



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, 17th July 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

As we reach the end of the summer term, I want to look back and celebrate what has been an incredibly successful academic year. We finished on a wonderful high today with our celebratory whole-school assembly, where we came together to applaud the immense dedication, talent, and SHSG community spirit shown by our students. This final newsletter of the year highlights some of those magnificent achievements, including our recent House Cup and Sports Day triumphs, the launch of our 2026/27 Trips Programme, an outstanding national filmmaking award for one of our Year 13 students, and valuable summer opportunities and wellbeing resources for the holiday ahead.

SHSG Houses Update

Hermes House Celebrate Four-in-a-Row Victory with Day at Adventure Island



Hermes House, winners of this year's House Cup, marked their 2026 victory with a well-earned, fun-filled day at Adventure Island on the Southend seafront on Tuesday 14th July. The trip celebrated their hard work, commitment, and outstanding team spirit throughout the year. Hermes officially secured the title earlier this month, and the trophy was formally presented at our Awards Evening at the Palace Theatre, Westcliff-on-Sea, on Thursday 9th July. This is their fourth consecutive win, which is an exceptional achievement. The big question now: can Hermes make it five in a row in 2027, or will another house rise to the challenge?



Sports Day - a few photos, including our National Athletics Champions!

Congratulations to Aurora for being crowned Sports Day Champions and winning the Sports Day Cup 2026! In assembly on Friday, Aurora House Captains Ashton and Eden proudly accepted the Sports Day Trophy on behalf of their house, celebrating a fantastic team effort and result. This year's victory was particularly special as it marked the first time Aurora House has ever won Sports Day, making it a memorable moment for all students and staff involved. Thank you to the PE Faculty and all the staff and students for making this such a joyous and competitive day.







Trips Programme 2026/27

We are delighted to announce our Trips Programme for the 2026/27 academic year. The full programme is available on the school website via the link [‘here’](#).

Please note that all dates are provisional and may be subject to change. We therefore recommend referring to the individual trip letters when they are sent which will provide confirmed details, including final dates and arrangements.

We look forward to offering our students these exciting and enriching opportunities throughout the year.

Top Film Making Award for Year 13 Student

On Friday 10th July, the annual MediaMag Production Competition was held at the BFI Southbank Centre in London. Pupils in schools from across the UK are invited to submit short films. Southend High School for Girls pupils can choose to make short films as part of their production work and three of these were submitted in the “best music video” category, with Isabella P making the shortlist, Isla B and Aurora K being selected for nominations in the same category. [Aurora’s video](#) for ‘Mood Ring Baby’ by Field Critic, was selected by professional film maker, Harry Sherriff, as the winner of the Barney Oram Creativity Award- the prize given to the best film across all categories. Aurora’s teacher Ms Casson described her success:

‘It’s an astonishing achievement given the number of entries submitted from schools around the country and the quality of the films that were nominated for consideration. We have always had a high success rate with SHSG students consistently being shortlisted for the final but this is the first time one of our students has received the top award’.

Unfortunately, Aurora was unable to collect her award in person, as she is currently touring Europe and visiting locations in Vienna from the film ‘Before Sunrise’, the inspiration for her video. Mr Escott collected the award on Aurora’s behalf, saying “*it was incredible to see the films that we saw taking shape in the classroom projected onto the big cinema screen at the BFI. We are incredibly proud of Aurora.*”

Healthcare workshops for Year 9 and 10

It is unusual for students under 18 to be able to access hands on experience in the healthcare sector so we are delighted to promote this opportunity to take part in a hands-on workshop hosted by the Health & Care Academy in the specialist training ward at Brentwood Community Hospital.

Designed to replicate a real hospital environment, this interactive session will give students a practical introduction to working in health and care through the role of a Healthcare Assistant (HCA). A Healthcare Assistant role is an excellent first step, helping you develop essential skills, gain hands-on experience, and explore pathways into apprenticeships and careers such as nursing, midwifery, operating department practice, and speech and language therapy.

This opportunity is available to students in Year 9 and Year 10, on Wednesday 22nd or Thursday 23rd July. More information can be found [here](#).

Parents' Association

Please click '[here](#)' to view the Summer Term Newsletter from our Parents' Association. This provides a wonderful overview of the PA's activities and achievements this year. In addition to this, the 200 Club flyer '[here](#)' explains how families can support the school through the PA's monthly lottery. We are extremely grateful for the time and energy of our parent volunteers, and I hope you enjoy reading more about their work.

Essex Council for Voluntary Youth Services

Message from our Middle School Head Prefect, Flo:

There are over 7000 groups/activities in Essex, with over 290,000 places for young people to join in! Find out about youth groups/ activities near you over the summer on this link: <https://ecvys.org.uk/youth-groups/>

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.uk/mental-health-and-wellbeing).

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:

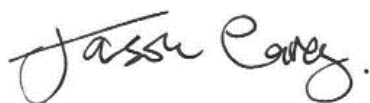
[Lower and Middle school SHSG Mental Health Board \(padlet.com\)](https://www.shsg.org.uk/mental-health-and-wellbeing)

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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](#). Wishing you a restful weekend!

Yours faithfully,



Jason Carey
Headteacher