



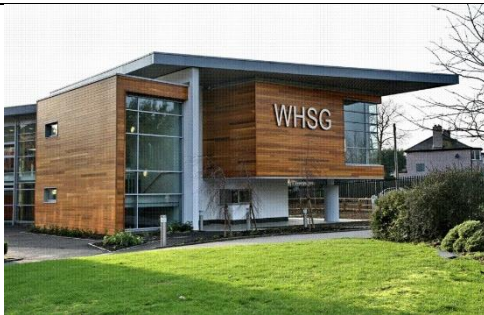





History of Westcliff High School for Girls

Year	Development	
1920	Co-educational school founded in Belsfield, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, briefly known as the Commercial Secondary School. Shortly renamed as Westcliff High School.	
1926	Boys left to go to their new site on Eastwood Lane (renamed Kenilworth Gardens). Miss D H Wilkinson appointed Headmistress.	
1930	Mr John William Burrows, Chairman of the Higher Education Sub-Committee laid the Foundation Stone for the new Westcliff High School for Girls (present school) on 22 September. Mr Burrows was presented with a silver trowel by Mr F W Smith (Architect) and a mallet by Mr F O Hutton (Builder). This building was designed for 550 pupils. Headteacher : D Wilkinson (1927-52)	
1931	Westcliff High School for Girls, in its new building received the first intake of new girls, and the others transferred from Victoria Avenue.	
1952	The Memorial Window for Dora Wilkinson depicting Pilgrim fighting the Dragon from Pilgrim's Progress was designed by Robert Easton (stained glass window artist - windows also in Canterbury Cathedral, and the Chapel Royal, Windsor) was installed in the school hall.	
1952-71	Headteacher: Miss Janet K Raeburn	
1950s/60s	School continued to grow to 850 girls. An outdoor swimming pool was built. During this time the School House system was very strong. Houses were named after the Earls of Essex - Bouchier, Devereux, Bohun and Mandeville.	
About 1958	The Bentall's farmhouse became school property (Hylands House), and was used for Sixth Formers. The farm fields north of Blenheim Chase became playing fields.	
1972-90	Miss Nancy Howard Headteacher	
1991-03	Mrs Pat Elliott joins as Headteacher	
1992-95	Additional relocatable classrooms came into use for English, Science and Technology.	
1993	Hylands, the Bentall's farmhouse/Sixth Form house, was greatly extended and modernised to accommodate the 250 Sixth Formers.	
1994	A large new Science block was added on the east side of the main building.	
1997	The Dining Hall and Music Block opened.	
1998	The original school dining room (Room 5) was converted into a library and 4 new IT rooms were opened.	
2000/01	The two Food Rooms were refurbished.	

2002		<p>The Sports Hall was opened and the old gymnasium converted to a Drama Studio. A new Textiles Room was built in the basement.</p>
2004-	Dr Paul Hayman joins as Head Teacher	
2004	New Technology Wing built onto the Science Block.	
2005	A new reception area was created in the front of the school.	
2008	<p>Purchase of the first floor of Westcliff Centre from WHSB for WHSG sole use as Music Block. School Hall redecorated (Purchased new curtains, a new sound system and installed a projector and screen for main hall.) Tennis Courts extended.</p>	
2010	<p>New Fitness Suite and Dance Studio were built above existing Sports Hall. New West Wing was built incorporating 10 classrooms, Staff room, Pupil toilets, a Learning Resource Base and a Conference Centre. Official opening of Fitness Suite and Dance Studio by Beth Tweddle, World & European Champion Gymnast. Old staffroom returned to classroom use (Room 17 – PSHEE) School grows to 1100 students</p>	
2011	Official opening of West Wing by HRH The Duke of Gloucester	
2014		Hylands House 6 th Form extension opened providing Common rooms and study areas for 350 mixed students in Year 12 & 13
2016	<p>On-site Coffee Shop added Government funding granted for a new East Wing to provide 9 new teaching areas and replacing the old Design & Technology demountable buildings.</p>	