



Southend High School for Girls








AN ACADEMY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Southend High School for Girls Launchpad 2026!

The SHSG Launchpad is a series of events aimed at providing ambitious Year 5 children with a flavour of SHSG grammar school life. Each event will provide a taster of the subjects and topics that students engage in each day here at SHSG. They will also provide an opportunity to become familiar with some of the skills that your daughter will need to demonstrate in the 11+. The Launchpad starts as a series of Saturday schools followed by four after school 11+ familiarisation sessions. Sign up for the Saturday schools that your daughter would like to attend and/or the 11+ familiarisation sessions. Information how to book can be found at the bottom of this flyer.

Launchpad Saturday schools – 9.30am - 12.30pm

Teachers and Sixth Form Students invite you to join them in the following sessions:

	17th January 2026 – Be a Mathemagician with the SHSG Mathematics faculty! Patterns and Problem Solving: Be there or be squared... An exciting opportunity to go beyond classroom learning and see the beauty, power and creativity of mathematics. You will learn how maths can be applied to understand magic, how through simple rules and algorithms the most magnificent of patterns can be created and how to apply and develop problem-solving skills to a wide range of activities.
	24th January 2026 - Express Yourself! The Creative and Performing Arts faculty invite you to take part in a morning of creative expression trying your hand at Art, Music, Drama and Technology. The sessions will be active and hands on, giving you the opportunity to explore the full range of creative facilities that we have at SHSG.
	7th February 2026 – Wanted: Adventurers to settle new lands! As climate change makes previously uninhabited islands in the Arctic Circle habitable ... Be part of the Humanities and Social Science faculties as you create your new society! Do we need religion? Do we need money? Do we need laws? Where should we live? How can we be sustainable? Come and work with us to design the perfect place to live.
	25th April 2026 - The SHSG Spirit! The problem with being such an old school is all the ghosts... Join the SHSG English faculty for a morning of creative storytelling, featuring live theatre, puns, mystery, creative writing and, yes, ghosts! Friendly ones, of course, with exciting stories to tell. It's just a shame they're so forgetful.
	9th May 2026 – Raise the bar! Athletics and fitness workshops with the Physical Education faculty. The session will incorporate several different athletic disciplines that cover both track and field events, as well as some fun, fitness-based activities.
	16th May 2026 – Discover the magic of languages! Languages help you understand the world and open doors to exciting cultures and amazing experiences. Grab your passports and join us in French, German and Spanish to solve some puzzles, sing songs, challenge yourself and see just what you can achieve. Say yes to languages and let the adventure start now!
	20th June 2026 – Mission to Space! Let our Biology, Chemistry and Physics departments help you to investigate moon rock, balloon rockets and creatures from outer space in an action-packed morning of practical experiments!

Launchpad - 11+ Familiarisation Sessions

SHSG will also be running the extremely popular 11+ familiarisation sessions again this year. These consist of a meeting (**parents only**) to talk through the 11+ process followed by two Maths and two English sessions for students.

- **Wednesday 6th May 2026 (6pm)** – Parents' 11+ familiarisation meeting (parents only)
- **Monday 11th May 2026, Wednesday 13th May 2026, Monday 18th May 2026 and Wednesday 20th May 2026, 4pm-5pm** - 2 x Maths and 2 x English sessions.

Due to the popularity of these sessions, places are limited and subject to availability. There is an administration fee of £10 per Saturday School session and £40 in total for the four 11+ familiarisation sessions.

Places will be free to children who qualify for Pupil Premium funding. Information can also be found on the website page. If your child does not qualify for Pupil Premium, but require financial assistance, support may be available. Please contact us at office@shsg.org

To apply for a place on the Launchpad sessions and/or the 11+ familiarisation sessions, please go to our website www.shsg.org/year-5-launchpad and enter the password **SHSG2026!**