

The Basildon Lower Academy Newsletter

16th June 2025

Dates for the Diary

Year 7 AP2 Assessments Monday 23rd - Friday 27th June 2025

Beginning of Year 9 Transition to Upper Academy Monday 7th July 2025

Sports Presentation Event Wednesday 9th July 2025 - 4pm-5.30pm

Cultural Fayre Thursday 10th July 2025 - 3.30-5pm

Rewards Day Friday 11th July 2025

Student Value of the Term



House Points - Week Ending 13th June



Leadership Message

A big thank you to students for your outstanding commitment to attendance. It has been fantastic to see how many of you have been committed to arriving on time and attending 100%. We do hope you have been able to enjoy an ice cream each Friday as a reward for your dedication. Your regular presence in school has played a key role in your success this year, and it's something we should all be proud of.

As we look towards the new academic year, remember that consistent attendance not only ensures you make the most of your learning but also sets you up for success in the future.



Remember, success is a habit, not a one-time event. By being in school and arriving on time, you're already showing leadership by setting a great example and taking responsibility for your own success.

Keep up the great work, and let's make this term a successful one!

S.Killick Assistant Headteacher & Senior Attendance Champion

Thank a Teacher Day – Wednesday 18th June

This week, the Basildon Academies will be celebrating National Thank a Teacher Day on Wednesday 18th June – a chance for our school community to reflect on the hard work, dedication and support our teachers provide every day.

To mark the occasion, some of our students have recorded special video messages to share their personal thanks. These will be posted across our social media channels on the day – and we'd love for you to watch and join us in celebrating our amazing staff.

Look out for the videos on Wednesday 18th June. Check out our social media channels below to watch and share the messages.









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 <u>Contact Us</u> 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 <u>www.escb.co.uk</u> 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

<u>www.kooth.com</u> 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

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-tofollow articles and videos designed to help parents navigate everyday challenges with confidence.



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

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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.

For more information, including tips on safety settings, setting boundaries, and talking to your child about Minecraft, please visit: <u>https://basildonacademies.onlinesafetyhub.uk/parent/reviews/minecraft</u>



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: <u>Online Safety Hub - The Basildon Academies</u>

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.

Year 8 Students Discover the Magic of Paris

Last week, Year 8 students set off on a fantastic three-day residential trip to Paris, taking part in a range of cultural, historical, and magical experiences.

After travelling from Basildon to France, students settled into their accommodation at the Dream Castle Hotel, ready to begin an unforgettable adventure. Their time in the French capital was packed with activities that offered a mix of education, sightseeing, and fun.

One of the highlights of the trip was a visit to the Tour Montparnasse, where students enjoyed panoramic views across Paris from the 56th-floor observation deck. The group then boarded a boat cruise along the River Seine, taking in many of the city's most famous landmarks, including the iconic Eiffel Tower.

The students also visited Les Invalides, where they explored the impressive complex and viewed Napoleon Bonaparte's tomb, gaining a fascinating insight into French history.

Students enjoyed dinner in the beautiful area of Montmartre, a lively neighbourhood known for its art, culture and stunning views of the city. It was a great opportunity for students to unwind, try some French cuisine, and reflect on the day's experiences.

The final day was reserved for a truly magical experience: Disneyland Paris! Students enjoyed thrilling rides, live parades, delicious food, and the chance to meet some of their favourite Disney characters — including Mickey Mouse himself. The day ended with a spectacular fireworks display over Sleeping Beauty's Castle, making it a truly unforgettable finale to the trip.

The residential provided students with an incredible opportunity to experience a new culture, practise their French language skills, and make lasting memories with their friends and teachers.

"My favourite part was seeing the Eiffel Tower on the boat ride and watching the Disneyland fireworks." Aaron.C

































"My favourite part of the Paris trip was walking around the city. There were so many beautiful views, and it was really relaxing." Ornigioia.B

"I loved Disneyland, the observation tower, and the food at the restaurant." Cooper.R

"My favourite part of the trip was spending time with my lovely teachers and going on Hyperspace Mountain." Raimondo.G

"Seeing the Eiffel Tower in real life was brilliant — an unforgettable experience." Benas.M

From Garden to Kitchen: Year 9 Students Cook with School-Grown Produce

A group of enthusiastic Year 9 students recently took part in a truly hands-on learning experience — preparing a delicious Harvest Pasta dish using fresh ingredients picked straight from our school allotment for the very first time.

The students gathered a colourful selection of seasonal produce, including broad beans, peas, red onions, courgettes, and a fragrant mix of herbs such as thyme, oregano, and rosemary — all lovingly grown in the Lower Academy Garden.

This cooking session not only celebrated sustainable food practices but also brought to life the full "plot to plate" journey, showing students exactly where their food comes from and how it can be transformed into a healthy, tasty meal.

The activity is part of the academy's ongoing commitment to eco-education, healthy living, and providing meaningful, hands-on learning opportunities that connect the classroom with the natural world.





Extra-Curricular Clubs

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime: • Art	After School: 3.30 - 4.30pmHistorySTEMScienceArtDramaAthletics (Track)	Before School: 7.30 – 8.15 • Basketball Lunchtime: Music After School: 3.30 - 4.30pm • Maths • Science • Dance • Music • Athletics (Jumps/Throws)	Lunchtime: Music After School: 3.30 - 4.30pm • Computer Club • Choir	Lunchtime: • Art

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels



High Praise for Year 9 English Students

While Mr Ricks was away on the residential trip to France with our Year 8s, his Year 9 English classes continued to impress. A visiting cover teacher, who has worked in several local schools, praised the students for their attitude and behaviour, describing them as *"lovely classes"* and noting that *"your students were great."*

We were proud to receive such positive feedback and thank our students for representing the Lower Academy so well in Mr Ricks' absence!

BASILDON ACADEMIES Word of the day

	16 th – 20 th June 2025 Cultural Heritage	
Monday:	Preservation (Noun) preservación in Spanish Definition: The act of maintaining something in its original or existing state. Example: Cultural heritage preservation is crucial for protecting historical landmarks and traditions.	
Tuesday:	Tradition (Noun) omume in Igbo Definition: The transmission of customs or beliefs from generation to generation. Example: Many events focus on maintaining tradition to honour cultural heritage.	
Wednesday:	Monument (Noun) piemineklis in Latvian Definition: A structure erected to commemorate persons or events of historical significance. Example: Preserving national monuments is essential for safeguarding cultural heritage.	
Thursday:	Folklore (Noun) सेववम in Punjabi Definition: The traditional beliefs, customs, and stories of a community, passed through the generations by word of mouth. Example: Folklore plays a significant role in understanding and appreciating cultural heritage.	۲
Friday: Cultural Fayre - Lower Academy	Restoration (Noun) whakahaere in Maori Definition: The action of returning something to its former condition. Example: Restoration projects often aim to revive buildings or artefacts that represent cultural heritage.	***

Job of the Week: Animator

What does a Animator do?

You'll work in animated films, TV, adverts, games, websites, or music videos, using hand-drawn, traditional, computer-generated imagery (CGI), stop-frame, stop-motion or model animation techniques.

Your day-to-day duties could include working with others like:

production designers

storyboard artists

layout artists to draw how each shot will look

digital painters to touch up colours

texture artists to 'paint' colour and texture onto digital models to make them lifelike $% \left({{{\mathbf{r}}_{i}}} \right)$

compositors to join together different layers of animation

Labour Market Information

UK jobs: 70,300

Essex jobs: 1,573

Growth: +.2% 1,593 jobs

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

You'll need skills in drawing, modelling or using computer animation packages.

An animation or art-related HND, foundation degree, degree or postgraduate course could be helpful.

You could start as a studio runner and progress to assistant animator.

Let's Talk Money UK annual median: £35,202

Absence Procedures

To report a student absence please visit the <u>Contact Us</u> 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. <u>www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/attendance</u>



