

SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS

ACADEMY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Prittlewell Chase, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS0 0RG
(01702) 606200 enquiries@shsb.org.uk www.shsb.org.uk

Headteacher: Mrs R V Worth



October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: National Theatre Trip – Tour and *Curious Incident* Archive Experience – Wednesday 5th November

As part of their Drama curriculum, Year 12 & 13 Drama students are encouraged to explore all aspects of theatre-making beyond performance – including the processes of design, direction, and production. We are excited to offer a unique opportunity to visit the **National Theatre in London** for a **backstage tour** and **archival session** focusing on the award-winning play *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*.

This enriching experience will take place on **Wednesday 5th November** and includes a guided tour of the National Theatre's backstage and production spaces, followed by a session in the **Archives Room** where students will explore original materials from *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*. This is a fantastic opportunity to understand the depth of professional theatre production and gain insight into one of the most innovative and visually compelling plays studied at A Level.

Travel and Meeting Arrangements

Students will **make their own way to London** and meet staff at **The National Theatre at 10:30am**. Clear directions and travel guidance will be provided to all students ahead of time. We strongly advise students to travel in groups where possible and to pre-plan their route. Staff will travel on the same train as many students from **Chalkwell Station**, but those wishing to travel independently may do so with parental permission.

The day will finish at approximately **5pm**, after which students can either return home independently or meet a parent/carer in London. Again, this must be clearly indicated via the **school's Offsite Visit Form**.

What to Bring

- A **packed lunch** (students may also have the opportunity to purchase food during a short break, but this is not guaranteed)
- Money to purchase their **own train ticket** on the day (students may wish to buy in advance for ease)
- Suitable clothing for the weather and travel

Cost and Payment

The cost of the visit is **£12**, which covers the tour and archives session. This is payable via **WisePay**, under the **"Trips and Visits"** section. We kindly ask that payment is made by **Monday 6 October 2025**.

To secure a place, please also complete the school's **Offsite Visit Form** by **Monday 6 October 2025**:
<https://forms.office.com/e/WXpBiavYyh>

Further information about *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* and the National Theatre's work can be found here: <https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/your-visit/things-to-do/theatre-tours/> and <https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/about-us/archive/>



Please also take a moment to review the school's **Code of Conduct for Offsite Visits** on the offsite form, which applies to all students attending.

Thank you for your continued support of Drama and your child's wider theatre education.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Frost
Subject Leader of Drama