

The Basildon Lower Academy Newsletter

22nd April 2025

Dates for the Diary

Bank Holiday Monday 5th May 2025

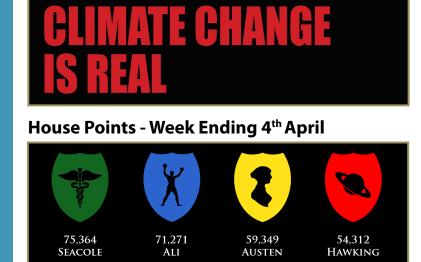
Year 9 AP2 Assessments Monday 12th - Friday 16th May 2025

Year 8 AP2 Assessments Monday 19th - Friday 23rd May 2025

Half Term Monday 26th - Friday 30th May 2025

Year 7 AP2 Assessments Monday 23rd - Friday 27th June 2025

Student Value of the Term



Leadership Message

A huge welcome back to all of our students after the Easter break; we hope you had some time to relax and enjoy the holidays.

As we begin HT5 and approach the second exam series of the year, we continue to be committed to providing our students with the highest quality education to enable them to achieve every success. Our goal is not only to foster academic excellence, but also to nurture well-rounded individuals who are prepared for success both inside and outside of the classroom.



We understand that each student learns differently. We offer personalised support and tailored learning experiences to ensure every student's unique needs are met. Our curriculum is designed to be challenging, engaging, and relevant. We emphasise critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving to prepare students for the future.

Beyond academics, we focus on the emotional, social, and physical well-being of our students, ensuring they grow into confident and compassionate individuals.

We are excited to celebrate the achievements of our students this half-term and beyond!

E.Cahill - Deputy Headteacher

Easter Egg Raffle

On the last day of term, students were treated to a surprise Easter Egg Raffle to celebrate the end of a fantastic term.

Staff handed out more than 1,000 raffle vouchers to students—and 60 lucky winners were drawn to receive a delicious prize.



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 <u>Contact Us</u> 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 <u>www.escb.co.uk</u> 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

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

Every Thursday Breaktime

Location: The Lower Academy SEND Department



Free Online Counselling Service

<u>www.kooth.com</u> 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).





Aspire - Believe - Achieve

Online Safety Advice: Understanding Steam

Steam is a popular gaming platform where users can play, create, and interact with others online. While it offers a wide range of games and social features, it's important for parents to be aware of the platform's settings and safety tools to help protect their child's online experience.

For more information on managing privacy settings, in-app purchases, and communication features on Steam, visit: https://basildonacademies.onlinesafetyhub.uk/parent/reviews/steam

The Online Safety Hub is an online resource with lots of expert advice and guidance to help find out how to keep our young people safe online. You can access it for free here: <u>Online Safety Hub - The Basildon Academies</u>

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 jumpers, 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.



End of Term Awards Event

To mark the end of a successful term, each year group took part in a special End of Term Awards Event on the last day. These celebrations provided an opportunity to recognise and reward students for their achievements, with particular focus on positive attitudes, excellent attendance, and overall contribution to school life.

Well done to all our students for their hard work, and a special congratulations to those who received awards!























Leaders make highly effective use of a wide range of data to identify issues, track improvements and guide decision making both on individual pupils and collectively. Recently this played a part in identifying that uniform infringements were linked to the cost of living crisis and led to changes in the school's uniform.



Excellence in Pupil Development Award

2023-2026

Golden Ticket Reward Event

As part of the Spring Term's golden ticket event, 100 students from each year group were selected based on their continued efforts to follow 'The BA Way' and to maintain high levels of attendance.

To celebrate their achievements, students in Years 7, 8, and 9 were treated to a surprise visit from an ice cream van, where they enjoyed free ice creams and ice lollies under the sunshine. It was the perfect way to round off the term, with students relaxing, celebrating, and enjoying their well-earned rewards.



French Easter Card Competition

Well done to all the students who took part in this year's French Easter Card Competition. Organised by the Modern Foreign Languages department, the competition invited students to design a creative Easter card with a French twist. We received a fantastic range of entries, showcasing both artistic talent and a passion for language learning.

Congratulations to all who entered for their wonderful efforts and for making the competition such a great success!



1st Place: Adrian.M



2nd Place: Harsimran.K



3rd Place: Del.K



4th Place: Kiran.T



Inspiring Futures: Careers Workshop on Goals & Aspirations

Students recently took part in an engaging careers workshop led by Gill Close from the Department of Work and Pensions. The session focused on goals and aspirations, helping students explore what these terms mean and how they can shape their futures.

During the workshop, students created their own 'My Goals Vision Board', using magazines, pictures, and drawings to build a visual representation of their ambitions. This hands-on activity encouraged them to think big, raise their aspirations, and start planning for the future.



Lighting Engineering – A Passion for Year 9 Student Toby

As part of our commitment to careers education in every subject, students explore different job roles each week. One exciting career path is Lighting Engineering—a field that Year 9 student Toby.W is already passionate about!

Toby is making a real impact in our Performing Arts department as our student lighting technician, playing a key role in the lighting for events and performances. His dedication and enthusiasm are evident, and he hopes to pursue a career in lighting engineering after leaving the academies.

Beyond school, Toby is gaining valuable hands-on experience with local community groups and the Towngate Theatre, further developing his technical skills. He aims to expand his knowledge in stage electrics and lighting design through future courses, building a strong foundation for his future in the industry.



A Lighting Engineer plays a vital role in creating the right atmosphere for performances, whether in theatre, concerts, live events, film, or TV. Their work ranges from basic spotlighting to operating strobes, lasers, and even pyrotechnics.

Depending on their role, a Lighting Engineer's day-to-day tasks may include:

- · Interpreting a lighting designer's plan
- Carrying out risk assessments for health and safety purposes
- Planning where to run cables and position lights at film locations
- Helping to rig and check equipment before performances

With such passion and commitment, we have no doubt that Toby will light up the stage—wherever his career takes him!

Miss Stoddard

Performing Arts Lead and Creative Arts Lead

BASILDON ACADEMIES word of the day

22nd - 25th April 2025

Monday: BANK HOLIDAY	
Tuesday: Stephen Lawrence Day Earth Day	Legacy (Noun) 遺物 in Japanese Definition: Something handed down by a predecessor or ancestor, often referring to contributions or memories. Example: Stephen Lawrence Day honours the legacy of Stephen Lawrence and his impact on the fight against racial injustice.
Wednesday: <i>St. George's Day</i>	Patronage (Noun) podpora in Czech Definition: The support, encouragement, or financial aid that an organisation or individual provides. Example: St. George's Day is a celebration of patronage, recognising St. George as the patron saint of England.
Thursday:	Heraldry (Noun) ecuson in Romanian Definition: The art or science of armoury and the study of coats of arms and heraldic symbols. Example: St. George's Day often includes discussions on heraldry, celebrating the symbolism associated with St. George.
Friday: Penguin Day	Endangered (Adjective) ameaçado in Portuguese Definition: At risk of extinction. Example: Penguin Day raises awareness about the endangered status of several penguin species.

Job of the Week: **Mechanical Engineer**

What does a Mechanical Engineer do?

You could work in a variety of industries and on different projects. This could range from the installation of off-shore wind turbines through to designing and testing improvements to prosthetic implants.

Your day-to-day duties will vary according to your role, but could include:

turning research ideas into technical plans, using computer aided design/modelling (CAD/CAM)

carrying out surveys of mechanical systems and equipment

researching and assessing new products and innovations

Labour Market Information

UK jobs: 383,043

Essex Jobs: 8,415

Growth: +41.4%

Top 5 LEAs: 1. Hampshire (11,941) 2. Lancashire (9,111) 3. Essex (8,415) 4. Surrey (8,334) 5. Hertfordshire (8,186)

need to do this job? You'll usually need a foundation degree, an

What Qualifications do you

HNC or HND or a degree in an engineering subject such as: mechanical engineering electromechanical engineering mechatronics engineering (mechanical/manufacturing) Some courses include a year in industry. Alternatively, you could organise your own

work placement within a company.

Let's Talk Money UK annual median: £42,463

The schools approaches to SEND provision and managing behaviour have been adapted to be consistent with the underlying principles of supporting wellbeing first. This is reflected in the schools' policies and the practice seen across both sites.



Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels





Absence Procedures

To report a student absence please visit the <u>Contact Us</u> 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.
- Parent/carers may be asked for medical evidence to support absences after 3 days or reoccurring absence patterns.
- Wherever possible, parents/carers should make appointments outside of school hours. If this is unavoidable students should attend school before and after the appointment.

Please familiarise yourself with our attendance procedures found on the school website within the Parent Information section, so you know who and when you need to contact us. <u>www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/attendance</u>

Essex County Council Education

TIMEKEEPING

What to do the night before:

Get everything you need for school ready





Set your alarm allowing plenty of time

Make your lunch and drink if you bring a packed lunch to school



Turn off devices half an hour before bedtime

Have a good night's sleep - a minimum of eight hours!



