

Dates for the Diary

Bank Holiday

Monday 1st May 2023

Year 7 AP Assessments

Tuesday 2nd May - Friday 5th May 2023

Coronation Fayre

Thursday 4th May 2023

Bank Holiday

Monday 8th May 2023

Year 8 AP Assessments

Tuesday 9th May - Friday 12th May 2023

Half Term

Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June 2023

Student Value of the Term

CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL

House Points - Week Ending 21st April



26,110
HAWKING



25,980
ALI



25,961
AUSTEN



23,784
SEACOLE

Uniform Requirements - New Item

A change to our uniform requirements that will be in place at the Lower Academy from September 2023. This development will support the availability and, reduce the overall cost of school uniform.

These new guidelines have been developed by our Parent Forum and Student Voice along with support from Trustees to phase out the academy blazer, replacing it with an academy jumper. The jumper will be black, v-neck, with our academy badge embroidered on it.

This uniform requirement will be compulsory for Year 7 and 8 only from September 2023.

From September 2023:

- Year 7 **will purchase the new jumper** along with other required items from our supplier. (students currently in Year 6 transitioning in September)
- Year 8 will all **receive two free school jumpers**, to replace their existing blazers. (students currently in Year 7)
- Year 9 will all **receive a new free blazer** for their final year at the Lower Academy. Year 9 may wish to purchase a new school jumper if they wish, this is not compulsory. (Students currently in Year 8).

Both Year 7 and 8 will be expected to wear their academy jumper each day.

Our Academy Support Team will be in touch with parents and carers of our current Year 7 and 8 students, regarding ordering and collection of the free uniform items, over the coming weeks.

This development has taken shape as a result of working in partnership with parent and student groups. **'We asked - You said - We did'**.

If you require any support or guidance regarding uniform, then please speak to us in confidence and we will work together to find a solution. Thank you for your support in this matter.



GOLD - RIGHTS RESPECTING

In addition to strong internal advocacy, students take action locally and globally. Charities such as Children in Need, the Basildon Hospital NICU and the local hospice, are among the beneficiaries of the Academies' charitable fundraising.

Unicef RRSA Accreditation Report Gold: Rights Aware - July 2022

SEND Department Coffee Afternoons Every Wednesday 2:30pm – 3:30pm

We are delighted to offer our parents/carers the opportunity to meet with members of our SEND Department to discuss your child's progress. Coffee afternoons are held at the Lower Academy from 2:30 - 3:30pm.

To book an appointment please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for General Enquiries.



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 Wellbeing Centre



Young Carers Programme

The Basildon Lower Academy is committed to supporting our Young Carers and ensuring that they feel seen and supported in school.

We recognise that young people often do not associate their responsibilities at home as being a Young Carer and we support students by making them aware of the support available to them in school. Students often worry about the person they care for when they are at school or away from them, and we work with our Young Carers to manage these feelings.

The roles and responsibilities of a Young Carer can vary but the students may support in the following tasks:

- Practical tasks - cooking, cleaning or shopping, looking after siblings
- Physical care - helping someone out of bed
- Personal care - helping someone dress
- Emotional support - talking to someone who is distressed or upset
- Medical support - giving medication, attending medical appointments
- Communication - appointments or telephone calls



Young Carers Club



Thursdays

3:30pm-5pm

Venue: The Wellbeing Centre

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

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

Young Carers After School Club

One of our support strategies is offering an After-School Club; a weekly opportunity for our registered Young Carers to access a club where they can make new friends with other students in a caring role, have some fun, and have a break from their caring responsibilities.

There are a range of activities for students to take part in during Young Carers club including:

- Arts and Crafts
- Games
- Cooking
- Movie Club
- Trips

The club runs every Thursday 3:30pm – 5pm

If you are a student at the academies or you believe your child may be a Young Carer please complete the attached form found by clicking the link below or contact Mrs Peake for further information.

[Young Carers Registration Form](#)

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels



Attendance Expectations

There is a clear link between academic success and attendance and as such our expectations for attendance are that:

- Parents have a legal duty to ensure their child attends regularly.
- Students should have 100% attendance each year.
- Students with attendance below 95% are of concern.

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 should 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



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.

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).



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 blazers, 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.

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

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.



Wellbeing Award
for Schools

2022-2025

Year 7 Students of the Week

Mathematician of the Week	Simon P
English Scholar of the Week	Gracie M
Super Scientist of the Week	Harrison S
Sporting Legend of the Week	Kye S
French Linguist of the Week	Razvan-Gabriel V

Year 8 Students of the Week

Mathematician of the Week	Sirius D
English Scholar of the Week	Daniel L
Scientist of the Week	Timi N
Sporting Legend of the Week	Gabe Ma
Historian of the Week	Erikas S
RE Expert of the Week	Molay T
French Linguist of the Week	Olivia P

Year 9 Students of the Week

Mathematician of the Week	Ioana L
Scientist of the Week	Rebecca O
Historian of the Week	Tommie M
French Linguist of the Week	Veronica K

Aspire - Believe - Achieve