

# The Basildon Upper Academy Newsletter

21st November 2022

#### **Anti-Bullying Week 2022**

To mark this year's Anti-Bullying Week, Upper Academy students participated in a variety of events to:

- Support all stakeholders in identifying RESPECT issues and bullying issues, including the differences between the two
- Promote that we do not tolerate bullying in any form
- Ensure all stakeholders feel confident to report

The theme of this year's Anti-Bullying Week was 'Reach Out' and students collaborated to create a friendship wreath, displaying the names of volunteers students can reach out to. The colourful artwork is made up of hands and inline with our student value 'Kindness is Everything'.

During the week, we welcomed parents and carers to an event where they had the opportunity to meet with teachers to discuss work but, also how we embed our student values in the curriculum at the Academies. We are immensely proud of our young people achieving UNICEF Rights Respecting Gold Award and love to share the work the students are doing every day to promote these values.

Anti-Bullying Week also marked the launch of the 'The Bubble', a supervised social space within the Wellbeing Centre where students can go during lunchtimes. Students wishing to attend The Bubble during lunchtime will need to see Senior Student Development Leader & Respect Champion Miss Joseph.

"Bullying has a very negative impact on people's mental health. Anti-bullying awareness is a great way to recognise and support those who have been affected by bullying." **Temi.A – Year 11** 

"It might feel like a joke but being bullied can cause a lot of anxiety. **Denisa.F** - **Year 11** 

"It can make people feel uncomfortable and unwelcome in their surroundings." Karla.P – Year 11







# Dates for the Diary

**Student Photographs** 

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022

**Year 11 & Year 13 Mock Exams** 

Monday 28th November - Friday 16th December 2022

**Christmas Dinner (Free for all students)** 

Thursday 15th December 2022

Winter Wonderland Christmas Concert - Basildon Lower Academy

Thursday 15th December 2022 - 3:30-5pm

**Non-uniform/Christmas Jumper Day** Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

**Last Day of Autumn Term** 

Friday 16th December 2022 - Students finish at 12:30pm

# Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded Student of the Week for week commencing 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022.



Year 10 - Ritanna.M (R10X1)



**Year 11 - James.P (R11E1)** 



Sixth Form - Jaeden.S (R1213)

#### Student Value of the Term





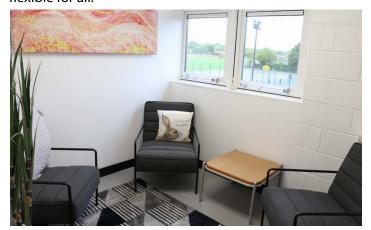
Young people show agency in accessing their right to learn. They discussed that teachers involve them in their learning in a range of ways and that peer support is important to their learning. One group described a structured system for seeking help: Book – Board – Friend – Teacher.

Unicef RRSA Accreditation Report Gold: Rights Aware - July 2022

## **Wellbeing Centre**

The Upper Academy Wellbeing Centre offers support for our students in times of need. Dealing with your own issues such as anxiety, mental health, wellbeing, self-regulation, or bereavement can be a barrier to success. Our Wellbeing Centre aims to ensure you are not alone.

The Upper Academy Wellbeing Centre is a safety net for students who are not currently able to engage with lessons fully, and offers short and long-term interventions that are flexible for all.



If you have any concerns regarding your child's mental health please submit your information via the <u>Contact Us</u> page on the Basilon Upper Academy website, making sure to select the 'Wellbeing Centre' option.

For further information visit: <a href="https://www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/wellbeing-centre">www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/wellbeing-centre</a>

#### **Spotlight on: A Level Textiles**



A level Textiles is not just about generating clothing, it's a versatile subject that entails the formation and manipulation of a range of materials. This practical design course in Fashion and Textiles takes a broad experimental approach to a range of textiles practices including dye, print, digital, stitch and embellishment.

Through a series of creative projects you will learn how to develop ideas by engaging with drawing and research, how to create textiles samples and realise your ideas into final outcomes.

Full course information can be found by visiting the following link on our website: A Level Textiles

Year 11 students wishing to join our Sixth Form can apply via the following link: <u>Apply to join</u>

Student leadership has been developed through roles such as school nurse champions and respect champions (previously anti bullying ambassadors). These students are passionate about their roles and keen to ensure they work in a joined-up way to support their peers.



Wellbeing Award for Schools

2022-2025

## SEND Department Coffee Mornings Every Wednesday 8.45am – 9.45am

We are delighted to offer our parents/carers the opportunity to meet with members of our SEND Department to discuss your child's progress. Coffee mornings are held at the Upper Academy from 8.45am - 9.45am every Wednesday.

To book an appointment please visit the <u>Contact Us</u> page via the Basildon Upper Academy website and select the option for General Enquiries.



# Safeguarding

Safeguarding our students is at the forefront of everything we do. Parents and carers can access information via the following link <a href="https://www.escb.co.uk">www.escb.co.uk</a> 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.basildonupperacademy.org.uk/safeguarding

# **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 Upper Academy website and select the option for General Enquiries.





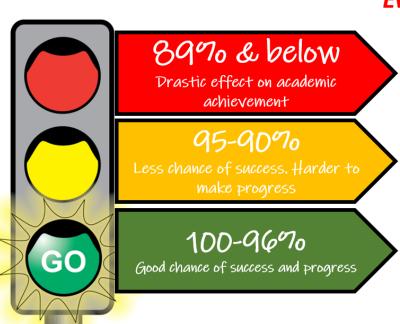


# **Attendance Expectations**

There is a clear link between academic success and attendance and as such our expectations for attendance are that:

- Parents have a legal duty to ensure their child attends regularly.
- Students should have 100% attendance each year.
   Students with attendance below 95% are of concern.





#### **Absence from school**

Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year. The government states that every child's attendance should be above 95%.

#### How do YOU measure up?

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 Lessons

### **Absence Procedures**

To report a student absence please visit the <u>Contact Us</u> page via the Basildon Upper Academy website and select the option for Attendance.

- Parents/carers should 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.
- Parents/carers must provide medical evidence to support all absences due to illness or medical appointments.
- Wherever possible parents/carers should make appointments outside of school hours but if this is unavoidable students should attend school before and after the appointment.
- If no appropriate medical evidence is provided then the Academies cannot authorise an absence. (ie. medical appointment card, prescription, doctor's letter.)

For further information and guidance regarding attendance and absence please visit our website:

www.basildonupperacademy.org.uk/attendance

# **Year 11 Sixth Form Applications**

Some of our most popular options already have waiting lists for Sixth Form 2023-2024. Year 11 students need to ensure they have their application form in this half term to guarantee them a space, as we will be starting to allocate groups after the Christmas break.

Please do not hesitate to visit the <u>Contact Us</u> page via the Basildon Upper Academy website and select the option for Sixth Form if you need any advice or guidance on how to apply.

Sixth Form Course Information can be found by visiting:

www.basildonupperacademy.org.uk/course-information



## **Year 10 Work Experience**

After 3 years of disruption due to the pandemic, we are excited to have Year 10 work experience planning well underway. Year 10 students will be off site from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023 on work experience placements. Please encourage conversations at home about where students would like to do their work placements. If you need advice on how and where to source appropriate placements, please visit the Contact Us page via the Basildon Upper Academy website and select the option for General Enquiries.



#### **Assessment Point Dates**

- Year 11 & 13 28th November to 16th
   December 2022
- Year 10 & 12 w/c 16th January 2023

These assessment points are crucial in helping us to support students in closing any learning gaps, providing stretch and challenge as well as preparing our Upper Academy students for their upcoming public examinations. Please contact our Quality of Education team if you need any advice on how to support home learning in the lead up to these assessments, via the Contact Us page found on the Basildon Upper Academy website and select the option for Home Learning/ Homework.

### **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).



# House Points - Week Ending 18th November



Aspire - Believe - Achieve



