

## Dates for the Diary

### Parent Drop In

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2026 - 9.30am-10.30am

### Health and Wellbeing Drop Down Day

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2026

### Cultural Fayre

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2026 - 3pm-4:30pm

### Parent Drop In

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2026 - 10am-11am

### Last Day of Summer Term

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026

## Student Value of the Term

**LOVE IS LOVE**

## House Points - Week Ending 19<sup>th</sup> June



243,386  
ALI



216,677  
SEACOLE



211,356  
AUSTEN



200,500  
HAWKING

## Leadership Message

As we reflect on the year so far, I would like to take a moment to celebrate some of the strengths recognised during our recent Ofsted inspection.

At the Basildon Academies, we are committed to ensuring that every child feels valued, supported and able to succeed. It was therefore particularly pleasing that the recent inspection recognised the inclusive culture that exists across our school and the positive difference this makes to students every day.

It noted that staff know our students well and identify their needs quickly. They recognised the effective support provided through our inclusion team and the strong partnerships we build with families and external agencies to ensure students receive the help they need.

The report highlighted the way in which students with additional needs are supported to access the full curriculum and participate fully in school life. It was recognised that our staff work hard to remove barriers to learning and help students feel valued members of our school community.

We were also delighted that it has been highlighted that our personal development offer is a strength. From leadership opportunities and enrichment activities to wellbeing support and pastoral care, inspectors saw first-hand the many ways we help students grow in confidence, develop their character and prepare for life beyond school.

Particularly pleasing was the recognition of our specialist provisions where it was commented positively on the support available through both our Enhanced Provision and Bridge Provision, highlighting the inclusive experiences these provide for students and the important role they play within our wider school community.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we will continue to ensure that every child is known, valued and given every opportunity to thrive.

**V.Oddy - Director of Inclusion**



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](mailto:admin@basildonacademies.org.uk) with the updated information.

## 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

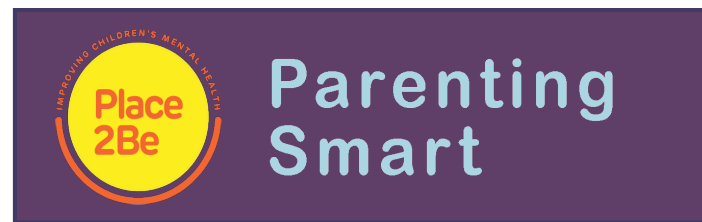
Within the Student Portal, you will find links to a range of resources and learning platforms that students can access to support their studies. The main page, which provides access to all key links, can be found here: [Student Portal](#)

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.

## 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.



## 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)



## Students Celebrate Thank a Teacher Day

To mark National Thank a Teacher Day, students at the Lower Academy took the opportunity to recognise the positive difference their teachers make every day.

Students shared messages of appreciation, highlighting the encouragement, guidance and support they have received throughout the year. A selection of these messages was recorded on video, allowing students to personally thank the staff who have helped them achieve their goals and grow in confidence.

The videos were shared across the academy's social media channels, celebrating the invaluable contribution of teachers and support staff to the school community. [Click here](#) to watch the video.



## Online Safety Hub: Modelling Healthy Digital Habits to your Children

In today's digital age, technology permeates every part of our lives; therefore, it's vital young people learn responsible digital citizenship. Children learn through observation, so it's essential parents lead by example and model healthy online habits themselves. [Click here](#) to access information and support relating to modelling healthy digital habits to your children.

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](#)



## Students Explore Prejudice and Inclusion with The Anne Frank Trust UK

Last week, the Lower Academy welcomed Natasha, an Education Delivery Specialist from The Anne Frank Trust UK, who spent the day working with our Year 8 students.

Through a series of interactive workshops and group discussions, students explored important topics including ableism and homophobia, while learning about the life and legacy of Anne Frank. Students learned how Anne Frank's diary continues to encourage people to challenge prejudice, promote understanding and stand up against discrimination.

The workshops helped students develop their understanding of key terms such as prejudice, stereotypes, equality and equity. They also explored what disability means, including the fact that not all disabilities are visible, and considered how society can create more accessible environments for everyone. Discussions covered a range of accessibility measures, from physical adaptations such as ramps to ensuring equal access to education, careers and opportunities.

The sessions encouraged students to think critically about attitudes towards disability and the impact that language and behaviour can have on others. By sharing ideas and experiences, students gained a greater understanding of the importance of inclusion, respect and equality.



"I found the workshop very informative about Anne Frank and the atrocities of World War II. It also helped me recognise that not all disabilities are visible." Connor.M

"The workshop was great because it taught us how to make society more inclusive for disabled people and how to respond to negative comments about disabilities." Will.C

"I found the workshop really enjoyable and felt comfortable sharing my ideas without being judged. The group discussions were particularly good, and I enjoyed the whole experience." Lacy-J.E

"I learned more about discrimination and how children with disabilities were persecuted and killed during World War II." Cerys.A

"It was very interesting learning about ableism." Mekhi.S

## Students Learn Valuable Safety Advice from CYP Police

CYP (Children and Young People) Police Officers recently visited the Lower Academy to talk with students about staying safe, both online and in the local community. Students had the chance to ask questions, both during the session and afterwards, and get advice on issues that matter to them. Officers were also available for students to drop in and speak with during break and lunchtime if they had any questions they wanted to ask more privately.

The officers spoke about how messages and posts online can sometimes lead to arguments or conflict, and reminded students to think carefully before they send or share anything. They also explained the possible consequences of sending unkind or harmful messages.

Students were given practical tips on how to stay safe when out on bikes, scooters and other transport, as well as understanding the risks linked to anti-social behaviour and how to make safer choices.

These visits are a really important way of helping young people feel supported, while also building positive relationships between students, the police, and the wider community.



## Year 8 and 9 Students Explore University Life

Last week, Year 8 and 9 students welcomed Jade, an Outreach Officer from the Anglia Ruskin University (ARU), to learn more about higher education and the opportunities available after school.

During the session, Jade spoke about life at university, including accommodation, lectures, student societies and placement years. Students also took part in an interactive quiz and question-and-answer session.

Jade explained that there are many different routes into university and that students do not always need the highest grades to be successful. She also highlighted the specialist facilities offered by different universities, including science laboratories, mock courtrooms and fashion studios.

Students were encouraged to research their options and speak to teachers, family members and others who have experienced university life to help them make informed decisions about their future.



# PRIDE MONTH

ON WEDNESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE  
THE DINING HALL WILL BE  
SELLING CAKES & COOKIES AT  
BREAK & LUNCHTIME

RAINBOW CUP CAKES  
RAINBOW COOKIES  
75P EACH



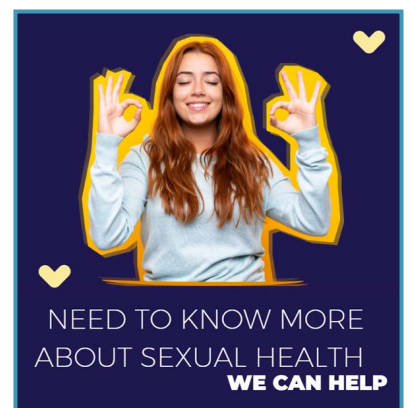
# LOVE IS LOVE

## Supporting Personal Development and Wellbeing

As part of our Personal Development curriculum, the Academies use resources from the Essex Sexual Health Service to support students with age-appropriate information about growing up and development. Students are signposted to a trusted online hub where they can find reliable advice and answers to common questions:

Asking for a friend: <https://askingforafriend.org.uk/>

Parents and carers are also encouraged to visit the dedicated Parents and Carers section of the [Essex Sexual Health Service website](#). This provides up-to-date guidance for supporting young people, as well as advice on how to approach and discuss more challenging topics at home.



NEED TO KNOW MORE  
ABOUT SEXUAL HEALTH  
WE CAN HELP

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



### ENERGISING FUTURES

## Football's hidden careers

**Careers connection**

**Digital engineers** use technology to create immersive, 4D models of stadiums to simulate construction of the build process to help keep projects on time.  
**Qualifications:** Apprenticeship, diploma or degree  
**Salary:** £39,000-£60,000  
**Top essential skill:** [Icon]

**Broadcast engineers** make TV cameras, microphones and other tech work smoothly so matches can be shown live.  
**Qualifications:** Apprenticeship, volunteering or degree  
**Salary:** £26,000-£50,000  
**Top essential skill:** [Icon]

**Catering managers** manage the supply of safe food and drink for thousands of fans and players.  
**Qualifications:** Apprenticeship, work-experience, diploma or degree  
**Salary:** £28,000-£32,000  
**Top essential skill:** [Icon]

**Turf pathologists** study plant diseases, soil microbes and plant health to keep pitches in perfect condition.  
**Qualifications:** Diploma or degree  
**Salary:** £24,000-£72,000  
**Top essential skill:** [Icon]

**Fabric technologists** develop breathable, sweat-wicking, fabrics for kits.  
**Qualifications:** Apprenticeship or degree  
**Salary:** £22,000-£45,000  
**Top essential skill:** [Icon]

For more about skills: [skillsbuilder.uk](http://skillsbuilder.uk)

Which job would you like to do?

[www.energisingfutures.co.uk](http://www.energisingfutures.co.uk)

ace awarded 2024

## 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.



# BASILDON ACADEMIES

## WORD OF THE DAY

22<sup>nd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Monday:	<b>Amiability (noun)</b> <i>ukuthandeka</i> in <b>Zulu</b> – a friendly and pleasant manner. <i>Her amiability charmed everyone she met.</i>	
Tuesday:	<b>Articulate (adjective)</b> <i>māramatanga kōrero</i> in <b>Māori</b> – able to express ideas fluently and clearly. <i>The articulate speaker inspired the audience to write.</i>	
Wednesday:	<b>Radiant (adjective)</b> <i>berkilau</i> in <b>Malay</b> – shining brightly. <i>She looked radiant in the midsummer sunlight.</i>	
Thursday:	<b>Cognisant (adjective)</b> <i>آگاه</i> in <b>Persian</b> – having knowledge or awareness. <i>He was cognisant of the risks before acting.</i>	
Friday:	<b>Placid (adjective)</b> <i>tulaga filemu</i> in <b>Samoa</b> – calm and peaceful. <i>The placid lake reflected the trees perfectly.</i>	

## Job of the Week: Geneticist

### What does a Geneticist do?

Geneticists use the information in genes to make discoveries and developments in a range of areas like medicine and agriculture.

#### Key Responsibilities

- Developing disease and drought-resistant crops
- Finding and recording disease-causing genes
- Using genes to chart animal populations and conserve wildlife
- Researching and developing new drugs and gene therapies
- Using genetics in archaeology
- Teaching students about genetics in a university
- Diagnosing genetic diseases

### 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?

#### Typical Entry Requirements:

You'll usually need a degree or a postgraduate master's qualification in genetics or a related course which includes genetics, like biology, biochemistry, molecular biology, life sciences, horticulture, agriculture, or biological sciences. A PhD, or working towards a PhD would also be helpful.

### Let's Talk Money

UK annual median:  
£45,382

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

