

Dates for the Diary

Armistice Day

Tuesday 11th November 2025

Year 8 AP1 Assessments

Monday 1st - Friday 5th December 2025

Year 9 AP1 Assessments

Monday 8th - Friday 19th December 2025

Christmas Fayre

Thursday 18th December 2025: 3pm-5pm

Last Day of Autumn Term

Friday 19th December 2025

Student Value of the Term

**NO HUMAN
IS ILLEGAL**

House Points - Week Ending 7th November



65,186
ALI



62,432
SEACOLE



53,901
AUSTEN



49,309
HAWKING

Leadership Message

We'd like to take a moment to say a big well done to all our students who have made a brilliant start to the school year with excellent attendance. Being in school every day really does make a difference; not only in the rewards and recognition we give, but also in the friendships built, the memories made, and the progress achieved in learning.

We recognise that attending school every day isn't always easy, and we want to thank families for their ongoing support in helping students to show up and stay engaged. Our staff are always here to help if any student is finding things challenging; whether that's getting to school, keeping up with lessons, or managing day-to-day challenges.

Research shows that good attendance has a strong link to academic success, and we've been highlighting this in our assemblies to help students understand how every day in school really does count.

You may have noticed some attendance postcards handed out recently, these were to celebrate positive attendance from the previous half term. If your child didn't receive one this time, there will be plenty more opportunities to be recognised as we move through the term.



Finally, we're pleased to share that there will be ongoing attendance rewards throughout the year, with some exciting new incentives on the way. Students should make sure they're on time to tutor time to see what they may have earned!

Keep going, keep showing up, and keep being brilliant.

S. Killick

Assistant Headteacher & Attendance Champion

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 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

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.



Explore helpful resources here: <https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

Young Carers Club

Tuesdays

3:15pm-5pm

Venue:

Ground Floor Green Block
Opposite the Drama Room



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

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

Free Fruit at Breaktime



Students can choose an item of fruit from the till area in the Dining Hall at breaktime each day.

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](#)



Essex Sexual Health Service Webpages Dedicated to Secondary Parents & Carers

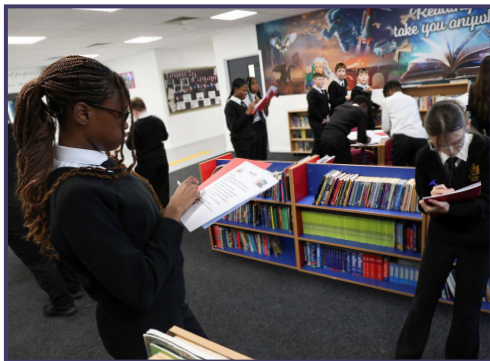
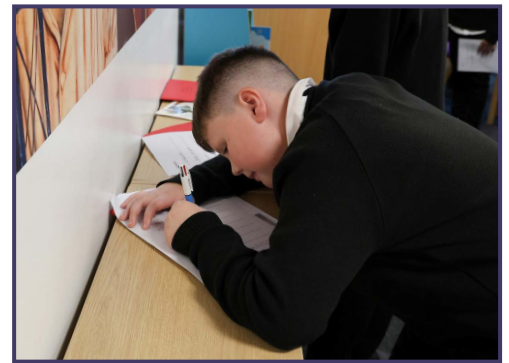
The Essex Sexual Health Service has a website dedicated to parents and carers. Parents can find a wealth of resources, including FAQs, insights into RSE, and advice on how to have those important conversations.

<https://essexsexualhealthservice.org.uk/parents-and-carers/>



Year 8 Students Put Their Reading Knowledge to the Test in Library Quiz

Last week, Year 8 students took part in an exciting Library Quiz during their Reading Lessons in the Lower Academy Library. The quiz was designed to test their knowledge of books, authors, and library skills, while encouraging a love of reading and teamwork. Students have really enjoyed the friendly competition and the chance to explore even more of what the library has to offer.



"The library quiz really enjoyable as it tested my knowledge and helped me explore different books." Mohab.A

"I enjoyed the quiz as it was something different to do and challenged my knowledge of fiction and books." Dottie.H

"I really enjoyed the quiz because it was interesting and expanded my knowledge of reading and famous fictional characters." Shaun.C

"I thought it was really fun searching for clues with my friends and finding the answers." Tyler.W

"I enjoyed doing the quiz because it was fun looking for clues and signs. I find reading fun because the stories are interesting." Marlee.C

Students Begin Learning British Sign Language

As part of Enrichment during tutor time, students at the Lower Academy have recently begun learning British Sign Language (BSL), an exciting new initiative aimed at promoting inclusion and communication across the school community.

To support their learning, students have been creating and displaying fingerspelling posters around the school and in classrooms, helping everyone to become more familiar with the BSL alphabet.

This activity not only builds new skills but also encourages greater awareness and understanding of the Deaf community and the importance of accessible communication.

Students will be continuing their BSL learning throughout the year, and we look forward to sharing their progress as their confidence and signing skills develop.



UNICEF Thanks Basildon Lower Academy for Cultural Fayre Donation

Back in July, The Basildon Lower Academy proudly hosted its annual Cultural Fayre, celebrating the rich diversity, creativity, and talent within our school community. Students, staff, and families came together to enjoy a vibrant afternoon of music, food, and performances; all in support of UNICEF.

At the time, we were delighted to share that the event raised over £300 for UNICEF's vital work helping children around the world.

We are now pleased to share that we have received a letter addressed to our Headteacher, Rebecca Rees, from Vicky Johnson, Head of Supporter Care at UNICEF UK, expressing their sincere thanks for our support.

In her message, Vicky Johnson writes: "Please pass on our acknowledgement and gratitude to all those who contributed. Thank you for your incredible support and for helping us give children around the world the opportunity to survive and thrive."

We are very proud of everyone who helped make the Cultural Fayre such a success, from the talented performers to the families and staff who supported the event. Your generosity and enthusiasm have made a real difference.

[Click Here](#) to read the letter from UNICEF.

Find out more about how your support helps: www.unicef.org.uk



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).



EXTRA-CURRICULAR SPORTS CLUBS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School: 7.45 – 8.15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trampolining • Boys Year 7 Rugby (7.30 start) 	Before School: 7.45 – 8.15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boys Year 7 Basketball (7.30 start) • Girls Football • Boys Year 8 & 9 Football After School: 3.00 – 3.30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 7 Fitness 	Before School: 7.45 – 8.15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boys Year 8 & 9 Basketball (7.30 start) • Boys Year 7 Football 	Before School: 7.45 – 8.15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Girls Basketball After School: 3.30 – 4.30pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 8 & 9 Fitness 	Before School: 7.45 – 8.15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Netball



Do you like finding out about **electricity**?

You could be a/an...

Electrician



Charlie tests, installs and repairs electric circuits, plugs and lights in homes.



Top essential skill



Wind turbine technician



Nikil maintains offshore wind turbines, so they generate as much electricity as possible.



Top essential skill



Nurse



Alex uses an electrocardiogram (ECG) machine to record electrical activity in a patient's heart.



Top essential skill



Electric car designer



Sarita designs cars that run on electricity. She works with a team of engineers.



Top essential skill



Which job would you like to do?



For more about essential skills see skillsbuilder.org

www.energisingfutures.co.uk



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.



**TO COMMEMORATE ARMISTICE DAY
THE DINING HALL WILL BE SELLING A SELECTION
OF CAKES & BISCUITS FOR 50P EACH
ON TUESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER**



ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Lest We Forget



BBC

**Children
in Need**








**On Friday 14th November the Dining Hall will be
selling a selection of cakes & biscuits for 50p each.
All proceeds will go to Children in Need.**

BASILDON ACADEMIES

WORD OF THE DAY

10th - 14th November 2025

Monday:	Stoic (adjective) Stoic in Irish – enduring pain or hardship without showing feelings. <i>The stoic soldier stood firm in the bitter cold.</i>	
Tuesday:	Reverent (adjective) 경건한 in Korean – feeling or showing deep solemn respect. <i>They stood in reverent silence during the two minutes' reflection.</i>	
Wednesday:	Munificent (adjective) mūnificus in Latin – more generous than necessary. <i>The munificent gift funded the entire library renovation.</i>	
Thursday:	Didactic (adjective) didaktisks in Latvian – intended to teach, often with a moral lesson. <i>The novel took on a didactic tone, warning against greed.</i>	
Friday:	Philanthropy (noun) filantropija in Lithuanian – the desire to promote the welfare of others. <i>Her philanthropy ensured struggling families received winter coats.</i>	

Job of the Week: Orthodontist

What does an Orthodontist do?

Orthodontists examine and treat dental malocclusions and oral cavity anomalies, and design appliances to realign teeth and jaws.

Day-to-day responsibilities include:

- Carrying out consultations with your patients, to evaluate them and determine their dental needs
- Taking x-rays and impressions
- Developing treatment plans
- Installing orthodontic appliances (e.g. braces, wires, and retainers)

Labour Market Information

UK jobs: 208,661

4,401 in your local area of Essex

+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: £54,496

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

You'll usually need to complete a bachelor's degree in dentistry approved by a relevant professional body (e.g. the General Dental Council in the UK, or the Ghana Dental Association).

When you first apply for your degree, you'll also need to take a rigorous test (e.g. the UCAT, GAMSAT, or MACT). This is used to check your suitability for a career in medicine by testing your mental abilities and behavioural characteristics, rather than your academic achievements.

There is a real drive to ensure that TAs are highly skilled and deployed effectively to meet the needs of learners. TAs feel well valued and were able to articulate how they are given opportunities to develop their skills through CPD and often receive public recognition through the 'Star of the week'.



Best Practice with
Teaching Assistants Award

2023-2026

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels



Absence Procedures

Please let us know as soon as possible if your child is unable to attend school, ideally by 8am, by email to lowerattendance@basildonacademies.org.uk or by calling 01268 498881.

- 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

Did you know? **90%** of young people with attendance **BELOW** **85%** fail to get good grades.

MISSING **1 DAY A WEEK**



LOSING **ONE YEAR OF SCHOOL LIFE.**

Good attendance means:

Being in school at least **97%** of the time, that's at least **184 days** a year.

Target **97%+**



175

days are **NOT** spent in school each year.*

* Plenty of time for shopping, holidays & appointments.

190

Days of education

184

Days of education

171

Days of education

162

Days of education

152

Days of education

143

Days of education

100%

0 days absent

97%

6 days absent

90%

19 days absent

85%

28 days absent

80%

38 days absent

75%

47 days absent

SERIOUSLY WORRIED

Very poor attendance has a serious impact & reduces life chances.

VERY CONCERNED

Poor attendance gives less chance of success.

WELL DONE

Good attendance gives the best chance of success.



Essex County Council
Special Educational Needs
and Disabilities

The Essex Local Offer website

provides information about help available to children and young people (aged 0 to 25) with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

You can also find information on:

- support, groups and activities
- help with learning
- advice for young people
- health and wellbeing
- housing and employment
- financial support

Visit www.send.essex.gov.uk for more information and to sign up to our newsletter

