

Dates for the Diary

Year 8 AP2 Assessments

Monday 11th - Friday 15th May 2026

Year 9 AP2 Assessments

Monday 18th - Friday 22nd May 2026

Half Term

Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May 2026

Year 9 AP2 Assessments

Monday 1st - Friday 5th June 2026

Year 7 AP2 Assessments

Monday 15th - Friday 19th June 2026

Student Value of the Term

CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL

House Points - Week Ending 1st May



205,914
ALI



187,575
SEACOLE



178,767
AUSTEN



169,113
HAWKING

Leadership Message

As we move into the final stretch of the academic year, we would like to take a moment to highlight the importance of strong attendance and punctuality. Being present in school every day, right through to the end of term, plays a vital role in ensuring students gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence they need, especially with upcoming assessments on the horizon.

We are incredibly proud of the effort so many of our students are already showing by attending regularly and arriving on time. Your commitment does not go unnoticed, and it is making a real difference to your progress and achievement.

To recognise and encourage this positive approach, we are excited to introduce our "Through the Door for 24" attendance reward. Students who attend every day from 20th April until half term will be entered into a raffle to win a £50 lifestyle voucher. This is just one way we want to celebrate the dedication and resilience shown by our students.

Looking ahead, we will also be running a series of reward days after half term for those demonstrating positive attendance. More details will be shared soon.



By continuing to attend school consistently, students are not only setting themselves up for success in their assessments, but also contributing to a stronger, more positive school community. Together, we are building a school where everyone can thrive, and where every student is supported to achieve their very best.

S. Killick

Assistant Headteacher & Senior Attendance Champion



THROUGH THE DOOR
100% FOR 24
Easy Raffle Entry
£50 to win

EVENT RULES
Attend everyday on time for 24 days for your chance to be entered into this terms attendance competition.
Winners will be announced May 22nd.

PRIZES
1st Draw
£50 Lifestyle Voucher
2nd Draw
£10 Lifestyle Voucher
3rd Draw
£5 Lifestyle Voucher

APRIL 20TH - MAY 22ND

INFORMATION
For more information, pop down to the attendance window.

Parent/Carer Updating Contact Information

Please ensure we have current contact information on file for you, including home address, mobile phone number, and email address. If any of your details have changed, email us at admin@basildonacademies.org.uk with the updated information.

Home Learning

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

Student Portal

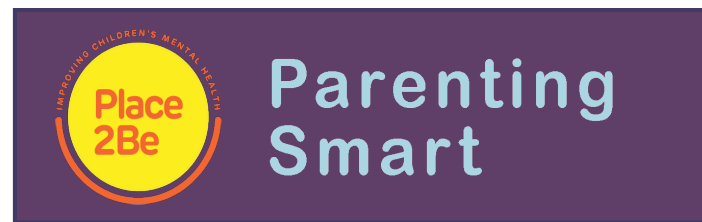
Within the Student Portal, you will find links to a range of resources and learning platforms that students can access to support their studies. The main page, which provides access to all key links, can be found here: [Student Portal](#)

Accessing the Student Portal also enables single sign-on, meaning students do not need any additional passwords for platforms such as SENECA. Students simply log in to the portal in the same way they would when logging in to a school computer.

Supporting Your Child's Wellbeing with Parenting Smart

[Parenting Smart](#), created by the children's mental health charity Place2Be, offers practical tips and guidance to support your child's wellbeing.

From managing screen time to handling big emotions, the website provides short, easy-to-follow articles and videos designed to help parents navigate everyday challenges with confidence.



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

Free Online Counselling Service

www.kooth.com is a free, confidential, safe and anonymous way for young people, aged 11-18, 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).



Online Safety Hub: Online Bullying FAQs

Online bullying can have a significant impact on a child's wellbeing, and knowing how to respond is crucial. Our Online Safety Hub provides clear, practical advice on handling common online bullying situations. [Click here](#) for guidance on how to support your child and help them stay safe online.

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: [Online Safety Hub - The Basildon Academies](#)



Residential Trip to Belgium – A Powerful Journey Through History

Last week, our Year 8 and Year 9 students took part in a residential trip to Belgium, exploring key First World War sites and gaining first-hand insight into the realities of warfare and remembrance.

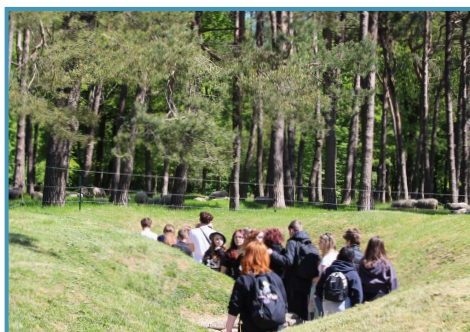
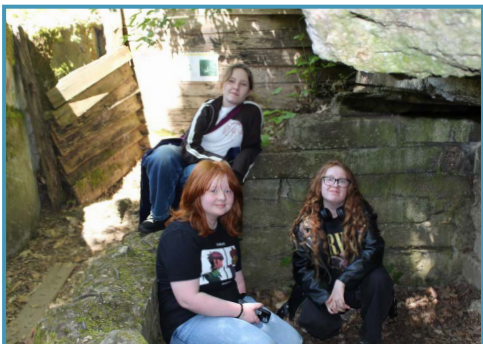
Throughout the visit, students experienced some of the most significant historical locations linked to the Western Front. From the battlefields of the Somme to the historic sites of Ypres, students were able to reflect on the events of 1914–1918 and the immense impact of the conflict.

In Ypres, students visited war graves, explored preserved trench systems, and took part in the moving Last Post ceremony at the Menin Gate. These experiences provided powerful moments of reflection and remembrance for soldiers of all backgrounds who served and sacrificed during the First World War.

As part of the visit, students **Riley.M**, **Constantin.T** and **Annie.F** were given the honour of laying a wreath on behalf of the academies, paying our respects and offering thanks to those who lost their lives in service.

This residential not only supported students' current studies of the First World War at Lower Academy level, but will also provide valuable context for those progressing to Upper Academy studies, particularly when exploring the inter-war years and the political tensions that shaped Europe in the years that followed.

We hope this is an experience that stays with our students for a lifetime and continues to inspire their passions and interest in History, linking it to our world today.



Year 7 Students Inspired by Sir David Attenborough in Geography

Following their recent fieldwork, Year 7 students continued their learning in the classroom with a special lesson to celebrate the upcoming birthday of Sir David Attenborough on 8th May, recognising his incredible contributions to the natural world.

Students explored the impact Sir David Attenborough has had in raising awareness of wildlife conservation, particularly the protection of endangered species and habitats. The lesson encouraged them to reflect on the importance of biodiversity and the role we all play in protecting the planet.

As part of the activity, students selected an animal group—such as amphibians, insects, birds or mammals—and completed work on the life cycle of their chosen species. This helped them understand that different groups of living things have different life cycles, linking closely to their curriculum learning.



It was fantastic to see students so engaged, building on their fieldwork experiences and deepening their understanding of the natural world while celebrating the legacy of Sir David Attenborough.

“This lesson was really fun and interesting—I enjoyed learning about David Attenborough.” Daniel.S

“I liked this lesson because I found out a lot more about David Attenborough.” James.B



Educational Psychology Parent Helpline

Essex County Council are pleased to announce their new support offer for families, now available.

The EP Parent Helpline offers advice, support, and signposting for parents and carers. It is a confidential, safe, and private service, and no referral is needed — just book an appointment in advance.

Easy to Access: The booking is designed to provide an easier and more convenient experience.

- Available on alternating Mondays and Tuesdays
- 1:00pm – 5:00pm
- 25-minute appointments bookable via MS Teams
- No more waiting – instant booking confirmation

For booking details and further information, please visit: [EP-Parent-Helpline](#)

Further information is available on the Essex County Council Local Offer pages: <https://schools.essex.gov.uk/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-send/send-services-and-support/essex-local-offer-website>



King George's Playing Field's (KGPF) Got Talent for all Schools

KGPF's Got Talent is being launched at King George's Playing Fields, Brentwood, and they would love students to get involved! Children and adults are being invited to take part by submitting a short video audition, with the chance to perform live at the grand final and win some fantastic prizes!

Students can submit a video (maximum 2 minutes) by emailing keeleyheasman@everyoneactive.com by end of May 2026. Every entry receives a voucher.



Mental Health Awareness Month – The Power of Language

This month, the Safeguarding Team is recognising Mental Health Awareness Month and focusing on the power of language. The words we use every day – whether we mean them or not – can have a strong effect on how others feel.

We want to remind students to think carefully about the language they use and how it might be heard by someone else. Words, jokes or comments can sometimes be taken the wrong way and may feel unkind, discriminatory or hurtful. Even if something is said “as a joke”, it can still cause upset and damage someone’s emotional wellbeing.



Choosing kind, respectful and inclusive language helps everyone feel safe, accepted and valued. It also helps build positive friendships and a stronger school community.

As adults, both in school and at home, we play an important role. By modelling positive language and challenging harmful words when we hear them, we show young people how to treat others with respect and understanding.

Over the coming weeks, students will take part in assemblies and organised events where we will be sharing ideas about how we can support each other, speak kindly, and look after our mental health together.

Small changes in the words we choose can make a big difference. Let’s work together to support one another and create a caring, respectful community for all.




EXTRA-CURRICULAR SPORTS CLUBS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		<p>Before School 7.30am-8.15am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Years Athletics – Throws <p>After School 3pm-4pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Years Athletics – Jumps 	<p>After School 3pm-4pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Years Athletics – Track 	

BASILDON ACADEMIES

WORD OF THE DAY

4th - 8th May 2026

Monday:	Austerity (noun) <i>ascesi</i> in Italian – strictness or severity of manner. <i>The government's austerity measures caused protest.</i>	
Tuesday:	Clarity (noun) <i>claridad</i> in Spanish – clearness in expression or understanding. <i>The clarity of the instructions helped students succeed.</i>	
Wednesday:	Insatiable (adjective) <i>insaciável</i> in Portuguese – impossible to satisfy. <i>Her insatiable curiosity led her to read daily.</i>	
Thursday:	Cogent (adjective) <i>convaincant</i> in French – clear, logical, and convincing. <i>He made a cogent argument in the debate.</i>	
Friday:	Remembrance (noun) <i>Erinnerung</i> in German – the act of remembering and honouring. <i>Services were held in remembrance of the war heroes.</i>	

Job of the Week: Surgeon

What does a Surgeon do?

Surgeons perform medical operations on patients.

Key Responsibilities

- Meeting the patient before the operation to decide on the best course of action
- Explaining the procedures and risk
- Taking tests and arrange X-rays
- Carrying out operations with a team of people
- Carrying out ward rounds
- Writing to GPs about your patients' conditions and treatments

Labour Market Information

- +7.2% 118,954 jobs
- +11.3% in your region of East of England, an increase of 13,484 jobs

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median:
£55,494

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

Typical Entry Requirements:

To become a surgeon, you'll usually need an undergraduate degree in medicine, followed by general and specialist training.
In the UK, for example, you'll need a five-year degree in medicine recognised by the General Medical Council (or a non-medicine degree followed by a graduate conversion course), a two-year foundation programme of general training, two years of core surgical training in a hospital, and up to six years of speciality training.

Leadership and management of TAs is well organised and they play a very important role within Basildon Academy. Teaching and non-teaching staff work closely together on a day-to-day basis, "It is teamwork, we do it together" a teacher commented.



Best Practice with
Teaching Assistants Award

2023-2026

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels



Enrichment Clubs Timetable

Club Name	Day	Room Number
Creative Writing Club	Tuesday	B12
Poetry Club	Tuesday	B16
Science Club (Year 7 Only)	Tuesday	O12
Science Club (Year 8 Only)	Tuesday	G12
Science Revision Club (Year 9 Only)	Tuesday	B14
Chess Club	Tuesday	O16
Art Club – Pop Art & Mixed Media (Year 7 Only)	Tuesday	O2
Art Club – Ceramics & Graphics (Year 7 Only)	Tuesday	O1
Scale Model Club	Tuesday	B18
Literacy Leaders (Year 7 Only)	Wednesday	B12
English Revision (Year 9 Only)	Wednesday	B15
Science Club (Year 9 Only)	Wednesday	G10
Science Revision Club (Year 8 Only)	Wednesday	G11
STEM Club	Wednesday	B3
Reading Eggs	Wednesday	O11
Art Club (Years 8 & 9 Only)	Wednesday	O3
Maths Club	Wednesday	B8
Debate Club	Thursday	B12
Reading Club (Year 7 Only)	Thursday	B13
Science Revision Club (Year 7 Only)	Thursday	G16
World Film Club	Thursday	O17
Scratch Club	Thursday	B11
Scale Model Club	Thursday	B18

Enrichment sessions take place from 3.00pm–3.30pm.