

## Dates for the Diary

### Year 9 AP2 Assessments

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026

### Half Term

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026

### Year 9 AP2 Assessments

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2026

### Year 7 AP2 Assessments

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026

### Year 9 Individual and Group Photos

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026

## Student Value of the Term

**CLIMATE CHANGE  
IS REAL**

## House Points - Week Ending 15<sup>th</sup> May



217,492  
ALI



197,561  
SEACOLE



189,633  
AUSTEN



181,573  
HAWKING

## Leadership Message - Supporting Safety, Inclusion and Engagement

Our Enhanced Provision (EP) offers targeted support for students who need a personalised approach to access education, particularly those with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs.

We focus on identifying barriers early, reducing risk and ensuring the right support is in place so students can engage safely and successfully in learning.

Safeguarding is central to all aspects of EP. Students are supported within a safe, structured environment by consistent and trusted adults. Their wellbeing and emotional safety are always prioritised, with concerns identified and addressed quickly.

We work closely with families and external agencies to ensure effective support, while promoting a strong culture of inclusion, respect and belonging.

The EP provides a structured and responsive approach tailored to individual needs, including small group teaching, keyworker support, evidence-informed interventions and personalised reintegration pathways.

The aim of EP is to support students to successfully reintegrate into mainstream education. Students develop emotional regulation, improve communication and build confidence to sustain engagement in learning.

We work collaboratively with parents and carers, maintaining clear communication and ensuring families feel informed and supported throughout.



Provision is regularly reviewed to ensure high safeguarding standards and measurable progress in engagement, wellbeing and learning.

**N.Hullyer**

**Senior Student Development Leader - Enhanced Provision**

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

# Supporting Student Wellbeing During Mental Health Awareness Week

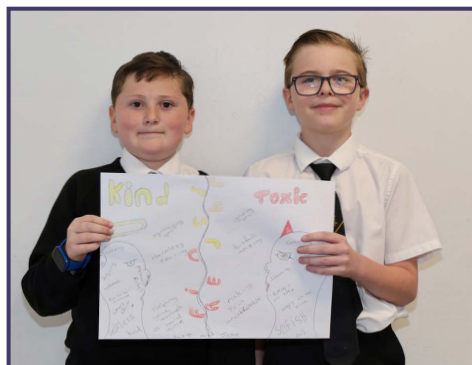
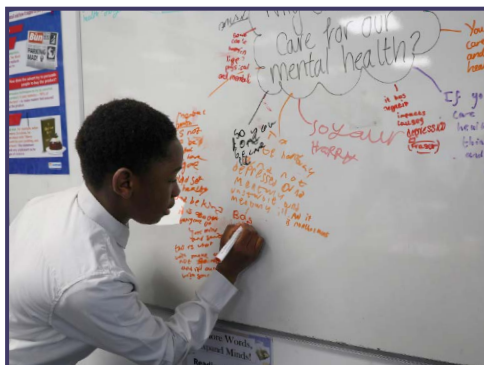
Lower Academy students took part in a range of wellbeing activities last week as part of Mental Health Awareness Week, encouraging reflection, kindness and open conversations around emotional wellbeing.

Throughout the week, students explored a variety of creative and supportive activities designed to help them recognise the importance of positive relationships, communication and seeking support when needed.

One activity involved students designing friendship posters and identifying trusted sources of support within their lives. These included friends, family members, Form Tutors, Year Leaders, and even pets, helping students recognise that support can come from many different places.

Students also participated in a "Kindness Challenge Bingo", encouraging them to reflect on acts of kindness they had experienced. Discussions focused on the impact small gestures can have and how students can support one another through encouragement and compassion.

Another popular activity was the wellbeing message board, where students were invited to share messages anonymously. Prompts included "I would like my teacher to know..." and "How can you encourage others?" with students writing supportive messages such as "Don't worry" and "Talk to someone."

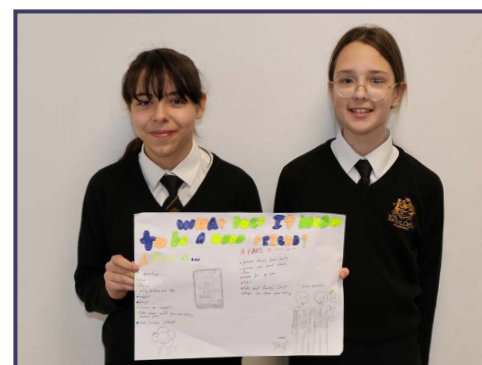
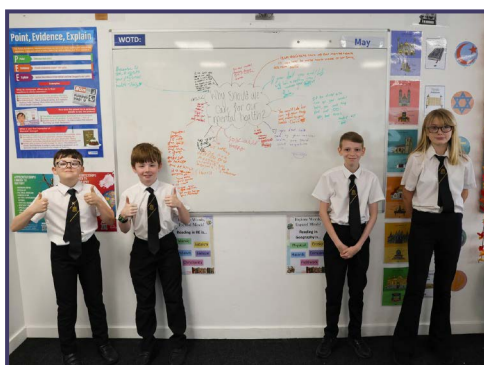


Group discussions throughout the week also helped students understand the importance of sharing feelings, supporting others and recognising when someone may need help.

Mental Health Awareness Week provided a valuable opportunity for students to reflect on wellbeing, strengthen positive connections and continue building a culture of kindness and support across the Academy.

"Mental health can have a big impact on someone's life, you never know what somebody's going through."  
Millie.D – Year 7

"Mental health can sometimes cause difficulties with remembering, learning and thinking." Muhammad.K – Year 7



## 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

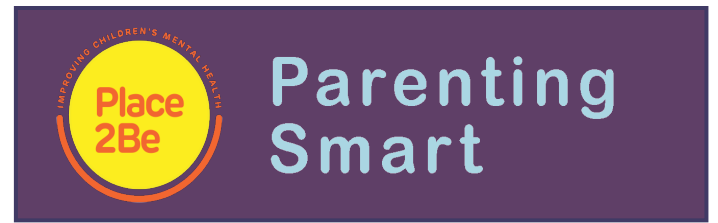
Within the Student Portal, you will find links to a range of resources and learning platforms that students can access to support their studies. The main page, which provides access to all key links, can be found here: [Student Portal](#)

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)

## Aspire - Believe - Achieve



## Free Online Counselling Service

[www.kooth.com](http://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).

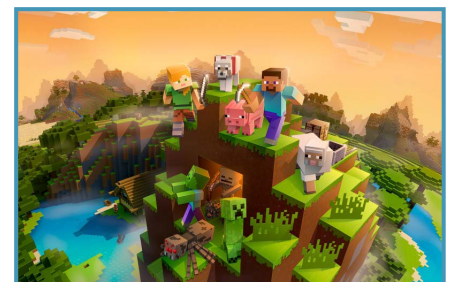


## Online Safety Advice: A Parent's Guide to Minecraft

Minecraft is one of the most popular games among children and young people, encouraging creativity, collaboration, and exploration. However, it's important for parents to understand the potential risks involved, including in-game communication, inappropriate content, and screen time.

[Click here](#) to access information and support on safety settings, setting boundaries, and talking to your child about Minecraft, please visit.

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](#)



## Mackenzie Receives Jack Petchey Award

We are delighted to celebrate Year 8 student Mackenzie.B, who has been recognised with a Jack Petchey Outstanding Achiever Award for his positivity, kindness and resilience.

Mackenzie is a valued member of the school community who is always supporting those around him and helping fellow students within the Bridge provision to smile and regulate when they may be having a difficult day. His caring nature and infectious personality have made a huge impact on both students and staff alike.

Known for his enthusiasm and full participation in lessons, Mackenzie consistently approaches every opportunity with energy and determination. He has also shown great dedication towards improving his handwriting and spelling and is currently writing his own story to help develop these skills further.

Speaking about receiving the award, Mackenzie said: "I feel so happy and excited. My mum and nan will be so happy and proud."

Miss Cowan praised Mackenzie for the positivity he brings to the Lower Academy each day: "We wanted to celebrate a wonderfully bubbly and positive young man who has shown remarkable resilience this year. Although he has found change challenging at times, he has continued to approach each day with a bright smile, kindness, and determination. His ability to keep going, adapt, and bring joy to those around him has truly stood out, making him a very deserving recipient of this award."

Everyone at the Lower Academy is incredibly proud of Mackenzie and this well-deserved achievement.



## New Brass Band Begins Rehearsals Ahead of Culture Fayre Debut

Last week marked the first rehearsal for our new brass band at the Lower Academy. Thanks to funding secured by Miss Stoddard, 12 students from Years 7, 8 and 9 have been given the exciting opportunity to learn a brass instrument over the next year.

Students will come together every Monday to develop their skills and learn a range of songs as part of the programme.

The band will make its debut performance at The Basildon Lower Academy Culture Fayre on 13<sup>th</sup> July.



## 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)



## Year 7 Students Explore Future Careers in DWP Skills Workshop

Year 7 students recently took part in an engaging careers workshop led by Andrea from the Department for Work and Pensions.

During the session, students explored the importance of skills and how they can refine and apply them to future career opportunities. They were encouraged to recognise their own abilities, understand how skills can transfer across different careers and learn how to confidently “sell” themselves in future applications and interviews.

The workshop also gave students the opportunity to reflect on their experiences both in and outside of school, including leadership roles, volunteering, extracurricular and enrichment clubs, helping them understand how these experiences can support future ambitions.

Andrea guided students through key life skills and encouraged them to think positively about their strengths, helping them understand the steps they can take to turn their goals into reality.

“I found the workshop fun and helpful. Andrea was really nice.” – Layla.W

“The careers workshop was a good experience and helped me learn a lot.” – Thivisha.B



## Educational Psychology Parent Helpline

Essex County Council would like to remind families about the support services available to them.

The EP Parent Helpline offers advice, support, and signposting for parents and carers. It is a confidential, safe, and private service, and no referral is needed — just book an appointment in advance.

**Easy to Access:** The booking is designed to provide an easier and more convenient experience.

- Available on alternating Mondays and Tuesdays
- 1:00pm – 5:00pm
- 25-minute appointments bookable via MS Teams
- No more waiting – instant booking confirmation

For booking details and further information, please visit: [EP-Parent-Helpline](#)

Further information is available on the Essex County Council Local Offer pages: <https://schools.essex.gov.uk/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-send/send-services-and-support/essex-local-offer-website>





**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PLAYING RUGBY ?**

Invitation to **Years 7-9 Students**

**RUGBY TASTER DAY**  
**SATURDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JULY**  
**10.30AM - 12 NOON**  
**BASILDON RUGBY CLUB**



**No experience needed — just commitment & courage**

Just turn up and give it a go!  
Bring regular PE kit.



For further details email:  
[Basrfc1@googlemail.com](mailto:Basrfc1@googlemail.com)

# DOUGHNUT WEEK

**Monday 18th – Friday 22nd May**



**To celebrate National Doughnut Week the Dining Hall will be serving a selection of Jam & Ring Doughnuts.**

**All Doughnuts are 75p each & will be available throughout the week at break & lunchtime.**

SWi

Ready, Set, Save!

15%  
off

Everything!

18th - 26th May

Limited time only! In-store & Online

Use Code: **SAVE15** at checkout.

We're making back-to-school easier  
(and cheaper!) for you.

Promo starts Monday 18th May for a limited time  
only, enjoy **15% off everything!**

Whether you're stocking up or prepping ahead, this  
is the perfect time to grab everything you need.



**Shop early** and avoid  
the summer rush.



**Built to last** sustainable  
and high-quality  
products.



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spurts? Don't be **we've  
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**One-stop shop:**  
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Shop online today and start saving!

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[swischoolwear.co.uk](http://swischoolwear.co.uk)

# BASILDON ACADEMIES

## WORD OF THE DAY

18<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026

Monday:	<b>Concordance (noun)</b> <i>mutāfiq</i> in <b>Arabic</b> – agreement or harmony. <i>There was concordance among the teachers on policy.</i>	
Tuesday:	<b>Altruistic (adjective)</b> <i>उदार</i> ( <i>udār</i> ) in <b>Hindi</b> – showing selfless concern for others. <i>His altruistic gesture helped raise funds for charity.</i>	
Wednesday:	<b>Resonant (adjective)</b> <i>ngangahu</i> in <b>Māori</b> – deep, clear, and continuing to sound. <i>The resonant bell echoed through the hall.</i>	
Thursday:	<b>Transcendent (adjective)</b> <i>melampau</i> in <b>Indonesian</b> – beyond ordinary experience. <i>The transcendent music uplifted the congregation</i>	
Friday:	<b>Jocund (adjective)</b> <i>joyial</i> in <b>Haitian Creole</b> – cheerful and light-hearted. <i>The jocund mood spread across the playground.</i>	

## Job of the Week: Carer

### What does a Carer do?

Carers play a vital role in supporting people who need extra help due to age, disability, illness, or learning needs. This could include working with older adults, children, or individuals with additional needs in their own homes, care homes, hospitals, or community settings.

#### Key Responsibilities:

- Assists with daily tasks such as washing, dressing and meals
- Supports people with medication
- Helps individuals stay independent and confident
- Provides companionship and emotional support

### Labour Market Information

- +13.9% 328,648 jobs
- +17.4% in your region of East of England, an increase of 38,744 jobs

### What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

#### Typical Entry Requirements:

No formal qualifications are required for many roles.

Employers provide training (including NVQ/Level 1 or 3 Health & Social Care) A caring attitude is the most important starting point.

### Let's Talk Money

UK annual median:  
£27,468

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



# Enrichment Clubs Timetable

Club Name	Day	Room Number
Creative Writing Club	Tuesday	B12
Poetry Club	Tuesday	B16
Science Club (Year 7 Only)	Tuesday	O12
Science Club (Year 8 Only)	Tuesday	G12
Science Revision Club (Year 9 Only)	Tuesday	B14
Chess Club	Tuesday	O16
Art Club – Pop Art & Mixed Media (Year 7 Only)	Tuesday	O2
Art Club – Ceramics & Graphics (Year 7 Only)	Tuesday	O1
Scale Model Club	Tuesday	B18
Literacy Leaders (Year 7 Only)	Wednesday	B12
English Revision (Year 9 Only)	Wednesday	B15
Science Club (Year 9 Only)	Wednesday	G10
Science Revision Club (Year 8 Only)	Wednesday	G11
STEM Club	Wednesday	B3
Reading Eggs	Wednesday	O11
Art Club (Years 8 & 9 Only)	Wednesday	O3
Maths Club	Wednesday	B8
Debate Club	Thursday	B12
Reading Club (Year 7 Only)	Thursday	B13
Science Revision Club (Year 7 Only)	Thursday	G16
World Film Club	Thursday	O17
Scratch Club	Thursday	B11
Scale Model Club	Thursday	B18

**Enrichment sessions take place from 3.00pm–3.30pm.**