

Dates for the Diary

Year 8 & 9 Parents Evening (Online)
Wednesday 22nd January 2025

Holocaust Memorial Day
Monday 27th January 2025

Children's Mental Health Week
Monday 3rd - Sunday 9th February 2025

National Apprenticeship Week
Monday 10th - Sunday 16th February 2025

Half Term
Monday 17th - Friday 21st February 2025

Student Value of the Term

**KINDNESS IS
EVERYTHING**

House Points - Week Ending 17th January



43,011
ALI



41,890
SEACOLE



37,207
AUSTEN



30,482
HAWKING

Leadership Message - The Importance of Reading and Literacy

Reading is extremely important to the staff at the Lower Academy as we know that reading opens doors to many different opportunities in life and ensures that no one is disadvantaged from accessing their hopes, ambitions, and dreams.

Every student at the Lower Academy is actively encouraged to participate with reading of some form within all their subject areas during the day. Whether this be in a Maths lesson where they are asked to read a question out loud, or a Catering lesson where they are reading the ingredients needed to complete their cooked dish correctly. All materials are forms of reading, from emails and text messages, to recipes, instructions and leaflets.

Reading is not just books and novels. Everything around us is a form of reading, please support your child with embracing as much reading as possible. We have a motto at the Lower Academy with regards to fostering a passion for Reading which is '**Reading is not just novels, it is what interests you!**'

Discover how the Lower Academy is fostering a love for reading through engaging initiatives and, learn how you can support your child's literacy journey by following the link to the [Lower Academy Reading Newsletter](#)



Thank you for supporting us with this important Reading Initiative for our students and your children.

S.Forecast - Reading Leader

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

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).



Aspire - Believe - Achieve

Online Safety Hub Recommended Resource of the Week: How to Spot Fake Online Accounts

Rapid tech expansion has brought exciting opportunities to broaden our social networks by enabling us to connect readily with others online. However, the digital landscape also comes with its share of challenges, including fake accounts that aim to exploit and harm unsuspecting and vulnerable individuals, especially children.

[Click here](#) to access information and support relating to the dangers of fake accounts.

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](#)



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

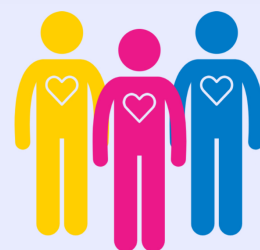


Young Carers Club

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.

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.



Year 7 Explore World Religions to Mark World Religion Day

To commemorate World Religion Day, Year 7 students participated in a thought-provoking and immersive activity, aimed to deepen their understanding of the fundamental traditions of the six most widely followed religions around the world.

Stations were set up across the classroom, each showcasing a variety of artifacts that represented key aspects of different faiths. Students had the opportunity to examine items such as traditional clothing, sacred texts and symbolic objects that hold significance in various religions.

As they moved from station to station, students reflected on how they engaged their five senses during the experience. They documented their observations while maintaining an open mind and treating each display with the utmost respect.

The activity provided a valuable opportunity for students to explore the rich diversity of global religions, gaining a deeper appreciation for the values and practices that underpin different faiths.



"I really enjoyed experiencing different religions and their traditions. We were very grateful for this opportunity." Ersal.T

"This activity was very interesting because I learned the traditions of many religions. I also felt a passion for learning more about different religions." Ariadna.L

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.

Lower Academy Launches Fairtrade Committee

The Lower Academy is proud to announce the establishment of its new Fairtrade Committee, comprising student representatives from all year groups. Last week, the committee held its inaugural meeting, marking the start of an exciting journey towards promoting awareness and support for Fairtrade principles.

During the meeting, students explored what Fairtrade is and why it plays a vital role in ensuring fair working conditions and sustainable practices for producers worldwide. The session provided an opportunity for the students to deepen their understanding of global trade and social responsibility. Students also created 'chatterboxes' with questions, providing a fun and interactive way to reinforce their knowledge about Fairtrade.

In addition to learning, the group brainstormed creative ideas for fundraising activities to support Fairtrade initiatives. The committee is planning events to raise awareness and funding within the school community.



"We think Fairtrade is important because it helps us understand the struggles people go through. It's great for people who want to support their communities in the best way they can. We like to help because it makes us feel like we can make a positive impact on the world." Kaci.C and Gracie-Mae.M – Year 9

VEGANUARY MONTH

Throughout January the Dining Hall will be serving a Vegan Dish of the Day

Uniform Price Increase

We have been advised by our school uniform suppliers, SWI Schoolwear, that from **February 1st 2025**, there will be an increase in price across uniform of 3.4%, in line with Retail Price Index (RPI).

Should you require any additional uniform for your child, please order before the end of January to benefit from the current price.

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



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!



BASILDON ACADEMIES

WORD OF THE DAY

20th- 24th January 2025

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|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday: Martin Luther King Day | Oratory (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> The art of public speaking, especially in a formal and eloquent manner. <i>Example:</i> Martin Luther King Jr.'s powerful oratory continues to inspire movements for social justice. |
| Tuesday: World Religion Day | Oratory (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> The art of public speaking, especially in a formal and eloquent manner. <i>Example:</i> Martin Luther King Jr.'s powerful oratory continues to inspire movements for social justice. |
| Wednesday: | Interfaith (Adjective) <i>Definition:</i> Relating to or involving people of different religions or beliefs. <i>Example:</i> Interfaith dialogues during World Religion Day help bridge gaps between various religious communities. |
| Thursday: | Ecumenical (Adjective) <i>Definition:</i> Promoting or relating to unity among the world's Christian churches. <i>Example:</i> The ecumenical services on World Religion Day aim to foster unity and cooperation among different Christian denominations. |
| Friday: International Day of Education | Curriculum (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> The subjects comprising a course of study in a school or college. <i>Example:</i> A well-designed curriculum is essential for providing a comprehensive education and fostering a love for learning. |

Job of the Week: Biomedical engineer

What does a Biomedical engineer do?

Your day-to-day activities may include:

- Installing, maintaining, and repairing biomedical equipment.
- Developing applications for energy sources in biomedical implants.
- Diagnosing bioelectric data with signal processing.
- Advising on instrumentation in clinical settings.
- Managing engineering teams, schedules, budgets, and contracts.
- Analysing medical procedures to predict outcomes

Labour Market Information

UK jobs: 383,043

Essex Jobs: 8,415

Growth: +41.4%

Top 5 LEAs: 1. Hampshire (11,941) 2. Lancashire (9,111) 3. Essex (8,415) 4. Surrey (8,334) 5. Hertfordshire (8,186)

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

You need a degree to become a biomedical engineer. Relevant subjects include:

biomedical science or engineering
electrical or electronic engineering
mechanical engineering
physics.

Many employers require at least a 2:1.

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median: £42,940

The schools support for mental health and wellbeing is well led and the school have invested significantly in training and additional staff within their wellbeing centres and wider pastoral teams over recent years to build capacity and expand what they can offer.



Wellbeing Award
for Schools

2022-2025

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels

