



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, 5th September 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Please find below information and updates from this week.

Welcome Year 7 and Year 12 to the SHSG Family

We were delighted to welcome our new Year 12 students to Sixth Form yesterday. They've made a fantastic start to their journey, embracing the transition with enthusiasm and maturity. The day began with a welcome assembly led by the Headteacher, followed by induction sessions with their new tutors, ice-breaker activities in form groups and lessons, and a tour of the school. By the afternoon, they were already immersed in their first A Level lessons. Tutors have been impressed by the students' positive energy, eagerness to engage with sixth form life, and the way new and existing members of SHSG have bonded so quickly. It's been a joy to see them settle in so well. Welcome to the SHSG Family—keep up the excellent work!

We've also had the pleasure of welcoming our new Year 7 students this week. Looking smart in their new uniforms and proudly wearing their house badges, they've begun their SHSG journey with confidence and curiosity.

Over the past few days, they've attended their first assembly, spent time with their tutors, and enjoyed extended lunch breaks, getting to know one another and finding their feet. Lessons began yesterday afternoon, and staff have already noted their respectful attitude, enthusiasm for learning, and the positive way they are engaging with the wider school community.

We are incredibly proud of how Year 7 have begun their time at SHSG and look forward to supporting them as they grow and thrive. On behalf of all staff, I wish them a happy, fulfilling, and successful year ahead.

Welcome back to Year 8 and Year 9

It has been a real pleasure to welcome our Year 8 and Year 9 students back this term, and I have been delighted to see them return with such positivity and enthusiasm. Year 8 are now firmly established in life at SHSG. This year gives them the chance to build on the strong foundations of Year 7, to embrace new challenges, and to take on wider responsibilities within the school community.

For Year 9, this is a particularly significant stage as they complete Key Stage 3 and begin to prepare for the exciting decisions ahead about GCSE options. Full information about the options process will be shared with students and parents in due course, and we will provide plenty of guidance and support to ensure that each student is able to make confident, informed choices.

Both year groups have already shown our SHSG values in action, offering encouragement and support to our new Year 7 students as they settle in. I look forward to working in partnership with you to help every student make the most of the opportunities that lie ahead this year.

Welcome back to Year 10 and 11

we are delighted to welcome back our Year 10 and Year 11 students. Both year groups have made a strong and positive start, setting the tone for a successful year ahead.

Year 10 have begun their GCSE courses with real enthusiasm and energy, and it has been wonderful to see them embracing the challenge. Meanwhile, Year 11 are embarking on their final year of GCSEs, and we look forward to supporting them every step of the way as they prepare for their next chapter.

A huge thank you to our Middle School Prefects who have done an outstanding job helping our new Year 7 pupils settle in so smoothly — your leadership and kindness have made a real difference.

Upcoming Events for Parents:

- **Year 10 Welcome to GCSE Evening:** Wednesday 24th September, 6:00–7:00pm. More details will follow.
- **Year 11 Parent Information Evening:** Wednesday 1st October, 6.00-7.00pm. Further information will be shared soon.

Individual photographs Years 7, 10 & 12 – Wednesday 10th September

IMPORTANT – REGISTER TO VIEW SCHOOL PHOTOS

Carmel Jane Photography will be visiting our School on the 10th of September 2025, to take the Individual Photographs.

All parents are requested to pre-register for instant access to your child’s photographs once they are ready, pre-registration is required for every photo shoot.

Register in 3 easy steps in less than a minute:

1. Head to www.carmeljaneshop.co.uk
2. Enter your unique code : JR6WX2SNCD
3. Include your child’s full school register name.

Welcome to new staff

It is a pleasure to introduce our new staff to the SHSG Family:

Name	Department
Miss Barry	Spanish Teacher
Mrs Bourne	English Teacher (Maternity Cover)
Miss Bowman	RS Teacher
Miss Briddock	Classics Teacher
Miss Croysdill	Maths Teacher
Mr Dillon	Physics Teacher
Mr Fletcher	Maths Teacher
Ms Lievre	DT Teacher
Miss Ryan	Psychology Teacher
Mr Thompson	Business Studies and Economics Teacher
Mr Wong	Biology Teacher
Miss Worth	SEND Support Assistant

Outstanding A Level and GCSE results

We are thrilled to begin the academic year by celebrating the exceptional achievements of our students in their A level and GCSE examinations.

For the Year 13s, 12% of their grades were A*, 40% of grades were A*-A, and 75% of grades were A*-B.

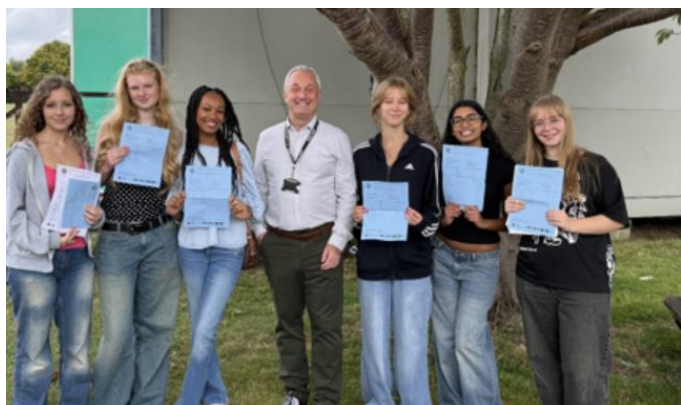
Following these outstanding A Level results, our Year 11 students continued the momentum with a phenomenal set of GCSE outcomes.

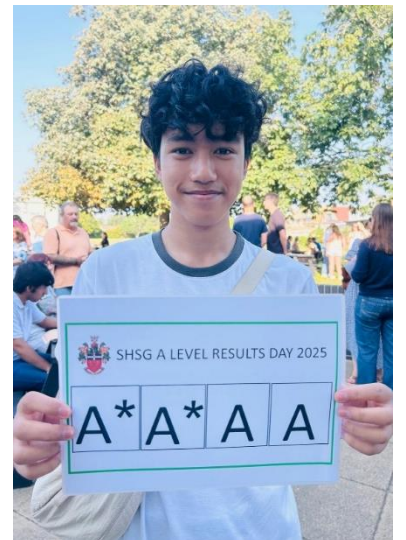
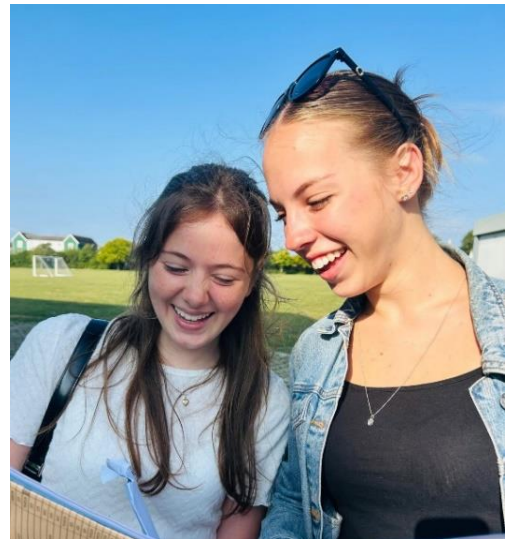
Over 80% of our Year 11 cohort achieved an average of grade 7, 8 or 9 in their GCSEs; an extraordinary accomplishment that reflects their hard work, resilience, and commitment to excellence. Impressively, 47% of all grades awarded were at grades 9 and 8, with a fifth of all grades reaching the highest possible grade 9.

These results are a testament not only to the dedication of our students but also to the unwavering support and expertise of our staff. Together, they have created an environment where academic excellence is nurtured and celebrated.

With such strong foundations, we are excited to welcome our new Year 12 students as they begin their A Level journey at SHSG. The energy and ambition they bring to our Sixth Form community promise another inspiring year ahead.

I have included a selection of some of the photos from the results days below.





Highest grades in the country

Emily A, Mia K, and Mayah G have been named among the top performers in the country for GCSE Fine Art, an extraordinary accolade. Their success follows Gabriel Borbe's top national mark in A Level Art last week, securing a place to study Architecture at the University of Cambridge. The exam board personally congratulated Gabriel, Emily, Mia, and Mayah for their exceptional work.

Message from C2C Rail

Please see the below message from C2C rail:

As the new academic year begins, we would like to welcome you back and remind you of a few important things to help you travel safely and responsibly on the c2c network.

Always Travel with a Valid Ticket

Make sure you buy your ticket before you board. Travelling without a valid ticket can lead to:

- Legal consequences – including fines or prosecution and a criminal record.
- Limited flexibility – incorrect or invalid tickets can disrupt your journey.

Travel Safely and Respectfully

As we welcome a new school year, we ask all students to:

- Be mindful of others and follow respectful onboard etiquette.
- Keep noise to a minimum and respect personal space.
- Stay alert and safe when using platforms and crossings.

To help you understand how to travel safely and responsibly, watch this short video featuring our Revenue Protection and Security Manager: [Watch the video](#).

Mental Health & Wellbeing at SHSG

At SHSG, we often talk about how to look after our health in lessons and in tutor time. 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 \(padlet.com\)](#)

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

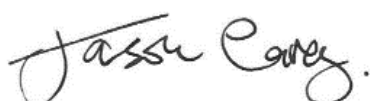
Key Dates

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](#).

The updated important dates document for this academic year is also available to download on our website ['here'](#)

We wish you a relaxing and enjoyable weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Jason Carey
Headteacher