

Dates for the Diary

Year 9 AP2 Assessments

Monday 12th - Friday 16th May 2025

Year 8 AP2 Assessments

Monday 19th - Friday 23rd May 2025

Half Term

Monday 26th - Friday 30th May 2025

Year 7 AP2 Assessments

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th June 2025

Beginning of Year 9 Transition to Upper Academy

Monday 30th June 2025

Student Value of the Term

**CLIMATE CHANGE
IS REAL**

House Points - Week Ending 9th May



81,061
SEACOLE



79,897
ALI



67,074
AUSTEN



60,789
HAWKING

Leadership Message

As part of our ongoing commitment to fostering a positive and respectful learning environment, we've been embedding our updated behaviour curriculum across all year groups. This curriculum clearly sets out our expectations for student conduct—focusing on them being ready, responsible and resilient—and ensures these are taught explicitly, just like any other subject.

Students are taught the importance of certain behaviours such as lining up, punctuality, wearing full school uniform and being respectful. They are taught why these are important as well and how to display these successfully. Students are rewarded in a variety of ways and supported to meet these expectations if they are struggling.



Thank you for your continued support in reinforcing these values at home. Together, we are building a culture where positive behaviour is recognised, modelled, and celebrated.

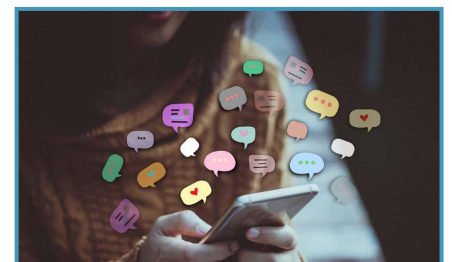
By using a consistent, whole-school approach, we are helping students understand not just what is expected, but why it matters. This supports a calm, focused atmosphere where learning can flourish and all students feel safe and valued.

Z.Spencer
Assistant Headteacher

Online Safety Advice: Understanding the Risks of Social Media Therapy

While social media can offer support and connection, it's important for parents to be aware of the growing trend of 'social media therapy'. This guide explains the potential risks of young people seeking mental health advice from unqualified sources online. It offers practical tips on how to encourage open conversations, identify trustworthy information, and support your child's emotional wellbeing.

For more information please visit: <https://basildonacademies.onlinesafetyhub.uk/parent/articles/the-risks-of-social-media-therapy>



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](https://basildonacademies.onlinesafetyhub.uk/)

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/>

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

Every Thursday
Breaktime

Location: The Lower
Academy SEND
Department



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

Essex Sexual Health Service Webpages Dedicated to Secondary Parents & Carers

The Essex Sexual Health Service offers dedicated web pages designed to support 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/>



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.



School Community Marks 80th Anniversary of VE Day with Reflection and Remembrance

Last week, students and staff came together to mark the 80th anniversary of VE (Victory in Europe) Day — a significant milestone commemorating the end of World War II in Europe.

Throughout the week, students took part in a range of activities designed to deepen their understanding of this historic event. Lessons and assemblies focused on the impact of VE Day, the sacrifices made by those who served, and the importance of remembering their legacy.

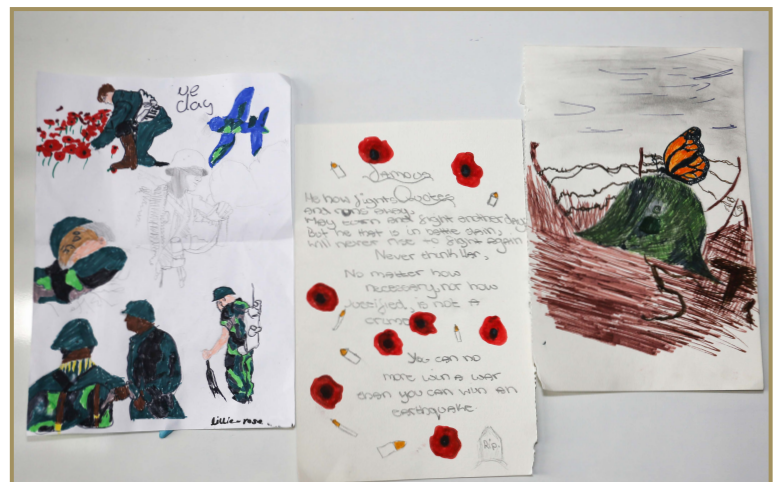
On VE Day itself, our school community paused at 12 midday to observe a two-minute silence. This moment of reflection honoured the courage and sacrifice of those who fought for peace across Europe and provided a powerful opportunity for collective remembrance.



"This week was an opportunity to honour and celebrate those who gave their lives for us." Shanie.A – Year 7

"It's a reminder that our country achieved victory, and it's important to remember everything that happened." Keshawn.E – Year 7

"It's about being thankful for those who fought for our freedom." Hollie.R – Year 7



Fairtrade Awareness in Action

Following the successful launch of our Fairtrade Committee and the achievement of our FairAware Award, the committee members have taken the next step on their journey towards earning the FairActive Award.

Over recent weeks, students have been busy designing posters and creating eye-catching clay models to display around the school. These creative pieces are aimed at raising awareness of Fairtrade among their peers and encouraging everyone to think about where their food and everyday products come from.

By taking action and sharing their knowledge, our students are playing a key role in spreading the Fairtrade message across the school community.

With enthusiasm and teamwork continuing to grow, the Fairtrade Committee is well on its way to achieving its next award—while inspiring others to make fairer choices in the process.

"I enjoy learning about Fairtrade because it's fun and interesting. I think it's important for students to know where our food comes from." Sharlena.L – Year 8

"We promote Fairtrade to help people understand how important it is and why everyone should know about it." Frankie.C – Year 8



DROP The MIC!

FREE MONTHLY OPEN
MIC FOR YOUNG
MUSICIANS



Free monthly open mic for Young Musicians

The monthly event is an opportunity for young musicians, rappers and bands, plus those interested in technical skills like sound, to harness their skills in front of a supportive and safe live audience.

Collect a flyer from Miss Stoddard or Miss Child for more details

BASILDON ACADEMIES

WORD OF THE DAY

12TH – 16TH May 2025
Mental Health Awareness Week

Monday: International Nurses Day	Wellbeing (Noun) rifah in Azerbaijani Definition: The state of being comfortable, healthy, or happy. Example: Mental Health Awareness Week encourages people to prioritise their emotional and psychological wellbeing.	
Tuesday:	Resilience (Noun) Устойчивостта in Bulgarian Definition: The capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness. Example: Building resilience is a key focus of Mental Health Awareness Week.	
Wednesday:	Stigma (Noun) stigmatogaeth in Welsh Definition: A mark of disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person. Example: Mental Health Awareness Week works to reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness.	
Thursday: International Day of Families	Cognition (Noun) Kognisi in Indonesian Definition: The mental action or process of acquiring knowledge and understanding through thought, experience, and the senses. Example: Mental Health Awareness Week also highlights the importance of cognitive health.	
Friday:	Empathy (Noun) सहानुभूति[सम्पादन गर्ने] in Nepali Definition: The ability to understand and share the feelings of another. Example: Developing empathy is crucial in supporting others during Mental Health Awareness Week.	

Job of the Week: Air traffic controller

What does an Air traffic controller do?

Your tasks will vary depending on which type of controller you become. There are 3 types:

- Area controller – in a regional control centre
- Approach controller – managing aircraft as they approach the airport
- Aerodrome controller – in a control tower

Labour Market Information

- UK jobs: 27,114
 - Essex Jobs: 723
 - Growth: +7.2%
- Top 5 LEAs: 1. Hampshire (2,236) 2. West Sussex (1,404) 3. Surrey (1,214) 4. Kent (844) 5. Essex (723)

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median: £80,414

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

You'll need an air traffic control licence from the National Air Traffic Services (NATS). It takes around 3 years to train and you'll complete your training while working.

To become a trainee controller, you'll need:

- to be 18 years old
- 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) or equivalent, including English and maths
- a medical examination
- security clearance

TA's are deployed according to the needs of the children and TA's are encouraged to use their own interests and strengths. Support in the classroom is effective and pupils spoke about this very positively, "they help explain things better", another pupil articulated, "I feel confident in the classroom, TA's help me to get through school".



Best Practice with
Teaching Assistants Award

2023-2026

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels



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

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

75%

47 days absent

80%

38 days absent

85%

28 days absent

90%

19 days absent

97%

6 days absent

100%

0 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.



National DOUGHNUT WEEK

Monday 12th – Friday 16th May

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

All Doughnuts are 50p each and will be available throughout the week at break & lunchtime.

**50p
Each**



Extra-Curricular Clubs

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art 	After School: 3.30 - 4.30pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History • STEM • Science • Art • Drama • Athletics (Track) 	Before School: 7.30 – 8.15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basketball Lunchtime: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music After School: 3.30 - 4.30pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maths • Science • Dance • Music • Athletics (Jumps/Throws) 	Lunchtime: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music After School: 3.30 - 4.30pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Club • Choir 	Lunchtime: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art

The Generation Juice Drinks Hub - Available Now!



Small drink – 50p
Large drink – 90p
Reusable bottle – £1.25

Sustainable Hydration

97% reduced plastic

Multiple Flavours!
No Added Sugar

Immune Boosting



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.

What the schools stand for and promote is highly visible and consistent on each site from the values agreed with students to the diversity represented by the key figures the school's houses are named after.



Excellence in Pupil Development Award

2023-2026