

Dates for the Diary

Literacy, Numeracy & Science Parental Event

Monday 4th March 2024 - 4pm-5pm

National Careers Week

Monday 4th - Saturday 9th March 2024

International Women's Day

Friday 8th March 2024

British Science Week

Friday 8th - Sunday 17th March 2024

Year 9 Progress Review

Wednesday 13th March 2024 - 4pm-6.30pm

French & Humanities Parental Event

Monday 18th March 2024 - 4pm-5pm

Student Value of the Term

**WOMEN'S
RIGHTS
ARE HUMAN
RIGHTS**

House Points - Week Ending 1st March



24,530
HAWKING



24,393
ALI



23,731
SEACOLE



22,442
AUSTEN

Leadership Message

We have had an exciting start to half-term four with a variety of different activities taking place around the Lower Academy.

Our Year 9 students were each presented with a copy of their 2023-2024 Options Booklet on the last day prior to the break, which details all the option choices on offer for their transition to the Upper Academy. The choices provided are structured to offer a balanced curriculum that leads to post 16 higher level qualifications and university. It is an exciting period for our students as they complete taster sessions within enrichment lessons to provide them some insight into what each course entails. Their initial selection takes place over the coming fortnight and students can decide which Humanities subject they would like to continue studying alongside two further options from the offer.

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, we have parental events running this half-term to showcase our EBacc curriculum. Both parental events on March 4th and March 18th will provide an opportunity for parents to tour the Lower Academy and, speak to staff about how they celebrate our EBacc curriculum within their lessons and gain a greater insight into our students' school experience. The events will run from 4pm-5pm on each respective Monday afternoon.



E. Cahill
Deputy Headteacher

We will also be celebrating World Book Day on March 7th. Each subject area will have reading materials which relate to their lesson content, to engage students at the beginning of their lessons. They will then continue their passion for reading throughout the day with a variety of different activities organised by our Reading Lead. We will be welcoming an author to visit the Lower Academy on the 12th & 19th of March to run workshops with our students.

International Women's Day, supporting this term's Student Value 'Women's Rights are Human Rights' will be celebrated on 8th March. Students will also be included in activities to celebrate National Careers Week and, British Science Week.

National Careers Week 2024

National Careers Week 2024 runs from 4th to 9th March. Below is a link to resources including interactive booklets to help parents and carers be involved and informed during this year's National Careers Week.

<https://ncw2020.co.uk/booklets-guides/>

National Careers Week

NCW

Schools Communication Process

The Academy actively encourages close links with parents, carers and the community and has a Home School Communication Guidance policy. This policy outlines how communication should be made with the academy, the process for making appointments and, the conduct expected from anyone visiting the academies.

Any parent or visitor arriving at the academies without an appointment, will be directed to the policy and asked to make an appointment following the outlined process.

Meetings are not available without a pre-arranged appointment and, arriving late to a scheduled appointment could result in a rearrangement being required.

For your reference, a link to this policy can be found here: [Home School Communications Guidance](#) and we ask, that all communication made with the school is always polite and courteous.

Could You Be A Parent Governor?

As we are a rapidly growing academy trust we have opportunities for new parent governors to join our team.

Becoming a Parent Governor offers you the opportunity to make a real contribution to the academy community and to work together with the academy leadership, staff and other governors.

If this opportunity is of interest then please apply via our website (vacancies section): [The Basildon Academies Trust - Governance Vacancies](#)

The closing date for applications will be 3pm on Friday 15th March.

Eco Committee – Spotlight on Recycling

Recycling is a natural benefit to our Earth, when we recycle we come to our Earth's aid.

Recycling has become a big issue that the government is trying to tackle but we can all take action too. If you see litter, put it in a bin and if there are multiple bins, choose the correct one. At the Basildon Lower Academy we have different bins in the canteen so we can recycle easily. You can recycle: paper, plastic, glass, food and loads more and it's really easy. Just put the rubbish in the right coloured bin.

Angel.P & Luke.Z – Basildon Lower Academy Eco Committee



EXTRA-CURRICULAR SPORTS CLUBS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Before School: 7.30 – 8.15 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fitness		Before School: 7.30 – 8.15 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trampolining	
After School: 3.30 – 4.30pm <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Archery (Sign up only)	After School: 3.30 – 4.30pm <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basketball (Year 7)• Netball (All Girls)	After School: 3.30 – 4.30pm <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basketball (year 8&9)	After School: 3.30 – 4.30pm <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Football (year 7)• Badminton (all years)	After School: 3.30 – 4.30pm <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Football (Year 8&9)

NHS Careers Workshop

Year 9 students recently participated in an NHS Careers Workshop led by Kate Evans from the Health & Care Academy.

Students learned about the diverse array of roles in the health sector, ranging from frontline healthcare professionals to administrative staff and, gained valuable insights into the skills and attributes necessary for success in these roles.

During the workshop, students had the opportunity to deepen their understanding of various healthcare roles by taking part in a hands-on exercise where they were tasked with matching job descriptions to corresponding job roles. Another notable activity demonstrated student's communication skills; team members provided instructions to one blindfolded team member to enable them build an object using playdough.

"I enjoyed the tasks during the workshop. It was interesting to find out about all the different job roles in the NHS and learn what they do specifically. I learned that there are also non-clinical jobs in the NHS such as accountants and even Art Managers. The workshop definitely made me consider an apprenticeship in the industry in the future." May.G

"I learned a lot more about the Health Sector, for example the amount of jobs and how much medical equipment costs. The activities were super fun, I also liked how Kate took the time to answer the questions we had. Overall it was a fun experience and I'd love to do it again." Lexi.T

"The NHS Career workshop helped me see what I could be in the future. I loved the card selection game, it relied on teamwork." Ricky.K

"I learned that there are different types of learning you have to do for each role but they still have to know the basics about chemicals and germs no matter how complicated and advanced the job is. We also discovered the prices of some medical objects." Veronika.L



Uniform Exchange Scheme

If you have uniform that your child has outgrown, please bring it in and see if there is something in the exchange shop that has been donated that you can simply swap your item for. We are still gratefully receiving donations of shirts, trousers and PE kits that are in pre-loved condition and these can be donated via the reception office on either site.

Please remember, the Uniform Exchange shop is located at the Lower Academy, is open from 8am – 3:30pm Monday – Friday and is accessible via the school office.

Home Learning

If you have any queries regarding home learning, including access issues or, to celebrate the work your child has completed at home, please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for Home Learning/Homework.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding our students is at the forefront of everything we do. Parents and carers can access information via the following link www.escb.co.uk which offers guidance and signposts to resources on various safeguarding issues. Please contact our safeguarding officers if you have any concerns about your own child or another student at the Academies.

www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/safeguarding

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

Student Nurse Drop In

If students are worried about their health, would like a confidential chat or would just like to find out more about how our school nurse can help them, the nurse can be found:

Every Tuesday
Breaktime

Location:

The Wellbeing Centre



Free Online Counselling Service

www.kooth.com is a free, confidential, safe and anonymous way for young people, aged 11-26, to ask for help from a team of highly qualified and experienced counsellors and support workers.

Kooth is a well-established, award winning online counselling agency and is accredited by The British Association of Psychotherapy and Counselling (BACP).

Academies Receive Bleed Kit Donations

The academies were recently visited by Suzanne Hedges from the Ricky Hayden Memorial.

Suzanne's son Ricky was tragically lost to knife crime in 2016 and since then, has dedicated her time to raising awareness, for the purpose of fundraising, to enable donations of potentially lifesaving 'Bleed Kits' into the local communities.

We have gratefully accepted the donation of two kits which can be used in the event of a catastrophic bleed, as a result of an accident or injury. The Academies are proudly supporting the Memorial and the Daniel Baird Foundation in recognition of the vital work they do.

Staff members have received first aid training from St Johns Ambulance including the use of these necessary kits. More information can be found at controlthebleed.org.uk



Year 7 Basketball Team

Well done to our Year 7 basketball team for their excellent performance in last week's fixture against Mayflower School.

The game was extremely close, and at half time the boys were only 1 point behind. Mayflower did run out eventual winners by 37-23. The team did not give up & did themselves & the school extremely proud.



Young Carers Club

Tuesdays

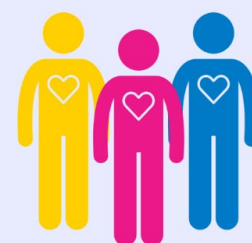
3:30pm-5pm

Venue:

Learning Support Centre

Various activities each week including board games, cooking, photography, arts & crafts.

Refreshments provided. Talk to others, relax & have fun.



Languageut Winners

In February, all students took part in the Languageut UK Secondary French competition. Overall as a school, we came 39th in the competition!

Our Top 10 Linguists are: Esohe.O, Haniel.N, Success.A, Dorcas.O, Izza.H, Fakeha.H, Osariemen.O, Timi.N, Deborah.O and Alimat.B.



Swimming Pool Update

The refurbishment of the Lower Academy Swimming Pool remains on track. We look forward to sharing the progress with you and know it will benefit so many students and the local community once the new facilities are ready for use.



4th - 10th March 2024

To celebrate British Pie Week The Dining Hall will be serving a different choice of pie every day in addition to the normal lunchtime menu.

Monday: **Cheese, Onion & Potato**

Tuesday: **Steak & Kidney**

Wednesday: **Chicken**

Thursday: **Minced Beef**

Friday: **Chicken & Vegetable**

Absence Procedures

To report a student absence please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for Attendance.

- Parents/carers must contact the school by 8.30am each day their child is absent.
- If no reason has been received for a child's absence, the Academy will initiate first day calling.
- Parents/carers must provide medical evidence to support all absences due to illness or medical appointments.
- Wherever possible parents/carers should make appointments outside of school hours but if this is unavoidable students should attend school before and after the appointment.
- If no appropriate medical evidence is provided then the Academies cannot authorise an absence. (ie. medical appointment card, prescription, doctor's letter.)

For further information and guidance regarding attendance and absence please visit our website: www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/attendance



Did you know? **90%** of young people with attendance **BELOW** **85%** fail to get good grades.

MISSING 1 DAY A WEEK



LOSING ONE YEAR OF SCHOOL LIFE.

Good attendance means:

Being in school at least **97%** of the time, that's at least **184** days a year.

Target 97%+



175

days are **NOT** spent in school each year.*

* Plenty of time for shopping, holidays & appointments.

143

Days of education

75%

47 days absent

152

Days of education

80%

38 days absent

162

Days of education

85%

28 days absent

171

Days of education

90%

19 days absent

184

Days of education

97%

6 days absent

190

Days of education

100%

0 days absent

SERIOUSLY WORRIED

Very poor attendance has a serious impact & reduces life chances.

VERY CONCERNED

Poor attendance gives less chance of success.

WELL DONE

Good attendance gives the best chance of success.

THE BASILDON ACADEMIES WORD OF THE DAY

4th March- 8th March 2024

Monday:	Sacrifice: Offer in Danish To surrender or give up, or permit injury or disadvantage to, for the sake of something else.
Tuesday:	Confession: Pagtatapat in Filipino Acknowledgment or disclosure of sin or sinfulness, especially to a priest to obtain absolution.
Wednesday:	Atonement: Sühne in German Satisfaction or reparation for a wrong or injury; amends.
Thursday: (World Book Day)	Reparation: Αποζημίωση in Greek Compensation to make amends.
Friday: (International Women's Day)	Penance: Tapaścaryā in Gujarati A punishment undergone in token of penitence for sin.

Job of the Week: Network Engineer

What does a Network Engineer do?

Network engineers design computer networks that support the structure and network necessities of an organisation.

You may design and implement physical and wireless networks, managing electronic equipment. Research and integrate new technologies into the network lifecycle and work with network administrators to manage or assist problems.

Labour Market Information

- UK jobs: 246,239
- Essex jobs: 5,494 (3rd of 214 UK LEAs)
- Top 5 LEAs: Hampshire (7,384), Kent (5,749), Essex (5,494), Oxfordshire (5,257), Hertfordshire (5,060)



What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

You may be able to get into this role through an apprenticeship, or degree apprenticeship.

Experience can be beneficial.

You could take a course to learn the skills needed to install and maintain computer networks, or a foundation degree, HND or degree in computing.

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median: £37,744



The admin team on both sites are welcoming to visitors and parents and have access to the new EAL translator tools which enable them to speak to each parent or child in their own language when needed.



Leading Parent
Partnership Award

2023-2026

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels



Essex Local Offer Roadshows

Are you a parent/carer of a young person with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and want to know what support is available in your area? Come along to one of our Essex Local Offer Roadshows.

Meet representatives from across education, health and social care as well as local support groups.

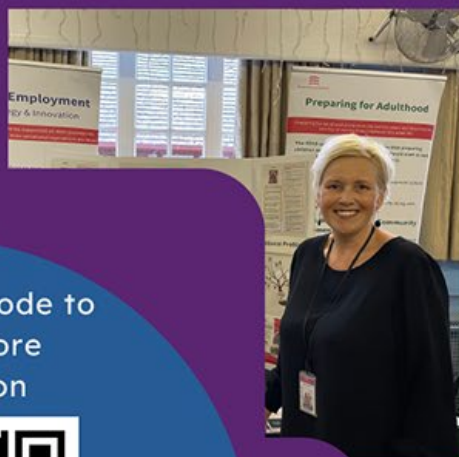
No need to book, just drop in!

Parent/carer workshops will also be running. More information to follow soon.

Scan the QR code to
find out more
information



or go to
[The Essex Local
Offer Website](https://www.essex.gov.uk/essex-local-offer)



Join us...

Monday 4 March 2024

The Holiday Inn, Basildon

Thursday 7 March 2024

Hamptons Sports and Leisure,
Chelmsford

Wednesday 13 March 2024

JobServe Community Stadium,
Colchester

Tuesday 19 March 2024

The Harlow Hotel, Harlow

In Partnership with



Both schools have a range of suitable rooms available for meetings with parents on a 1:1 or group basis, for coffee mornings and training events and make use of well-presented communal areas for community events and information sessions for large groups of parents.



Leading Parent
Partnership Award

2023-2026