



Friday 16th January 2026

SECAT Consultation

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT) is currently undertaking a consultation regarding proposed changes to the admissions criteria for its primary schools and Shoebury High School.

One of the proposed changes would give priority for admission to Shoebury High School to pupils attending SECAT primary schools, ahead of children who live within the school's designated catchment area (unless there is a sibling attending there already). If implemented, this would mean that children attending Friars and St. Georges, as well as other catchment-area pupils, would be placed behind pupils from Bournes Green Junior, Hinguar, Richmond Avenue and Thorpedene when places at Shoebury High School are allocated.

As a school, we believe this proposal is not in the best interests of children or the wider community and unfairly disadvantages pupils from Friars. For this reason, we will be submitting a strong response to the consultation to express our concerns.

We would strongly encourage parents and carers who share these concerns to respond to the consultation. The deadline for submissions is 5.00pm on Thursday 29 January 2026. Please refer again to the attached letter for further details.

If you would like to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to speak with me. I will try my best to be on the front gate before and after school across the next week if you would like to catch me there, otherwise please call the school office.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Mr. C. McClay

Principal



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