

Dates for the Diary

LGBT+ History Month
February 2024

Children's Mental Health Week
Monday 5th - Sunday 11th February 2024

National Apprenticeship Week
Monday 5th - Sunday 11th February 2024

Parent Drop In
Monday 5th February 2024 - 1-2pm

Half Term
Monday 19th - Friday 23rd February 2024

Student Value of the Term

**KINDNESS IS
EVERYTHING**

House Points - Week Ending 2nd February



12,970
ALI



10,502
AUSTEN



9,912
SEACOLE



9,889
HAWKING

Leadership Message

Kindness is Everything is our school value and is being celebrated throughout our school activities in so many different ways. I have shared many reasons to smile with you in this week's message. I am always on the look out for reasons to smile and there is so much to smile about that it is hard to choose only a few.

It was wonderful to see so many families in attendance at the recent progress review, taking the opportunity to discuss progress and next steps as we head into a very busy public exam series. Thank you to those who came to share with me how supportive my colleagues have been of their children providing me with even more nominations for our weekly staff star of the week. Thank you to S.Killick for organising such a successful event.

The Year 11 Prom Committee have met over several weeks, and a wonderful event has now been planned for the end of June with the assistance of K.Boyce-Charman and L.Church. Families of Year 11 have been notified and we look forward to supporting the exciting plans that involve fund raising activities. We have lots of prom dresses available thanks to our school community's kindness; donations of suits are very welcome too.

The Year 10's have completed their first series of APs undertaken in exam conditions to replicate the public examinations. The students' understanding of expectations was outstanding, so they were rewarded with a hot chocolate and cookie at breaktime. We have Enterprise and Geography field trips scheduled over the next few weeks, some of our geographers missed out on their field trip due to poor weather so we are pleased that this has been rescheduled and look forward to hearing how successful these have been.

I have been meeting with staff members from both academies who have formed a Diversity Working Party to support accurate representation of our school community in all that we do. I have also met with the Year 10 student Diversity Working Party and will be meeting with representative from Years 11-13 in the very near future. We have already implemented suggestions for example, wall wrap designs, word of the day translations and a festival of light celebration. Our desire is to continue to ensure our inclusivity is fully represented throughout all aspects of school life. I am extremely grateful to all colleagues and students who have volunteered to support this.

I would encourage everyone to find a moment to perform an act of kindness for each other. One small seemingly insignificant act can have a huge impact on another person's day providing yet another reason to smile.

R.Rees
Headteacher



Chief Constable Delivers Careers Guidance to Year 11

Essex Police Chief Constable, Ben-Julian Harrington, recently visited the Upper Academy to deliver careers guidance to our Year 11 students.

The sessions were aimed at helping students explore the diverse opportunities within the police force and proved to be an excellent insight for those considering a career in law enforcement.

The event also provided students with the opportunity to enter discussions with Community Engagement Officer, Rachel Newman and Police Community Support Officer Debbie Edwards; This allowed students to gain a deeper understanding of the various roles within the police force and the important contributions they make in keeping our communities safe.

"The police careers workshop was really useful as it gave me an insight into how my local police work. It also helped me to understand how important it is to protect our community." Stacey.A

"I found the police careers workshop event very inspirational, especially as someone who is still unsure about what they wish to do in the future." Angelica.S

"I learned new things about the Police, such as the different jobs that are available. It isn't the career path that I would choose but I think that it could inspire many other students." Alexandra.G

"I really enjoyed the careers event assembly. I feel as though it is a great idea to explain to learners what the police do and how they operate." Cristian.C

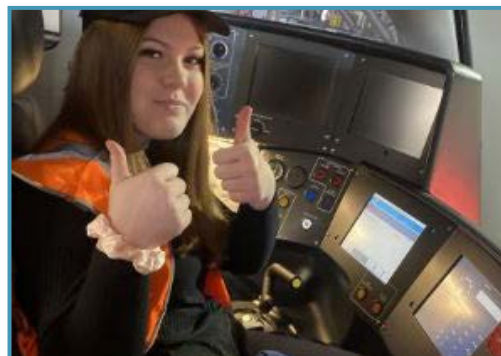


Year 10 Work Experience

Year 10 Work Experience will take place from Monday 22nd April until Friday 3rd May 2024. Deadline for Work Experience submission is 8th March 2024.

Support is available every day from J.Stoddart in the Canteen during Break and Lunchtime.

For more information, including a useful Work Experience Handbook and information video please visit: www.basildonupperacademy.org.uk/year-10-work-experience-2024



Young Minds

[Young Minds](http://www.youngminds.org.uk) is the UK's leading charity committed to improving the emotional wellbeing and mental health of children and young people. Just as people's bodies can become unwell, people's minds can become unwell too.

Young Minds offer information to young people and children about mental health and emotional wellbeing. If you need to talk, they can let you know about organisations that listen, plus they offer online support and info.

YOUNGMINDS

Essex Activate - Half Term Activities

Essex County Council are funding holiday activity clubs for young people who are eligible for benefits based free school meals and, low-income working

For more information, to check eligibility and, to register your child into a club for the upcoming half term, please visit: [Essex Activate](http://www.essexactivate.org.uk) | [Active Essex](http://www.activeessex.org.uk)



Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded Student of the Week for week commencing 29th January 2024.

- ★ Year 10 - Thomas.E (R10U2)
- ★ Year 11 - Skylar.K (R11U1)
- ★ Sixth Form - Paige.J (R1213)

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.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 [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Upper Academy website and select the option for General Enquiries.

Spotlight on: A Level Chemistry



Chemistry is a rewarding but demanding course, which sets the subject within a relevant and modern-day framework. It suits those of you who like to ask the questions 'why', 'how' and 'what' and are keen to find out the answers.

The key emphasis is on an enjoyable challenge throughout the course, combining topics which stretch even the most able with a healthy dose of traditional investigative Chemistry where pupils learn the skills of working in a lab hands-on.

Full course information can be found by visiting the following link on our website: [A Level Chemistry](#)

Applications for September 2024 admissions to our Sixth Form are now open. The online application form can be completed by visiting the following link:

[Sixth Form Apply to Join](#)

Parent Drop In - Monday 5th February

This week's Parent Drop In will be on Monday 5th February, between 1pm and 2pm.

There will be no need to book an appointment, just sign in at reception and staff will be happy to show you to the venue. There is no set topic for the drop in sessions, if we are not able to answer any specific questions, we will follow up and then feedback to you.



National Apprenticeships Week 2024

This week is National Apprenticeships Week. For more information, including 'The Parents' Guide to Apprenticeships' please visit:

www.basildonupperacademy.org.uk/ncw2024



There are a wide range of clubs and opportunities for pupils to contribute to the school and local community, for instance as charity ambassadors. This develops pupils' self-confidence. Well-chosen visitors help pupils learn how to keep themselves safe and healthy.

Absence Procedures

To report a student absence please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Upper 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.
- 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

Categorising attendance and learning hours lost

Descriptor	Threshold attendance	Actual attendance (days)	Whole days absent	Lost learning hours	Level of concern
Excellent	100%	190	0	0	Green
	99%	188	2	10	
Good	98%	186	4	20	Green
	97%	184	6	30	
	96%	182.5	7.5	37.5	
Cause for concern	95%	180.5	9.5	47.5	Orange
	94%	179	11	55	
	93%	177	13	65	
	92%	175	15	75	
	91%	173	17	85	
Unsatisfactory	90%	171	19	95	Red
	89%	169	21	105	
	88%	167	23	115	
	87%	165	25	125	
	86%	163	27	135	
Critical	85%	161.5	28.5	142.5	Red
	84%	159.5	30.5	152.5	
	83%	158	32	160	
	82%	156	34	170	
	81%	154	36	180	
	80%	152	38	190	

Celebrating Inclusivity: Basildon Academies Pursues SENDIA Recognition



Exciting news from the Basildon Academies! We're on the path to achieving the SEND Inclusion Award (SENDIA); showcasing our commitment to an inclusive and supportive educational environment for all students.

Diversity is Our Strength:

The Basildon Academies values the uniqueness of every student. Pursuing the SENDIA Award reflects our dedication to creating an environment where each child feels valued and included.

Equal Opportunities for All:

Inclusion at the Basildon Academies means providing equal opportunities for every student. The SENDIA journey involves identifying and, removing barriers hindering the progress of students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Collaboration and Partnership:

We believe in a strong partnership between school and home. Your insights and support are crucial in achieving inclusive excellence as we pursue the SENDIA Award.

Empowering Every Learner:

Our mission is to empower every learner to achieve their potential. Pursuing the SENDIA Award demonstrates our commitment to providing necessary resources, support, and adaptations for students with SEND.

Celebrating Differences:

Inclusion at the Basildon Academies is about celebrating differences. The SENDIA process refines our practices to better cater to individual needs, fostering an atmosphere of acceptance and diversity celebration.

Thank you for your ongoing support in creating an inclusive Basildon Academies community. We look forward to updating you on our progress and sharing the successes that come with our commitment to inclusion.

Prom Donations

As we are approaching Prom 2024, we are looking to see if any of you have any suitable pre-loved suits that you wouldn't mind kindly donating to our in-house Prom Shop!

This is set up to support students who may not have access to a smart suit. Any donations will be gratefully received into the reception office on either site.



Job of the Week: Kitchen Assistant

What does a Kitchen Assistant do?

Your day-to-day duties could include:

- supporting chefs in a specific work section
- washing, peeling and preparing food items
- using a variety of kitchen equipment such as mixers, special knives and cutters
- unloading deliveries
- organising the storeroom
- washing kitchen appliances, work surfaces, floors and walls

Labour Market Information

UK jobs: 684,866

Essex jobs: 14,709 (3rd of 214 UK LEAs)

Top 5 LEAs: Kent (16,465), Hampshire (14,927), Essex (14,709), Lancashire (13,593), Birmingham (12,688)

UK growth: -16.5% from 2020 to 2025, losing 515,452 jobs



What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

There are no set requirements, but it may help if you:

- have some basic kitchen skills, like food safety practices and the ability to prepare simple dishes
- have gained some work experience, like volunteering with the food service at a charity event or as a kitchen porter washing up
- have taken a short culinary course or workshop, to show your passion and build your skills

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median:
£18,193





NATIONAL PIZZA DAY



FEBRUARY 9TH

To celebrate National Pizza Day on Friday 9th February the Dining Hall will be serving pizza during morning breaktime for just 50p per slice



Pizza toppings available:
Cheese & Tomato
Vegetable
Pepperoni



HAPPY
LUNAR
NEW YEAR
2024



TO CELEBRATE LUNAR NEW
YEAR & CHINESE NEW YEAR
THERE WILL BE CHINESE
THEMED LUNCHES AVAILABLE
IN THE DINING HALL ON
MONDAY 12TH FEBRUARY



GOLD - RIGHTS RESPECTING

Strong, supportive, and mutually respectful relationships were evident throughout the visit and young people said that the increased emphasis on rights, respect and dignity has added to this, "If you respect people's rights, you respect them as a person."

Unicef RRS Accreditation Report Gold: Rights Aware

THE BASILDON ACADEMIES WORD OF THE DAY

5th February - 9th February 2024
Children's Mental Health Week
Lunar New Year & Chinese New Year - Saturday 10th February
International Day of Women and Girls in Science - Sunday 11th February

EAL VERSION

Monday:	Devotion: Dedication to a cause, person etc.	Преданост (predanost) = Bulgarian
Tuesday: (Safer Internet Day)	Warmth: The quality of being intimate and attached.	căldură = Romanian
Wednesday:	Affection: Fond attachment, devotion, or love.	Любовь (lyubov) = Russian
Thursday:	Admiration: The act of looking on or contemplating with pleasure.	bewunderung = German
Friday:	Fondness: Excessively tender or overindulgent; doting.	pagkagusto = Filipino

PANCAKE DAY TUESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY



To celebrate Pancake Day on Tuesday 13th February The Dining Hall will be serving pancakes in addition to the regular dessert menu options.

Follow The Basildon Upper Academy on our social media channels

