audience members found her after the show just to compliment her on her emotional portrayal. (How I know this, you may ask? My mother did exactly that after the Friday evening performance, much to Didi's surprise I must expect.)

Finally, I want to combine Evie and Charlie's portrayals of Mary Sunshine and Billy Flynn respectively. Though both amazing in their own regards, having dazzling on-stage personalities and brilliant line delivery, they complimented one another perfectly to elevate each other. Subtle hints to an affair between the two characters may have been missed by some without inside knowledge from the cast, such as I have, but for those who noticed it added another layer of humorous narrative to the production.

I feel the perfect way to wrap up this article is not with my opinion, as I'm sure by now anyone reading this can tell I was a fan, but with quotes I managed to grab from some staff and crew on Friday evening:

"It's so lovely to watch it all from the sidelines, see everyone being happy after doing well, you've got to hype them up" – Isobel (Director + Crew)

"Very fun doing the whole play and it was nice seeing how all our hard work transferred to the stage" – Safa (Director + Crew)

"It's been so fun watching this all come together with my friends" – Evie (Mary Sunshine)

"Although I'm not a musical person, I thoroughly enjoyed it" – Tillie (audience member)



GCSE & A Level Results Day— best ever results!

Southend High School for Girls receives best A-Level results

15th August

EDUCATION



Outstanding - Southend High School for Girls (Image: SHSG)



By Sophie England

AI-Assisted Reporter

X@Sophie_England_

Southend's grammar schools are celebrating after "outstanding" pupils receive their best ever results.

GCSE Results Day 2024: Southend schools toasting success

22nd August

EDUCATION



Highest achievers - Southend High School for Girls (Image: Newsquest)



By Jessica Day-Parker

Digital Audience and Content Editor

X@JessicaDayPark2

Proud pupils are toasting success across **Southend** with one grammar school celebrating its best-ever GCSE results.

Please see a small sample of the many success stories of our students' achievements from our results days on the following pages.

GCSE Results Day— best ever GCSE results!

SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

GCSE RESULTS DAY

CHARLOTTE CASEY-SWEENEY.
ALL GRADE 9-7. CHARLOTTE
CASEY SWEENEY WAS THE
HIGHEST PERFORMER
NATIONALLY IN CHEMISTRY
GCSE.



KITTY WELLER
ALL GRADE 9S AND 8S
STUDYING HISTORY /
CLASSICS / ART /
GOVERNMENT AND
POLITICS FOR A LEVELS.



WHITNEY EDEWI
ALL GRADE 9-8.



SKYE CARTER
ALL GRADE 9-7. ACHIEVED
THIS WHILST JUGGLING
SIGNIFICANT EXTRA-
CURRICULAR COMMITMENTS
WITH TEAM GB SWIMMING.



GCSE Results Day— best ever GCSE results!

SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

GCSE RESULTS DAY

JENNIFER GARWOOD
ALL GRADE 9-7. STUDYING
BIOLOGY / CHEMISTRY /
MATHS / HISTORY FOR
A LEVEL



CHARLOTTE HAYWOOD
POILPRE - ALL
GRADE 9-7.



KIYERA CARLILE & ANQI WENN
ALL GRADE 9-8



AUDREY ANIM
ALL GRADE 9-8.



FRANCESCA HALLIN,
MIDDLE SCHOOL HEAD PREFECT
STUDYING ENGLISH LITERATURE / PE /
BUSINESS STUDIES / DRAMA FOR A LEVEL.
ALL 9S AND 8S AND A 7 IN EXTRA-
CURRICULAR STATISTICS



GCSE Results Day— best ever GCSE results!

SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

GCSE RESULTS DAY

SALLY JESSOP
ALL GRADE 7 - 9 HISTORY
/ ENGLISH LITERATURE /
RS / CLASSICS FOR A
LEVEL.



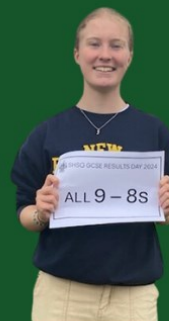
RUBY THOMPSON
ALL GRADE 9-8



SIENNA WINSLOW
ALL GRADE 9-7



JESICA HEATH
ALL GRADE 9-8.



ELOISE COOK
ALL GRADE 9-7. STUDYING
MATHS / ENGLISH LANGUAGE /
MEDIA STUDIES / PSYCHOLOGY
FOR A LEVEL



ISLA BRIDGE
ALL GRADE 9-8



GCSE Results Day— best ever GCSE results!

SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

GCSE RESULTS DAY

GRETA SIMKUTE
ALL GRADE 9-8



SARAH FREMPONG
ALL GRADE 9-7



Congratulations



A Level Results Day—best ever A Level results

SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

A LEVEL RESULTS DAY

RUBY SILK-TYLER READING
COSTUME FOR PERFORMANCE AT
LONDON COLLEGE OF FASHION
“I FEEL SO SHOCKED AND SO
PROUD CAN’T BELIEVE IT! I AM
GOING TO THE LONDON
COLLEGE OF FASHION TO STUDY
COSTUME FOR PERFORMANCE.”



CHLOE LARK
GOING TO TRINITY LABAN TO
DO CONTEMPORARY DANCE



MEGAN SLAUGHTER
AT LEEDS READING
GRAPHICS DESIGN
AND COMMUNICATIONS.



LOLA-ISABELLA NEWMAN
READING GEOGRAPHY AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF EXETER



A Level Results Day—best ever A Level results

SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

A LEVEL RESULTS DAY

ANNA HUGHES READING NATURAL SCIENCES
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE-
QUEENS' COLLEGE.

A* A* A* A

“I WAS SO HAPPY WHEN I SAW MY RESULTS,
I BURST OUT CRYING. I'M SO EXCITED TO
START AT CAMBRIDGE”



ARCHIE-RAY THOMPSON, READING MATHS AT
UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK. 'I FEEL HONESTLY
INCREDIBLE. MY PARENTS ARE GOING TO BE SO HAPPY;
MY MUM WILL PROBABLY CRY!'



A Level Results Day—best ever A Level results

SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

A LEVEL RESULTS DAY

CHARLOTTE HRYCAN “I AM REALLY REALLY EXCITED. I AM OFF TO MY FIRST CHOICE UNIVERSITY. I AM GOING TO READ ECONOMICS AT NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY.”

TOBY LAMBERT “I AM VERY HAPPY I GOT INTO MY FIRST CHOICE UNIVERSITY. I WILL BE READING PPE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF EXETER.



ANNA MCGURK - AAA
IN BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY,
MATHS. WILL BE GOING TO
EXETER TO READ BIOLOGICAL
SCIENCES. SHE WOULD LIKE
TO WANTS TO SAY A BIG
THANK YOU TO ALL HER
TEACHERS.

JOELY LOVETT A* A* A A OFF
TO DO AN ENGINEERING
APPRENTICESHIP AT JAGUAR
LANDROVER.

“I FEEL LIGHTHEADED. IT
HASN'T SUNK IN YET -
PROBABLY WON'T UNTIL
MIDDAY.”



SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

A LEVEL RESULTS DAY

NANCY BOOM, A*A*A, OFF TO
READ MEDIA AT LEEDS. 'I FEEL
AMAZING, SO GOOD. I DIDN'T
EXPECT IT!' NANCY WAS THE
HIGHEST PERFORMER
NATIONALLY IN OCR'S A LEVEL
MEDIA STUDIES



AMELIA & IMOGEN FARMER - BOTH
ACHIEVED A*AA. AMELIA SAYS 'I
CAN'T BELIEVE MY SISTER AND I
GOT THE SAME GRADES! I FEEL SO
HAPPY. AFTER SEVEN YEARS WE'RE
OFF TO DIFFERENT PLACES NOW.
I'M READING ENGLISH LITERATURE
AT WARWICK. I'M SO EXCITED!'
IMOGEN SAYS "I'M SO RELIEVED
AND PLEASED TO GET INTO LEEDS
TO READ ENGLISH AND HISTORY.

BETH RANDELL, A*A A ,
READING BIOMEDICAL
SCIENCE AT MANCHESTER.
'I'M HAPPY. MY PARENTS
ARE VERY HAPPY! I'M SO
EXCITED TO START MY
COURSE.



A Level Results Day—best ever A Level results

SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

A LEVEL RESULTS DAY

MICHELLE CHEN
ACHIEVED THE
OCR TOP AWARD FOR
ART. SHE IS READING
FINE ART AT UAL.



SIENNA RAVALIA - READING
LAW AT BIRMINGHAM
UNIVERSITY SHE IS SUPER
HAPPY WITH HER RESULTS
AND HAD THE MOST AMAZING 7
YEARS AT SHSG COULDN'T
HAVE WISHED TO BE
ANYWHERE ELSE.



MIA MIKHAEL, PICTURED LEFT
“I AM VERY HAPPY WITH MY RESULTS. I WILL BE READING
HISTORY OF ART AT THE COURTAULD INSTITUTE IN
LONDON.”

MARNIE CALLADINE, PICTURED RIGHT “I FEEL SO RELIEVED
AND REALLY REALLY LUCKY. I AM GOING TO READ HISTORY
OF ART AT THE COURTAULD INSTITUTE IN LONDON.”

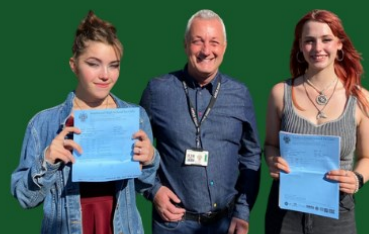
A Level Results Day—best ever A Level results

SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

A LEVEL RESULTS DAY

LEFT ALEXIA IONESCU-BUNGHEZ GOING TO LANCASTER UNIVERSITY TO READ CRIMINOLOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY.

RIGHT CHARLOTTE COCHRANE
“I AM GOING TO UCL IN SEPTEMBER, I AM BUZZING. I’M SO PROUD OF MYSELF AND EXCITED FOR MY FUTURE.”



YEMISI OGUNTIMIRIN -
READING HUMAN, SOCIAL
AND POLITICAL SCIENCES AT
THE UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE.

SIÚN SEVERWRIGHT -
OFF TO THE UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE TO READ HISTORY
“I AM VERY PLEASED TO GET 3
A*’S AS I ALWAYS HAD A
PASSION FOR LEARNING.”



EMMA BOURKE - OFF
TO QUEEN’S
UNIVERSITY BELFAST
TO READ HISTORY
AND POLITICS.

MATTHEW
HOWARD TAKING
A YEAR OUT TO
WORK AT SHSG

KEALA BUCCI
OFF TO READ
HISTORY AT
UNIVERSITY OF
WARWICK



SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

A LEVEL RESULTS DAY

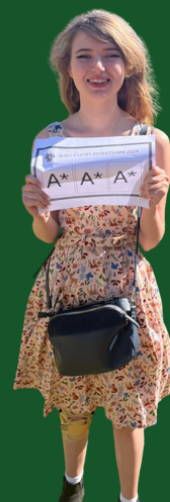
MICHELLE CHEN CHIEVED AN A* IN ART AND WAS ONE OF THE TOP PERFORMERS NATIONALLY, SHE ALSO ACHIEVED AN A IN PRODUCT DESIGN AND A B IN HISTORY. MICHELLE HAS HAD A FANTASTIC TIME IN HER 7 YEARS AT SHSG AND IS NOW GOING TO THE PRESTIGIOUS CHELSEA COLLEGE OF ARTS TO READ FINE ART.



IFEOLUWA AYENI
READING THEOLOGY
AND RELIGION AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD.



ANGELINA KLEIN, A*A*A*,
OFF TO READ ENGLISH AT
SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY. 'I'M
ELATED!'



ANNIE JENNINGS - READING A
4 YEAR INTEGRATED MASTERS
IN COMPUTER SCIENCE AT
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
QUEEN MARY

A Level Results Day—best ever A Level results

SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

A LEVEL RESULTS DAY





Thank you

to

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants

from

Southend High School for Girls

who spent

3003 Hours

volunteering between

1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024.

We are immensely proud of the dedication, effort and achievement
of young people making an impact in their community.

The social value of these hours is

£15855

Ruth Marvel, Chief Executive

June 2024

200 Club Winners ~ Parents Association

200
Club
Congratulations

There is no limit to the amount of draw numbers you can purchase, draw numbers can now be purchased at £10 for the 10 remaining draws of the year.

Email for more info shsg200club@yahoo.com
Easy to join with ParentPay and online banking for friends and family.

The PA team raise £1,000s each year to support SHSG with vital projects.

Volunteers needed – could you spare a few hours once a year.

The PA can only support SHSG at such events with the help of parents and friends.

Thank you from the PA Team.

2nd prize

£40.98

R. Peat

1st prize

£68.30

K. Bridge

3rd prize

£27.32

W. Ennifer

2nd prize

£40.98

L. Berkum

1st prize

£68.30

P. Gent

3rd prize

£27.32

H. Collins

May Winners

June Winners



[NSPCC | The UK children's charity](#)
[| NSPCC](#)

Contact trained helpline counsellors 24 hours a day by email or online reporting form:

help@nspcc.org

Call:

Mon-Fri 8am-10pm & 9am-6pm weekends

0808 800 5000

YOUNG Mi MINDS
fighting for young people's mental health

Young Minds Helpline for parents and young people.

[YoungMinds | Mental Health Charity For Children And Young People | YoungMinds](#)

If there are concerns about a young person's mental health during this difficult time, you can contact the **Young Minds Helplines**.

Parents Helpline: If you are a parent who needs advice about your child's mental health you can contact the Parents Helpline directly on:

0808 802 between 9:30am-4pm

YoungMinds Crisis Messenger:

If you are a young person experiencing a mental health crisis you can text:

YM to 85258 for free 24/7 support

The Young Minds website is here:

[YoungMinds | Mental Health Charity For Children And Young People | YoungMinds](#)

Anxiety UK

Call: Mon-Fri 9.30am-5.30pm

03444 775 774

[National charity helping people with Anxiety - Anxiety UK](#)

Beat
Eating disorders

Beat is the UK's eating disorder charity supporting both individuals and families affected by eating disorders.

Help for young people

The Beat Youthline is open to anyone **under 18**.

Youthline: 0808 801 0711

Email: fyp@beateatingdisorders.org.uk

Help for adults

The Beat Adult Helpline is open to anyone **over 18**.

Parents, teachers or any concerned adults should call the adult helpline.

Helpline: 0808 801 0677

Email: help@beateatingdisorders.org.uk

[The UK's Eating Disorder Charity - Beat \(beateatingdisorders.org.uk\)](#)

kooth

Kooth are an online counselling service which offers young people free, safe and anonymous online chat 24 hours a day.

[Home - Kooth](#)



We are pleased to announce that our school has been selected to take part in Brainwaves, an exciting new mental health and wellbeing research study run by the University of Oxford's Department of Psychiatry, in partnership with the University of Swansea and The Day, the online student newspaper that turns news into lessons. Today's young people face challenges in a world full of conflicting, confusing, and often incorrect information.

BrainWaves is a direct response to this. It aims to improve the quality of scientific knowledge about adolescent mental health and provide evidence-based, practical strategies and educational materials to schools. BrainWaves is creating a large-scale national student group to participate in research and help develop the project. Our Sixth Form students will be invited to be in the first wave of schools taking part and will be working closely to support the University of Oxford in their research.

We are excited that our students will have the unique opportunity to shape the landscape of adolescent mental health. If you would like to know more about the project.

Please visit:

[Home - Brainwaves Free mental health resources for secondary schools \(brainwaveshub.org\)](https://brainwaveshub.org)

Resources ~ Wellbeing Directory



A Guide for Parents to Black Lives Matter

published by the childcare platform, Yoopies.

They state that "Racism and race is not a one-conversation topic, and our guide by no means contains all the answers, we simply hope to provide the foundations of good places to start and help empower families to work towards racial equality". It is written with a British perspective, with contributions from both white and BAME writers.

[A Parent's Guide to Black Lives Matter \(yooxies.co.uk\)](https://yooxies.co.uk)



Karma Nirvana is an award-winning National charity supporting victims of honour-based abuse and forced marriage. Honour crimes are not determined by age, faith, gender or sexuality, we support and work with all victims

UK Helpline: 0800 5999 247

Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm

[Karma Nirvana](https://karnanirvana.org)



We provide advice and support to empower anyone experiencing a mental health problem.

Infoline: 0300 123 3393

Email: info@mind.org.uk

Text: 86463

We're open 9am to 6pm,
Monday to Friday (except for bank holidays).

[Information for young people on mental health and wellbeing - Mind](#)



You can access confidential emotional support at any time from Samaritans. Whatever you're going through, a Samaritan will face it with you.

Call: 116 123

or **email:** jo@samaritans.org

Calls are free We're here 24 hours a day,
365 days a year.

[Contact Us | Samaritans](#)



**For women and children.
Against domestic violence.**

Supporting those who have experienced violence and abuse – domestic violence, sexual violence, 'honour' based violence, forced marriage, FGM, human trafficking or modern slavery – we are here to support you.

Freephone 24-Hour National Domestic Abuse

Helpline: 0808 2000 247

visit www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk

(access live chat Mon-Fri 3-10pm)

or visit:

[Home - Refuge](#)



The Muslim Youth Helpline (MYH) is an award winning registered charity which provides pioneering faith and culturally sensitive services to Muslim youth in the UK.

Free & confidential support to young people in need. **Call: 0808 808 2008**

Email & Live Chat: [Chat with us - Muslim Youth Helpline \(myh.org.uk\)](#)

[Home - Muslim Youth Helpline \(myh.org.uk\)](#)

childline

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME
childline.org.uk | 0800 1111

[Childline | Childline](#)

Mental Health & Wellbeing at SHSG

In 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 pretty 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://www.shsg.org).

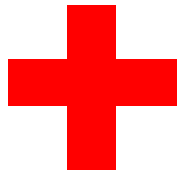
There, you will find some articles, videos and useful links. The school has also put together a Padlet for Lower and Middle school and one for Sixth Form for you to browse.

Please find the links below:

[Lower and Middle school SHSG Mental Health Board \(padlet.com\)](https://www.padlet.com)

[SHSG Mental Health Board \(padlet.com\)](https://www.padlet.com)





SCHOOL NURSE

Just a reminder that the School Nursing Team are still supporting children and families during this time. The School Nursing team can be contacted on **01702 534843** by parents, young people and schools.

Schools can also continue to contact the team via the generic School Nursing email:

Sccg.southendpublichealthnurses@nhs.net

Young people living in Southend can also access **ChatHealth**, which is a secure and confidential **text messaging service** for young people aged between 11 – 19 years.

It allows young people living in Southend to easily and anonymously get in touch with a School Nurse for advice and support regarding mental health, sexual health, bullying, drugs, alcohol, self-harm, relationships and smoking as well as any other health issue. **TEXT: 07520 649895.**

Please continue to follow and share our twitter page with parents [Southend School Nurses \(@SouthendSN\)](https://twitter.com/SouthendSN) / [X \(twitter.com\)](https://twitter.com/SouthendSN) for updates on useful health resources, sharing of health information and hints and tips to support children and young people's mental health.

We also work closely with our health visiting colleagues and are aware that lots of the children and young people we support also have an under 5 in the family.

Information on health visiting support for families can be found below:

[Health visitors and school nurses – Southend-on-Sea City Council](#)

[Health visiting 0-5 – Livewell Southend](#)

Please continue to share these links and contact details with the families and young people at your schools.

Many Thanks

Hannah Hayes –Senior School Nurse – Southend-on-Sea Borough Council