

Dear Parent or Carer

We know how important it is for you to choose the right secondary school for your child in order for them to thrive, learn, and become confident and successful.

All children have different ways of learning. Some children excel in music, others have a natural aptitude for mathematics, some are good at sport, many are secure 'all-rounders', a few find academic learning challenging and some thrive on a practically based vocational curriculum. Most important of all, is that all children and young people deserve a good education both for its own sake and to enable them to gain qualifications to help them secure a positive future.

When it comes to making that all-important decision about secondary education, the challenge is to find the right school. This means one that meets your child's academic, social and emotional needs, where they will be happy, safe, secure and achieve well.

To help you make an informed choice, we are delighted that all twelve state funded secondary schools have joined us to provide you with timely information about their school, what is special about their school, and most importantly, the date and time of their prospective Year 7 information events. This leaflet does not replace the comprehensive information about admissions arrangements which is available online in July 2018.

We wish you all the very best with making this important decision and join with you in wishing your children the best of luck as they near the end of their time in primary school.

Simon Leftley

Deputy Chief Executive
Department for People



**Info for
year 5
parents or
carers**

School Open Days 2018

Belfairs Academy



"Shaping the Future"

Open Evening: Thurs 5th July • 6pm – 8pm

www.belfairsacademy.org.uk • Tel: 01702 509000

Belfairs Academy is committed to providing educational excellence for your child in an innovative learning environment. We aim to inspire and empower students, building confidence and self-belief in their ability to achieve.

Life at the Academy is exciting, challenging and on a resolute path that is paved with endeavour, tenacity and support. The path has been carved with the sole aim of shaping the future; and nothing is more important to us than the future of each and every student coming through our Academy doors.

Cecil Jones Academy



"Opportunity and success"

Open Evening: Wed 11th July • 6pm – 8pm

www.ceciljonesacademy.org.uk • Tel: 01702 440000

"Pupils like the focus on rewards and achievement" – Dept for Education

Cecil Jones Academy allows your child to be happy, safe, inspired, challenged and supported. We are part of the Legra Academy Trust where EVERY child has the opportunity to achieve excellence as we transform our provision to ensure outstanding life chances for all students.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our Academy. You will have the opportunity to take a student led tour of our facilities and meet our teachers. At 6:15pm there will be a presentation by the Principal and the CEO of the Legra Academy Trust. If you are unable to attend on 11th July, please take the opportunity to visit us, by appointment, on a normal working day.

Chase High School & 6th Form



"Aspirations, Care and Excellence"

Open Evening: Thurs 20th Sept • 6pm – 8:30pm

www.chasehigh.org • Tel: 01702 354441

Chase High School would like to welcome you to our Open Evening in order to see our impressive suite of resources, meet our dedicated staff and students, and to find out more about life at the school including the many exciting opportunities that are available to everyone during their time with us. You will be able to visit the various rooms, talk with students who already study with us, and ask questions of the staff who teach in the areas that interest you. Making the move from primary to secondary school is very important and we are here to help ensure the transition is a happy one and a springboard to your success.

Shoeburyness High School



A member of SECAT

"A Community Academy and Member of the Consortium of Selective Schools in Essex"

Selective Parents' Open Evening: Wed 13th June • 6pm – 7:30pm

Full Prospective Parents' Evening: Thurs 27th Sept • 6pm – 8:30pm

General Tours: Tues 2nd Oct and Wed 3rd Oct • 9am – 10:30am

Choosing a selective place: Tours Tues – Thur w/b 15th Oct • 9am – 10:30am

www.shoeburynesshigh.co.uk • Tel: 01702 292286

Shoeburyness High School is a heavily oversubscribed 11-18 inclusive Community Academy where all students meet national expectations of progress and who were judged as 'outstanding' by Ofsted. It has a record of high attainment with year on year improvement, a fully selective pathway and a large academic sixth form.

Southchurch High School



"Working together to achieve success"

Open Evenings: Tues 3rd July • 5:30pm – 8pm

Thurs 27th Sept • 6:30pm – 8:30pm

www.southchurchschool.com • Tel: 01702 415300

Partnership Learning 

Southchurch High School is an oversubscribed school, working with Partnership Learning Trust. Working in partnership with parents and carers, our team of staff is dedicated to ensuring that your child acquires the skills and qualifications necessary to make a positive contribution to society and to secure themselves a bright and productive future.

We look forward to welcoming you to our open events. Come along and see our new building, where you will have the opportunity to talk to both students and teachers, whilst taking a tour of our modern facilities.

Southend High School for Boys



"Outstanding" OFSTED Report 2015

Open Evening: Thurs 28th June • 4:30pm – 8pm

(Headteacher's presentation at 5.45pm, 6.45pm and 8pm)

No appointment necessary

www.shsb.org.uk • Tel: 01702 606200

Ofsted 2015: "Attitudes to learning and relationships between staff and students are exemplary. Parents, staff and students are all extremely positive about all aspects of the school."

"Students talk about their school with pride and describe the care and commitment of staff in helping them achieve well."

"Students thrive in lessons because teachers have very high expectations. Students excel academically, but also contribute extremely well to society."

School Open Days 2018

Southend High School for Girls



"For over 100 years SHSG has provided a rigorous academic education for able girls"

Open Evening: Thurs 5th July • 5:30pm – 8pm
(Headteacher's talk at 6pm, 6.30pm and 7pm)

Open Days: Mon 9th July • 9:30am – 10:30am
Tues 10th July • 9:30am – 10:30am
Mon 16th July • 9:30am – 10:30am
(Headteacher's talk at 10:30am)

See the school's prospectus at www.shsg.org • Tel: 01702 588852

Southend High School for Girls welcomes all year 5 girls seeking a broad, balanced and challenging academic education alongside significant opportunities for creative expression and sporting success. Whatever your strengths, I am sure that you will find that SHSG has the capability to help you to achieve more.

St Bernard's High School



"St Bernard's High School is an outstanding Catholic school... Attainment and progress of students is outstanding, with very little variation between different groups of students due to pro-active monitoring and intervention by teachers."

A Catholic Academy for Arts and Science

Open Evening: 4th July • 6pm – 9pm

Opportunity to tour the school during a normal working day (parents only):

9th, 10th and 11th Oct • 9:30am – 11am

Please contact the school in Sept 2018.

www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk • Tel: 01702 343583

St Bernard's High School offers non-selective places according to Faith based admission criteria and selective places based on success in the CSSE selective tests.

St Thomas More High School



"God's Servant First"

Open Evening: Thurs 12th July • 6pm – 9pm (Headteacher's talk 7pm)

www.st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk • Tel: 01702 344933

Ofsted 2015: "The academy has its core values firmly rooted in the Roman Catholic faith. The values of respect and tolerance are reflected in the positive relationships between staff and pupils, and the good behaviour of pupils around the academy."

Progress in the 6th Form places St Thomas More in the top 20% of schools in the country and the top performing school for Post 16 education in the Borough. At KS4, we are ranked in the top 20% of students in the country for both attainment and progress in English and Maths.

Governors are pleased to accept applications from committed families of other faith positions, who support and desire for a Catholic education. We look forward to welcoming you to our open evening.

The Eastwood Academy*



"Believe, Succeed, Together"

Open Evening: Mon 25th June • from 7pm

www.eastwoodacademy.co.uk • Tel: 01702 524341

The Eastwood Academy is the most successful non-selective school in Southend and, in 2017, recorded a Progress 8 score of 0.70, placing it in the top 6% of schools nationally.

The Academy was inspected by Ofsted in March 2018 and achieved the highest possible outcome under this type of inspection i.e. 'The school remains good and there is sufficient evidence of improved performance to suggest that the school may be judged outstanding if it received a section 5 inspection now'.

The Academy's ethos, 'Believe, Succeed, Together', is reflected in an uncompromising belief that all pupils can and will succeed in a learning environment which supports and values everyone and their achievements.

Westcliff High School for Boys



"Designated Outstandingly Successful on four occasions"

Open Evening: Tues 26th June • 5pm – 9pm
(Headmaster's talk at 6pm and 7:15pm)
No appointment necessary

www.whsb.essex.sch.uk • Tel: 01702 475443

email: office@whsb.essex.sch.uk

Westcliff High School for Boys welcomes Year 5 pupils and their parents to our annual Open Evening. We look forward to providing you with an opportunity to meet our pupils and staff and to look at our facilities.

We encourage you to come along and find out more about us.

Westcliff High School for Girls



"To be an outstanding school with high moral values and a national standing for its scholarship, producing citizens who are leaders and thinkers, imbued with initiative, enterprise and a quest for lifelong learning"

Open Evening: Tues 10th July • 5:45pm – 9pm
(Headteacher's talk at 6pm, 7pm and 8pm)

www.whsg.info • Tel: 01702 476026

Westcliff High School for Girls is a selective Grammar School with a sixth form of about 350 students. Our status as a National Teaching School allows us to share the development of high quality Teaching and Learning across South East Essex.

We look forward to welcoming you at our Open Evening when pupils and staff will be present, and there will be an opportunity to look around the school.

*Registration for Sports or Performing Arts aptitude tests is due by 1st September 2018. Arrangements for the tests will take place w/c 10th for Performing Arts and w/c 17th September for Sport. Parents will be notified of the outcome by Friday 12th October. Please refer to the Academy website for further information.

What do I need to know as a Year 5 parent/carer?



We know that parents/carers have lots of questions about their options for a secondary school for their child so we've listed below some of the ones that are asked most often.

How do I find out more about the secondary schools in Southend-on-Sea?

One of the best ways to find out more about which will be the best school for your child is to visit them. All their open days/evenings are listed in this guide but if you cannot make one of the open days please contact the school and arrange an alternative day/time to visit.

Also, in the first week of July you can access the Secondary Admissions Booklet from the Council providing more details about each school and the admission criteria. This will be available on the Council's website www.southend.gov.uk/admissions

When can I apply for my child's secondary school and if I apply early will I be more likely to get my 'first' choice?

The online secondary school application form (for the parents/carers of all pupils living in Southend who are due to start in Year 7 in September 2019) will be open on www.southend.gov.uk/admissions from 1st September 2018 and the closing date is 31st October 2018. Paper application forms will also be available. School places are NOT offered on a 'first come first served' basis, but are considered in line with the admission criteria for each school. However, if you apply after 31st October 2018 then you may be disadvantaged.

When and how will I find out my child has a secondary school place?

Parents/carers will be informed on **1st March 2019** via email or first class post (depending on whether the application was made online or on paper) of the school place that their child is being offered.

Can my child attend any school?

Every school has their own set of admission criteria. This may depend on, for example, where you live, whether your child has a sibling at the school, whether they excel in a particular field, for example, Performing Arts or whether the school has an entrance test. Admission arrangements for schools are available on the school and Council website.

If I want my child to take the 11+ test how do I do this?

Your child's primary school will be able to advise you about the 11+ test and will provide you with relevant information about the entry process. Children take the test in the September of Year 6 and parents/carers receive the results before the end of the application period so that all parents/carers can make an informed choice for their child. More information can be found from The Consortium of Selective Schools in Essex (who run the 11+ test) on www.csse.org.uk Registration for the 11+ test with the CSSE is between 5th June 2018 – 20th July 2018.

The CSSE 11+ test will take place on Saturday 22nd September 2018.

Do I have to pay to go to any of the Southend schools featured in this guide?

There are no fees for the twelve schools that are listed within this leaflet. There are some costs and examples of the cost that parents would need to cover are uniform, stationery and trips.

There is one fee paying, private secondary school in the area: Thorpe Hall School which has a nursery, lower and upper school.

Further details on www.thorpehall.southend.sch.uk, 01702 582340, email: sec@thorpehall.southend.sch.uk

Can my child still have free school meals at secondary school?

Yes! It is really easy to apply either in person at the school or using our online service at www.southend.gov.uk/fsm. If you are eligible for free school meals you will save between £12 and £15 per week. Every pupil who registers for free school meals will earn the school additional government funding which the schools then use to enhance the education for children at that school. It is important for as many parents/carers as possible to register for free school meals (if they are eligible), even if their child does not always take up the free meal offered. Some schools will also provide a free or lower cost uniform if you are registered for free school meals.

Will the Council pay the transport costs of getting my child to school?

Parents are responsible for ensuring their child gets to school and the majority walk, cycle or use public transport. Please take into account the location of the school when making your choices. In a few cases transport may be provided using specific criteria on distance and/or specific benefits. Full details can be found at www.southend.gov.uk/etc

What if my child has a statement of SEN or EHC Plan?

Parents will receive information from the special educational needs team in September 2018 regarding the secondary school application process and do not need to complete the standard application form.

Where can I find out about school uniform?

All of the schools have uniform suppliers listed on their website. If you do not have internet access then please contact the school directly who will be able to give you more information.

How do I contact the team who are responsible for school admissions at the Council?

The School Admissions Team on 01702 212934 will be able to answer your enquiries. You can contact the team by email at admissions@southend.gov.uk or by writing to: The School Admissions Team, Southend-on-Sea Borough Council, Department for People, Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, SS2 6ER

A comprehensive information booklet explaining everything about applying for a secondary school place will be available online at www.southend.gov.uk/admissions, in the first week in July 2018.