

Dates for the Diary

Academic Progress Information Event
Monday 20th October 2025: 3.30pm-4.30pm

Half Term
Monday 27th - Friday 31st October 2025

Year 8 AP1 Assessments
Monday 1st - Friday 5th December 2025

Year 9 AP1 Assessments
Monday 8th - Friday 19th December 2025

Winter Wonderland Christmas Fayre
Thursday 18th December 2025: 3.30pm-4.30pm

Student Value of the Term

**BLACK LIVES
MATTER**

House Points - Week Ending 3rd October



34,459
ALI



33,897
SEACOLE



28,665
AUSTEN



27,017
HAWKING

Leadership Message

I am delighted to be taking on the role of Year 8 Leader this year. I have been at the academies for just short of five years and, in that time, I have had the privilege of seeing students grow right through from Year 7 to Year 11. This has allowed me to build strong relationships and provide consistent support throughout their school journey - something I am passionate about bringing to Year 8.



Year 8 is an important stage in secondary school. It is a time for students to build on the foundations of Year 7, develop their independence, and grow in confidence. My aim is to continue creating a positive and supportive environment where every student feels encouraged to challenge themselves, celebrate their achievements, and make the most of the opportunities ahead.

I am really looking forward to getting to know Year 8 even better and working in partnership with families to make this a successful, rewarding, and memorable year for everyone.

J. Mizon - Year 8 Leader

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.



Free Online Counselling Service

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).



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/>

Young Carers Club

Tuesdays

3:15pm-5pm

Venue:

Ground Floor Green Block
Opposite the Drama Room



Various activities each week including board games, cooking, photography, arts & crafts.

Refreshments provided. Talk to others, relax & have fun.

Free Fruit at Breaktime



Students can choose an item of fruit from the till area in the Dining Hall at breaktime each day.

Online Safety Hub: Online Grooming: The Red Flags to Watch For

Understanding the risks of online grooming is crucial in keeping children safe in the digital world. This article highlights key warning signs to watch for and provides practical advice to help parents protect their children online.

Click the link for guidance on recognising the red flags and keeping your child safe online: <https://basildonacademies.onlinesafetyhub.uk/parent/articles>

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](#)



New Essex Sexual Health Service Webpages Dedicated to Secondary Parents & Carers

The Essex Sexual Health Service has a website dedicated to parents and carers. Parents can find a wealth of resources, including FAQs, insights into RSE, and advice on how to have those important conversations.

www.essexsexualhealthservice.org.uk/parents-and-carers/



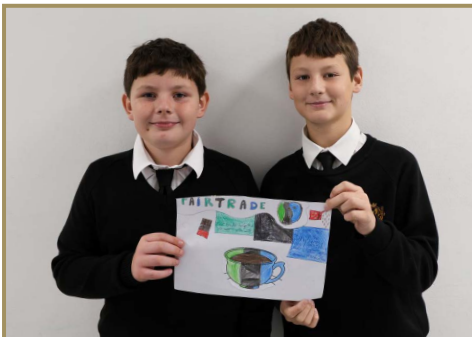
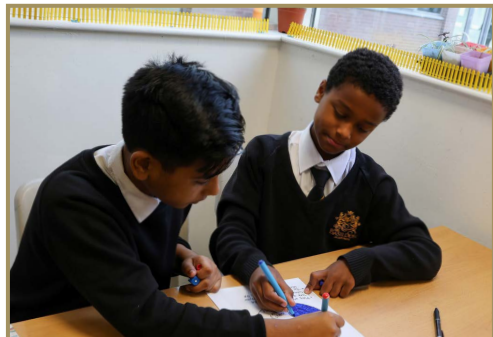
Please ensure we have current contact information on file for you, including home address, mobile phone number, and email address. If any of your details have changed, email us at admin@basildonacademies.org.uk with the updated information.

Fairtrade Fortnight Activities

Lower Academy students recently took part in a range of activities to celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight. Over the two weeks, the school's Fairtrade Committee led the way in raising awareness about the importance of Fairtrade and how it supports farmers and communities around the world.

In their RSHE lessons, students learned about the global benefits of Fairtrade, discovering how it helps ensure better wages, fair working conditions, and sustainability. They also created posters and took part in interactive games designed to spread the message of fairness across the school community.

"I think Fairtrade is good because it helps farmers keep their jobs and homes, and it means we get fed." Hollie.S – Year 7



Interactive Activities Inspire at Open Evening

On Thursday, 2nd October, the Lower Academy was proud to welcome prospective Year 7 students and their families to our annual Open Evening.

Our fantastic student volunteers did an outstanding job guiding guests on tours, proudly showcasing our facilities and sharing their own experiences of lessons and school life. Each department provided interactive activities to give visitors a real taste of the Academy:

- Science wowed guests with hands-on experiments, including colourful flame tests.
- Catering students impressed with freshly made Biscoff and cinnamon swirls.
- English hosted a fun reading challenge.
- PE invited visitors to try table tennis and trampolining.
- RE ran a "Guess the Religion" challenge using symbolic clues.
- Maths kept brains busy with an interactive whiteboard challenge and a paper aeroplane distance-throwing contest.
- Our SEND and Safeguarding teams spoke with parents to provide guidance and support.

Guests were also treated to a stunning performance from the school choir, singing from the atrium balcony and creating a wonderful atmosphere. There was a real sense of community throughout the evening as young visitors engaged in activities and parents had the chance to meet our dedicated staff.

We were delighted to receive such positive feedback and look forward to welcoming current Year 6 students to the Academy in September 2026!



CELEBRATING

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

OCTOBER 2025

TO CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH, EACH WEDNESDAY IN OCTOBER WE WILL BE SERVING AUTHENTIC DISHES IN THE DINING HALL

DISHES FOR WEDNESDAY 8TH OCTOBER



JERK HALLOUMI BURGER



HONEY & TURMERIC
CHICKEN



BAJAN SWEET BREAD



Youth Voice Day

SAFETY IN ESSEX - You're invited!

HOSTED BY ESSEX BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS & ESSEX COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY YOUTH SERVICES

Saturday
11th October 2025

ARU Chelmsford
9.45am - 3.30pm

Sign in from 9.15am



If you are a young person aged 11+ living in Essex (including Southend and Thurrock) or an adult working with young people we want to hear from you!

This is a great chance to get involved in fun and interactive workshops, unleash your creativity at our Creation Stations, and share your thoughts with a range of inspiring Essex Leaders whose aim is to implement your ideas. Whether you want to speak up, get creative, or just be part of something exciting – we'd love to see you there! Come along and make your voice heard and impact your community.

Includes...FREE lunch and FREE Youth Voice Goodies!



For more information please contact Rebecca at
rebeccas@essexboysandgirlsclubs.org / 01245 264783



**Scan to
book!**



BASILDON ACADEMIES

WORD OF THE DAY

6th - 10th October
Black History Month

Monday:	Lucid (adjective) helder in Afrikaans – expressed clearly; easy to understand. <i>Her lucid explanation clarified the complex theory.</i>	
Tuesday:	Voracious (adjective) mchafu in Swahili – wanting or devouring great quantities of food or knowledge. <i>The voracious reader devoured three novels in a weekend.</i>	
Wednesday:	Obstinate (adjective) Tambaya in Hausa – stubbornly refusing to change one's opinion. <i>The obstinate child refused to apologise despite clear evidence.</i>	
Thursday:	Ambivalent (adjective) ko dido in Fulani – having mixed feelings about something. <i>She was ambivalent about moving schools, excited yet nervous.</i>	
Friday:	Resilience (noun) Nkwukwu in Igbo – the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties. <i>The student showed resilience after receiving disappointing results.</i>	

Job of the Week: Carpenter

What does a Carpenter do?

Depending on where you work, your day-to-day tasks may include:

- cutting and shaping timber for floorboards, doors, skirting boards and window frames
- making and fitting wooden structures like staircases, door frames, roof timbers and partition walls
- making and assembling fitted and free-standing furniture
- installing kitchens, cupboards and shelving
- building temporary wooden supports to hold setting concrete in place (shuttering)
- making and fitting interiors in shops, bars, restaurants, offices and public buildings

Labour Market Information

- UK jobs: 768,193
- Essex jobs: 24,297
- Growth: -7.7% 69,814 jobs

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median:
£32,898

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

Employers usually look for some on-site experience and qualifications. You could start as a joiner's 'mate' or labourer to get site experience. Once working, your employer may offer you training on the job.

You could take a college course in carpentry and joinery to gain some of the knowledge and practical skills needed to improve your chances of finding work in the industry.

Leaders make highly effective use of a wide range of data to identify issues, track improvements and guide decision making both on individual pupils and collectively. Recently this played a part in identifying that uniform infringements were linked to the cost of living crisis and led to changes in the school's uniform.



Excellence in Pupil
Development Award

2023-2026

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels



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 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

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.

143

Days of education

75%

47 days absent

152

Days of education

80%

38 days absent

162

Days of education

85%

28 days absent

171

Days of education

90%

19 days absent

184

Days of education

97%

6 days absent

190

Days of education

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.



Essex County Council
Special Educational Needs
and Disabilities

The Essex Local Offer website

provides information about help available to children and young people (aged 0 to 25) with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

You can also find information on:

- support, groups and activities
- help with learning
- advice for young people
- health and wellbeing
- housing and employment
- financial support

Visit www.send.essex.gov.uk for more information and to sign up to our newsletter

