

Dates for the Diary

Cultural Fayre

Monday 13th July 2026 - 3pm-4:30pm

Parent Drop In

Thursday 16th July 2026 - 10am-11am

Last Day of Summer Term

Friday 17th July 2026 - Students finish at 12:30pm

Year 6 Summer School

Monday 10th - Wednesday 13th August 2026

Last Day of Summer Term

Friday 17th July 2026 - Students finish at 12:30pm

Student Value of the Term

LOVE IS LOVE

House Points - Week Ending 10th July



253,205
ALI



228,821
SEACOLE



223,160
AUSTEN



221,547
HAWKING

Dear parents and carers,

As we come to the end of the school year, I want to take a moment to thank you for your incredible support. Working together has enabled us to provide a rich and ambitious KS3 experience for all our students.

Our programme of events and trips has been a particular highlight. The visits to Paris and Belgium offered invaluable cultural and historical learning, while the cinema and zoo trips strengthened friendships and broadened understanding beyond the classroom. Within school, the Candy Cane Christmas Fayre showcased the creativity and community spirit of our students, and we look forward to welcoming everyone to our Cultural Fayre this afternoon. Students have also benefited greatly from sessions with guest speakers, specialist dance workshops, and university talks that have encouraged them to think confidently about their futures.

We were delighted to recognise exceptional student achievement through the Jack Petchey Awards celebrating individuals who have gone above and beyond. Our students also demonstrated impressive commitment in numerous sports competitions, and ice cream Friday provided a chance to celebrate attendance.

A particular good luck to our Year 9 students who will be starting at the Upper Academy in September following their transition days in these last two weeks of term. We are excited to see what they achieve as they take this next step. At the same time, we look forward to welcoming our new Year 7's in September as they begin their secondary journey with us.

Thank you once again for your partnership throughout the year. I wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer break.

S.Szuszkiewicz - Deputy Headteacher



Parent Drop In - Thursday 16th July

This week's Parent Drop In will be on Thursday 16th July between 10am and 11am. There will be no need to book an appointment, just sign in at reception and staff will be happy to show you to the venue. There is no set topic for the drop in sessions, if we are not able to answer any specific questions, we will follow up and then feedback to you.



Preparing for Year 7: Welcoming Students and Families to the Lower Academy

Last week, we were delighted to welcome our Year 6 students who will be joining us as Year 7 students in September, along with their families, for our Year 6 Information Evening.

Following three successful transition days, the evening provided students and parents with the opportunity to meet members of staff, learn more about life at the academy and prepare for the exciting journey ahead.

It was wonderful to see so many families attend, creating a fantastic atmosphere and reflecting the enthusiasm for joining our school community. The event also gave parents and carers the opportunity to ask questions and find out more about the support and opportunities available as students begin their journey with us in Year 7.

We look forward to welcoming many of our Year 6 visitors back to the Lower Academy in August for our Summer School, providing another opportunity for students to build confidence, make new friendships and become familiar with their new surroundings before starting Year 7 in September.

We wish all of our incoming students and their families an enjoyable and relaxing summer break, and look forward to welcoming them as they begin the next exciting chapter of their education.



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.

Young Minds

[Young Minds](#) is the UK's leading charity committed to improving the emotional wellbeing and mental health of children and young people. Just as people's bodies can become unwell, people's minds can become unwell too.

Young Minds offer information to young people and children about mental health and emotional wellbeing. If you need to talk, they can let you know about organisations that listen, plus they offer online support and info.

YOUNG MiMDS

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

YOUNG CARERS CLUB

TUESDAY

3.15PM-5PM G7

VARIOUS ACTIVITIES EACH WEEK INCLUDING BOARD GAMES, COOKING, PHOTOGRAPHY, ARTS & CRAFTS.

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED. TALK TO OTHERS, RELAX & HAVE FUN.

Street Dance Team Prepares for Cultural Fayre Performance

Our Year 7, 8 and 9 Street Dance students have been working incredibly hard with guest industry choreographer Ellen Bubba in preparation for their performance at today's Cultural Fayre.

Ellen has been working with Basildon Lower Academy students every year since choreographing our school production of Matilda in 2022. Since then, Miss Stoddard has organised an annual opportunity for students to work with Ellen and be part of our Street Dance Team, giving them access to professional choreography, industry insight and an exciting performance experience.

During rehearsals over the last two weeks, students have been learning an energetic new routine while developing their confidence, performance skills and teamwork. Despite rehearsing in the heat, the group showed fantastic commitment and

We cannot wait to see them showcase everything they have learned at today's Cultural Fayre!



Lower Academy Cultural Fayre – Monday 13th July

We warmly invite all parents, carers, families, and students to join us for our Cultural Fayre on Monday 13th July, from 3.00pm to 4.30pm.

The event will provide an exciting opportunity to travel 'Around the World' by exploring the cultural-themed stalls created by our students. Each stall will showcase a different country or culture and feature an interactive activity for guests to enjoy. Visitors can also collect a passport stamp at every stall they visit as they journey around the event.

Alongside the cultural experiences, visitors can enjoy karaoke entertainment, a variety of games, student-run stalls, and a fantastic raffle featuring some wonderful prizes. Refreshments, including pancakes and hot dogs, will also be available to purchase.

All proceeds raised during the event will be donated to our chosen charity, UNICEF.

We look forward to welcoming you for an afternoon of culture, celebration, learning, and community spirit.



Online Safety Hub: Navigating the Need for Parental Controls

In the digital age, children have easy access to technology, and it's essential for parents to ensure their online experiences are safe. [Click here](#) to access information regarding online parental controls. These resources can help parents understand the tools available to support their child's online safety and wellbeing.

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](#)



Learning for Life: A Day of Skills, Teamwork and Fun

Students from all year groups recently enjoyed an exciting and engaging Life Skills Drop Down Day, packed with practical learning, creativity and collaboration. Throughout the day, students took part in a wide range of activities designed to develop essential life skills, strengthen communication and problem-solving skills, and encourage them to work together in a variety of challenges.

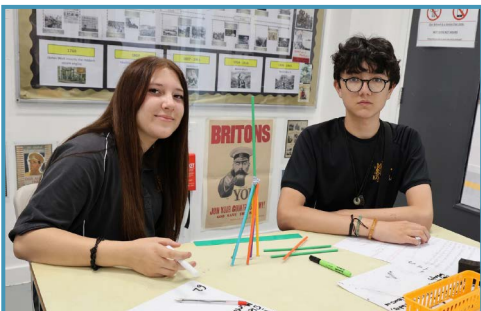
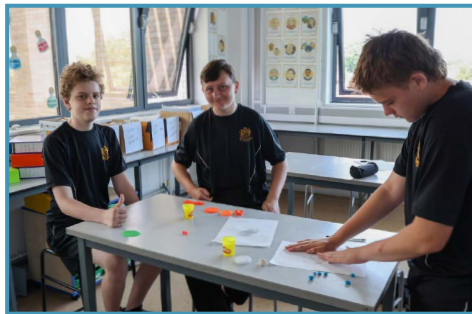
Students followed step-by-step instructions to construct bird houses and practised their sewing skills by making their own toys, keyrings, and bookmarks. These activities helped develop patience, resilience, and attention to detail. Creativity continued with science-inspired Play-Doh modelling, where students created planets, veins, and other models to deepen their understanding of scientific concepts.

A valuable first aid session, led by St John Ambulance volunteers, gave students the opportunity to learn CPR and understand how they could respond confidently in an emergency.

Outdoor learning saw students take part in a treasure hunt across the school field, combining skills from PE, Geography, and Maths as they navigated clues and worked together to solve challenges.

Through board games and real-life scenarios, students developed important social skills by practising communication, teamwork, compassion, resilience, and positive decision-making in a range of everyday situations. Students also explored healthy lifestyles through nutrition activities, learning about the 'Eatwell Plate' and the different nutrient groups, before preparing their own healthy food.

Finally, students explored financial literacy through Monopoly and other money-based challenges, learning about saving, investing, budgeting, and making sensible financial decisions.

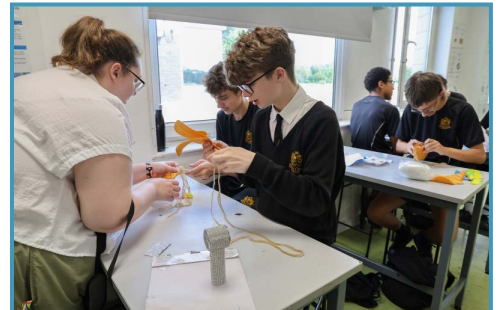


The Life Skills Drop Down Day was a fantastic opportunity for students to build confidence, develop practical skills, and discover how learning across different subjects prepares them for everyday life. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm, teamwork, and creativity throughout the day.

"I really liked this drop-down day. It was really fun, especially the Play-Doh modelling. It was very creative and enjoyable." Luke.Z – Year 9

"I really enjoyed the drop-down day. I especially liked the stranded island activity because it challenged my thinking and was very social." Logan.G – Year 9

"I enjoyed today's activities because they were fun and felt more like a treat than a normal school day. I would like to have more days like this in the future." Tommy.H – Year 9



BASILDON ACADEMIES

WORD OF THE DAY

13th - 17th July 2026

Monday:	Cordial (adjective) <i>mahaba</i> in Swahili – warm and friendly. <i>The meeting ended on cordial terms.</i>	
Tuesday:	Liberty (noun) <i>स्वतंत्रता</i> (<i>svatantrata</i>) in Hindi – the state of being free within society. <i>The French Revolution became a symbol of liberty.</i>	
Wednesday:	Pristine (adjective) <i>‘āma’ama</i> in Hawaiian – unspoilt; in its original condition. <i>The pristine copy of the book was valuable.</i>	
Thursday:	Sagacity (noun) <i>akal</i> in Malay – the ability to make good decisions. <i>Her sagacity kept the team on track.</i>	
Friday:	Elation (noun) <i>ukuthokoza</i> in Zulu – great happiness and exhilaration. <i>Students felt elation as the summer holidays began.</i>	

Job of the Week: Astronomer

What does an Astronomer do?

Astronomers study the universe and its origins, and make predictions for its future.

Key Responsibilities:

- Collecting data from satellites and spacecraft using radio and optical telescopes
- Developing new instrumentation and maintaining existing equipment creating complex computer models to develop theories on the physical processes happening in space
- Analysing the results of past observations to develop new predictions
- Making observations and testing theories
- Analysing data to help develop our understanding of events in the universe

Labour Market Information

- +41.4% 897,801 jobs
- +40.8% in your region of East of England, an increase of 89,463 jobs

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

You'll usually need a BSc (Hons) degree (2:1 or higher) in:

- astronomy
- physics
- astrophysics
- geophysics

You could move into astronomy if you've got a background in computer science, maths or some branches of chemistry or engineering.

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median:
£55,518

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 ACTIVate

FREE

holiday clubs, fun activities and food across Essex and Thurrock!

Essex ActivAte is the name for the exciting holiday activity and food clubs delivered by Active Essex! During school holidays, club providers across the county offer free clubs for eligible primary and secondary children, giving them the chance to get active, make friends, learn new skills, and support their wellbeing. The programme also offers:

- ✓ Specialist SEND, mental wellbeing and youth clubs
- ✓ Sports and games, arts and crafts, cooking and much more!
- ✓ Nutritious snacks and tasty meals
- ✓ Activities run by qualified, local club providers
- ✓ Family support, resources and guidance
- ✓ Discretionary paid and paid for spaces



www.activeessex.org



@EssexActivAte

SCAN ME



**Free places are for children eligible for income-related free school meals. Only book a space if your child will attend. Non-attendance means other children may miss out on this valuable holiday opportunity.*

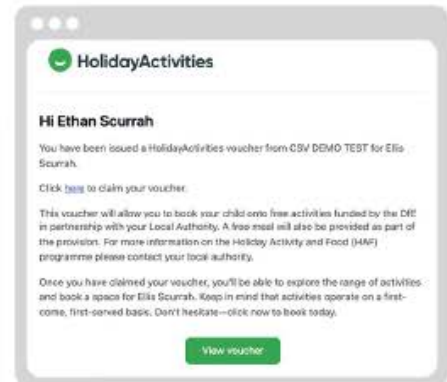
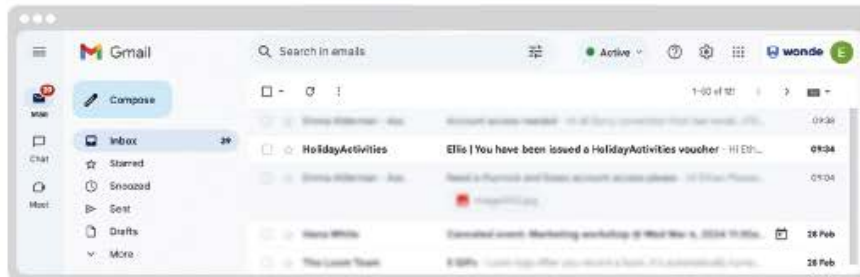


HolidayActivities

A guide on claiming your voucher and booking activities

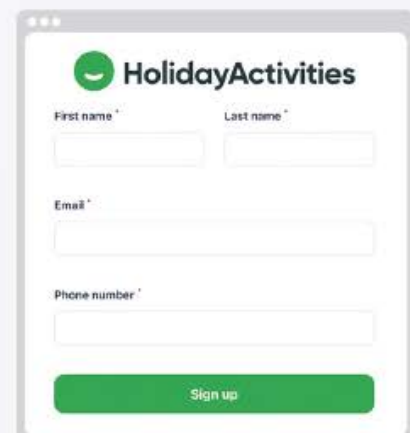
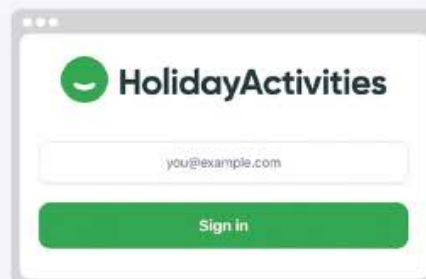
Step 1 – Open the email and click the green button

This voucher will come from hello@holidayactivities.com



Step 2 – Select **Continue with email** and log in/sign up

After selecting Continue with email, you will be asked to enter your email address. If you do not have an account, you will be asked to sign up



Step 3 – Making a booking

Clicking the green arrow on the voucher of your child will take you to a list of providers. From here, you can browse available activities and, once you find one suitable, you will be asked to complete a booking form.

