

SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS

ACADEMY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Prittlewell Chase, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS0 0RG
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Headteacher: Robin M Bevan MA MEd PhD FRSA



19th December 2023

Dear Parents

We have now approached the time when your son will be asked to make his option choices, selecting subjects that he wishes to study in Year 9.

Our Options booklet is available online (please see the link below) and we recommend that you take a little time to read through the booklet to become familiar with the learning journey of each subject. Your son should select subjects that he enjoys and that he is achieving in.

In Year 9, all pupils study English, Mathematics, Science, Religious Studies, Personal, Social and Health Education, Physical Education and Games. PSHE and PE Games are non-GCSE courses. All pupils are to continue to study at least one Modern Foreign Language through to GCSE.

Additional 'optional' subjects are Art, Business and Economics, Citizenship, Computer Science, Design and Technology, Drama, Food Science, History, Geography, Music, PE and Modern Foreign Languages (if your son wishes to study more than one language). Your son will need to choose 7 optional subjects in addition to his language choice.

We will shortly be starting a series of Drama taster sessions and we have set up a dedicated Year 8 Options area on our website, which includes some presentations on the subjects that your son can choose.

You can use the link below and then add the username and password.

<https://www.shsb.org.uk/page/?title=Year+8+Parents+Area&pid=123>

Username; year8parents@shsb.org.uk

Password; y8access

Our new live system of reporting should also be used as information to help shape his choices and we hope you'll be able to utilise appointments during Year 8 parents evening on 22nd January to consult with your son's teachers regarding suitability for his option choices. We will write again in the new year explaining how to book parents' evening appointments.


The Year 9 Options booklet can be accessed here: <https://heyzine.com/flip-book/4043bc30c7.html>. Once you have viewed the booklet and are ready to make your son's choices, please go to this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/ZizkmKUqzW> to complete the options form. Please complete the form no later than Tuesday 6th February 2024.



It is important that this deadline is adhered to as we need to ensure that all the processes of timetabling can be completed in preparation for the start of the new term. We will do our best to allocate your son his first choice preferences; it is possible, however, that we will not be able to accommodate late applicants.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school by e-mail on enquiries@shsb.org.uk if you require any further guidance or support in relation to the options process.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J L Brandon', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr J L Brandon
Director of Key Stage 3