

## Dates for the Diary

### Last Day of Spring Term

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025 - Students finish at 12:30pm

### Easter Holidays

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> - Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2025

### Bank Holiday

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025

### Year 9 AP2 Assessments

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025

### Year 8 AP2 Assessments

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> - Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025

### Half Term

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025

## Student Value of the Term

**WOMEN'S  
RIGHTS  
ARE HUMAN  
RIGHTS**

## House Points - Week Ending 21<sup>st</sup> March



67,738  
SEACOLE



65,533  
ALI



55,627  
AUSTEN



49,732  
HAWKING

## Leadership Message - Maintaining Momentum

As we approach the end of half term 4, I want to take a moment to emphasise the importance of maintaining momentum in our students' educational journeys.

Staying consistent in our efforts is crucial for our students' academic growth and continued success.

Here are a few ways you can help support this:

- 1. Encourage a Positive Routine:** Consistent out of hours learning/reading habits and daily routines help students stay organised and focused, and encourage a passion for reading.
- 2. Celebrate Progress:** Whether it's completing assessments or mastering challenging elements of lessons, recognising even small achievements motivates students to keep striving for success.
- 3. Foster a Growth Mindset:** Remind students that setbacks are part of the learning process and that perseverance leads to success. Encourage them to see mistakes as opportunities for growth.



Together, we can ensure that our students continue to role model the BA Way with enthusiasm, confidence, and resilience.

Thank you for your continued support in fostering a positive and productive learning environment.

**E.Cahill**  
Deputy Headteacher

## 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.



## 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](http://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](http://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 found:

Every Thursday  
Breaktime

Location: The Lower  
Academy SEND  
Department



## Free Online Counselling Service

[www.kooth.com](http://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).

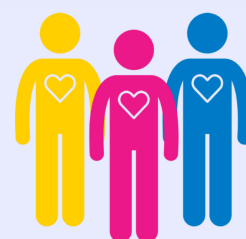


## Young Carers Club

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.

# Aspire - Believe - Achieve

## Online Safety Hub: Supporting Parents with The Prevent Duty

Visit our Online Safety Hub for essential advice and guidance on The Prevent Duty. This webpage provides parents with information on identifying and addressing the risks of radicalisation, as well as practical support to help keep young people safe online and in their communities. Click the following link to read more:

<https://basildonacademies.onlinesafetyhub.uk/parent/articles/the-prevent-duty-advice-and-support-for-parents>

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](#)



## Important Notice: Smoke and Vape-Free Policy

The Basildon Academies is a smoke and vape free organisation. This prohibits the use of all tobacco products and e-cigarettes on, or in, any Basildon Academy property. This is in place to protect staff, students, and visitors from the effects of second-hand smoke in its buildings and grounds.

Please be reminded that parents and visitors are not permitted to use any smoking products on the grounds of the academies, this includes in our car parks.



## Basildon Lower Academy Achieves RSPB Wild Challenge Award

Students at Basildon Lower Academy have proudly earned the RSPB Wild Challenge Award, recognising their commitment to protecting and learning about nature. Through hands-on activities, they worked together to create a more wildlife-friendly environment around the school.

To achieve the award, students took part in a range of eco-friendly projects, including:

- Participating in the RSPB Birdwatch to observe and record local bird species.
- Setting up composting areas to reduce waste and enrich the soil.
- Feeding the birds to support local wildlife during colder months.
- Exploring and building habitats to encourage insects and other small creatures.
- Planting animal-friendly plants to attract pollinators and support biodiversity.

These activities, supported by the school's Eco Committee, have not only helped the environment but also inspired students to take action for wildlife beyond the classroom.

"We should protect birds by taking care of our environment. Keeping areas free of litter is important, as birds may choke on it. By doing this, we can help them survive." Millie.G and Lilly.G – Year 7



Well done to all the students involved for their hard work and dedication to making a difference!

# DROP The MIC!

FREE MONTHLY OPEN  
MIC FOR YOUNG  
MUSICIANS



## Free monthly open mic for Young Musicians

The monthly event is an opportunity for young musicians, rappers and bands, plus those interested in technical skills like sound, to harness their skills in front of a supportive and safe live audience.

Collect a flyer from Miss Stoddard or Miss Child for more details

## DJ Workshop with UK Garage Legend Shy Cookie a Huge Success

We are delighted to share that the recent DJ workshop with UK Garage legend, Shy Cookie, was a resounding success! The event provided an unforgettable experience for our students, who had the unique opportunity to learn from one of the best in the industry.

Shy Cookie, an influential figure in the UK Garage scene for over two decades, guided students through the exciting world of DJing. From mixing and beat matching to sharing insights from his illustrious career, the workshop offered an engaging and hands-on learning experience. It was fantastic to see students immerse themselves in the music and gain practical skills directly from a professional.



The workshop was organised by the Basildon Lower Academy Music Department for the second consecutive year, following the success of last year's sessions. Miss Stoddard once again coordinated the event, ensuring it was a memorable and enriching experience for everyone involved.



## The Importance of Music in Education

- **Boosts Creativity:** Music-making allows students to express themselves in imaginative and innovative ways.
- **Improves Confidence:** Mastering new skills in music, whether DJing or playing an instrument, helps students build self-esteem and confidence.
- **Enhances Collaboration:** Music encourages teamwork and communication, valuable skills both in and outside of the classroom.
- **Supports Academic Performance:** Learning music has been shown to improve focus, memory, and problem-solving abilities, benefiting academic progress.
- **Promotes Emotional Well-Being:** Creating and sharing music provides an emotional outlet and can be a source of personal fulfillment.



If your child would like to continue their musical journey, the Music Department is offering 1-2-1 DJ lessons. Additionally, if your child is interested in learning any other instrument, you can express your interest by filling out the form from the link provided: <https://ukessex.speedadmin.dk/registration?signupSchoolID=1836#/courselist>

There are a few slots available for lessons starting after Easter, **so be sure to sign up this week!** If not, you can join the waiting list for September.

We look forward to offering more exciting opportunities for our students in the future!

**Miss Stoddard - Music and Performing Arts Lead and Creative Arts Lead**

## Basildon Lower Academy Becomes First School to Receive Anglian Water Eco Advocates Award

Students at Basildon Lower Academy have achieved an impressive milestone by becoming the first school in the country to receive the Anglian Water Eco Advocates Award, earning the title of 'Water Wise Wonders!'

The award celebrates the dedication and creativity of 7Y1, who have been working hard to promote water conservation and flood prevention across the school community. Their efforts included:

- Conducting a Water Audit – With the help of the school's caretakers, students completed a full audit to identify how water is used on site and where it can be saved.
- Creative Campaigning – Students designed posters and created social media posts to share practical tips on reducing water consumption.
- Innovative Solutions – As part of their learning, the group also designed flood-proof schools and explored the causes of flooding and how to prevent it.



"I'm proud of what we achieved, I liked the lessons because they showed how much we could do to help."  
Keshawn.E – Year 7

"Learning about flooding was really interesting, and I enjoyed working in groups to make the posters." Hollie.R – Year 7

"Winning this award makes me feel proud—I know I've done something good." Alex.T – Year 7

Congratulations to 7Y1 for leading the way in eco-awareness – your hard work is making a difference!

There are well established systems to listen to and respond to the views of parents as key partners. This includes a parents forum led by a parent governor and regular questionnaires. The school use the "We Asked - You Said - We Did" mechanism effectively to ensure parents understand when changes are made in response to their input.



Leading Parent  
Partnership Award

2023-2026

## Student Story Feature

The Stricken were out there. Shane could neither see nor hear them from his hiding place among the ruins, but they were there all right. And if he wasn't careful, wasn't alert like Mattie had taught him to be, the only time he would see or hear them would be when it was too late. If only he hadn't bought Connor with him this time.

### Part 1

In a country full of sick people, Connor and Mattie would be their saviours. They planned for months to get over the border, but the Stricken guarded it. Mattie was so miserable due to the loss of lives, they had to get the cure.

### Part 2

When 11:50 PM struck, they packed their bags and used a horse in their family's field to escort them out of the city. Connor was groaning and said he didn't feel too good. Suddenly, a car light flashed in front of them, and men grabbed Connor and Mattie and injected them.

### Part 3

When they opened their eyes, they saw four tall men in black suits standing around them. Connor used all his force to tug, but he realised he was strapped onto a bed.

"We are the NSU - the National Safety Unit."

They unstrapped them from the bed, put a bag over their head, and left them in the streets.

### Part 4

Mattie asked Connor to heal the blood on him, but as he tried, he realised he no longer had powers. They both groaned in disbelief. They had to get that antidote that Connor got injected with if they wanted to save their city.

### Part 5

They examined around the building until they found the jackpot. It closes at 9 PM; they knew this was their only chance. They would break through around the back, steal the antidote. Easy—or so they thought.

### Part 6

At around 8:55, they saw everyone leaving the building. They waited around for two minutes and made their way to the door. Locked. How could they be that stupid? They realised there was a ladder through the shed window. They also saw a chimney and smashed the window, took the ladder, and climbed up the roof.

### Part 7

When they were inside, they realized the janitor was still cleaning. They saw the antidote lying on the bed they were pinned down on. Mattie injected Connor, and they had to find a way to get out.

### Part 8

They saw the janitor with his keys. They snuck up to him and grabbed them. He caught them and chased them down the hallway. They just about made it out, gasping for breath. They got as far as they could—until they saw the border. But the dragon Stricken was guarding it.

### Part 9

To their luck, he was asleep. They climbed over the border and found an avalanche of people, and they screamed for help. They saw Connor and Mattie and made their way to them.

### Part 10

10 years later, Connor works in a hospital and helps people in need with his power. Mattie has his dream job as a lawyer and is well-known in his city. They are still always willing to help others.

**Story written by Mason.M - Year 8 (R8U2)**

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.

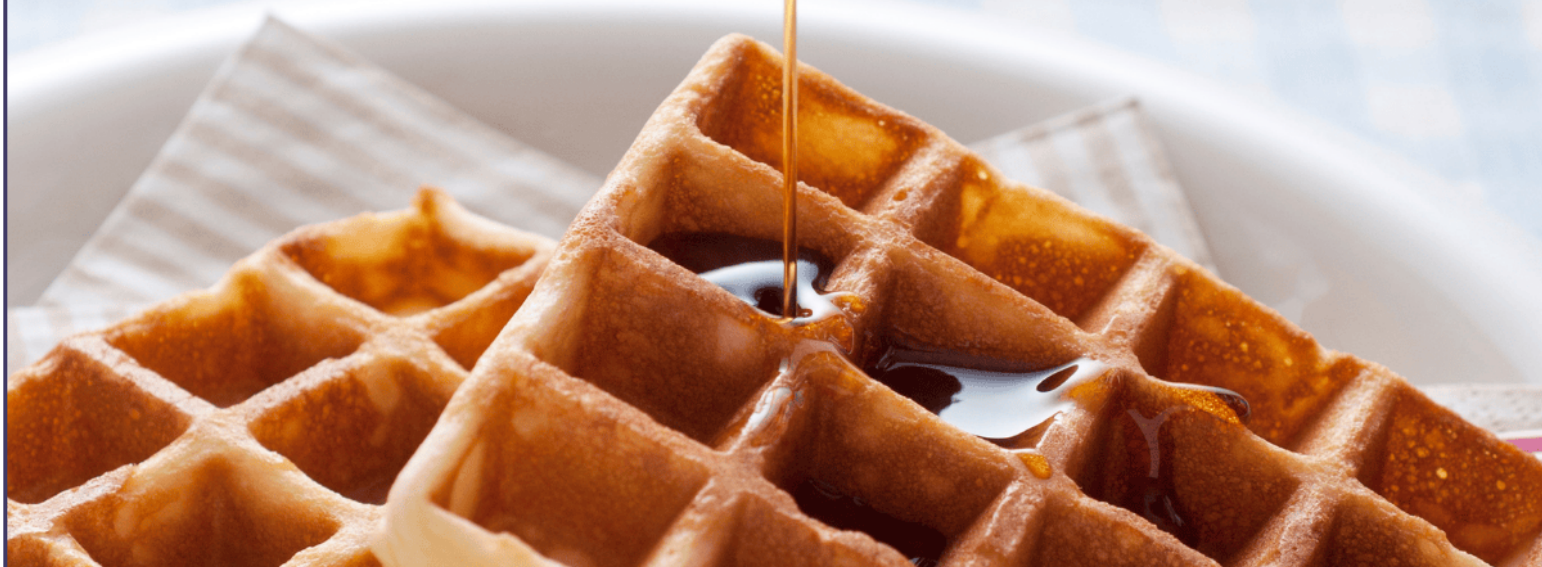


Best Practice with  
Teaching Assistants Award

2023-2024

# WAFFLE DAY

TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WAFFLE DAY THE DINING HALL WILL BE SERVING WAFFLES IN ADDITION TO THE REGULAR DESSERT MENU ON TUESDAY **25TH MARCH**



## EASTER TREATS



On Friday 4th April the Dining Hall will be serving a selection of Easter themed cakes & biscuits at breaktime

Each item will be 50p

# BASILDON ACADEMIES

## WORD OF THE DAY

24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025  
Shakespeare Week

Monday:	<b>Soliloquy (Noun) soliloque in French Canadian</b> Definition: An act of speaking one's thoughts aloud when by oneself or regardless of any hearers. Example: The study of Shakespeare's soliloquies provides insight into the characters' inner thoughts and motivations.
Tuesday: <i>Waffle Day</i> <i>Tolkein Day</i>	<b>Mythology (Noun) mythologia in Latin</b> Definition: A collection of myths, especially one belonging to a particular religious or cultural tradition. Example: Tolkein Day celebrates the rich mythology created by J.R.R. Tolkien, including his detailed fictional worlds.
Wednesday:	<b>Iambic (Adjective) იამბიკი in Georgian</b> Definition: Relating to a type of metrical line used in poetry, particularly in Shakespeare's works, consisting of an unstressed syllable followed by a stressed syllable. Example: Shakespeare's use of iambic pentameter is a key focus during Shakespeare Week, highlighting his poetic style.
Thursday: <i>UA Presentation Evening</i> <i>World Theatre Day</i>	<b>Dramaturgy (Noun) រឿង in Khmer</b> Definition: The theory and practice of dramatic composition. Example: Shakespeare Week explores dramaturgy, analysing the techniques used in Shakespeare's plays.
Friday:	<b>Bard (Noun) bardi in Finnish</b> Definition: A poet, traditionally one reciting epics and associated with a particular oral tradition; often used to refer to Shakespeare as "The Bard of Avon." Example: Shakespeare is often referred to as the Bard due to his profound influence on English literature and drama.

## Job of the Week: Job Recruiter

### What does a Job Recruiter do?

Your day-to-day duties might include:

- 'cold calling' companies to generate new business
- interviewing and testing job seekers, to create a pool of people ready to fill vacancies
- matching candidates to suitable jobs
- screening and shortlisting candidates before employers interview them
- meeting targets for the number of vacancies taken or the number of people placed into jobs

### Labour Market Information

UK jobs: 294,495

Essex Jobs: 7,840

Growth: +7.6%

Top 5 LEAs: 1. Hampshire (8,270) 2. Essex (7,840) 3. Hertfordshire (7,568) 4. Kent (7,272) 5. Surrey (6,972)

### What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

Previous experience in sales, marketing or customer services, or the right skills and attitude, could help you get into this type of work. Some new recruitment consultants are graduates. You can enter recruitment with any degree, although some employers may prefer one more closely related to the industry they find staff for, like human resources, marketing or public relations.

### Let's Talk Money

UK annual median: £29,744

What the schools stand for and promote is highly visible and consistent on each site from the values agreed with students to the diversity represented by the key figures the school's houses are named after.



Excellence in Pupil Development Award

2023-2026

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels



## 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.
- 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. [www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/attendance](http://www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/attendance)



# GOOD 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!



# South West School Age Community Drop-in

The School Age team at Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Services will provide drop-ins for parents/carers and school aged young people across South West Essex. The drop-ins are available for all young people including those who may be home educated or unable to access the support they require in the school environment.

## Support offered:

- Emotional health and wellbeing
- Improving sleep
- Nutrition support
- Physical and sexual health
- Personal hygiene
- Managing health conditions
- Signposting, advice and support.

**No need to book, just come along**

For more information

Tel: 0300 247 0013 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm)

### **Northlands Park Family Hub**

Davenants, Basildon SS13 1QX

#### **School Age Parent Drop in**

9:15 – 10:15

#### **Young People's Drop-in**

15:30 – 16:30

1st and 3rd **Monday** of the month

### **All About Delivery Site**

Leinster Road, Laindon SS15 5NX

#### **School Age Parent Drop in**

9:15 – 10:15

#### **Young People's Drop-in**

15:30 – 16:30

2nd and 4th **Monday** of the month

### **Sunnyside Delivery Site**

Rosebay Avenue, Billericay, CM12 0GH

#### **School Age Parent Drop in**

9:30 – 10:30

#### **Young People's Drop in**

15:30 – 16:30

1st and 3rd **Thursday** of the month

### **Larchwood Gardens Family Hub**

Larchwood Gardens, Pilgrims Hatch, Brentwood  
CM15 9NG

#### **School Age Parent Drop in**

9:15 – 10:15

#### **Young People's Drop in**

15:30 – 16:30

1st and 3rd **Tuesday** of the month