

As we look forward to the Christmas holiday, I would like to say a big thank you for all your support throughout this term. I am very proud of our students as I have seen them demonstrate their resilience, desire to succeed and their spirit of working together each day.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

*April Gurney*  
Headteacher



## Dates for the Diary

### Year 11 & Year 13 Mock Exams

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### Christmas Dinner (Free for all students)

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### Winter Wonderland Christmas Concert - Basildon Lower Academy

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022 - 3:30-5pm

### Non-uniform/Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### Last Day of Autumn Term

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022 - *Students finish at 12:30pm*

### First Day of Spring Term

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023

### Year 10 & Year 12 Assessments

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded Student of the Week for week commencing 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

- ★ Year 10 - Kyan.W (R10X2)
- ★ Year 11 - Ruby.P (R11U1)
- ★ Sixth Form - Tiegan.W (R1213)

## Student Value of the Term

**NO HUMAN  
IS ILLEGAL**

## Non-uniform/Christmas Jumper Day 16<sup>th</sup> December

All students are invited to take part in this year's Christmas Jumper Day on the last day of term, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December. We are raising money for Save the Children so we ask that a donation is made from all students participating in non-uniform. Staff will be at the front door with collection buckets to greet the students as they arrive.



## Naomi Designs Outstanding Art & Textile Work

Well done to Year 12 student Naomi.S, who has produced superb art & textile designs for her A Level qualifications.

Using the original painting from her A Level art project, Naomi created a stencil of the image and painted the artwork onto a hoodie for the textile element of the course. The design was completed by adding the final touches freehand.



The curriculum, student briefings and assemblies, the website, and the displays and messaging throughout the school all give mental health and wellbeing a high profile and promote its importance to all members of the school community as well as providing guidance to those seeking support.



Wellbeing Award  
for Schools

2022-2025

## 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 [Contact Us](#) 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](http://www.basildonupperacademy.org.uk/course-information)

To apply to join our Sixth Form visit: [basixthform.applicaa.com/year12](http://basixthform.applicaa.com/year12)



## 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](http://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).



# School 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 found:

Every Wednesday Breaktime, Location: The Upper Academy Wellbeing Centre

## Spotlight on: A Level Art



Art is a form of communication and expression - a visual language, which deals with the construction and interpretation, of both personal and cultural meanings. This course is designed to give learners an engaging and innovative creative learning experience, where art and design practices are integrated with contextual knowledge and understanding. The aim of this course is to build a broad foundation of critical, practical and theoretical skills which encourages creativity, analytical thinking and technical skills.

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

Year 11 students wishing to join our Sixth Form can apply via the following link: [Apply to join](#)

## House Points - Week Ending 9<sup>th</sup> December



## Essex Youth Summit – Help Shape the Manifesto

Essex Book Festival is hosting its second Manifesto for the Essex Youth Summit as part of EA Sustain, a new festival connecting the Environment, Culture and Entrepreneurship at Firstsite on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2023 and Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Young people aged 14 to 25 who are passionate about culture and the environment are invited to help shape the manifesto. Join the zoom event from 6pm to 7pm on Wednesday 16 November 2022 to discuss ideas and shape the way forward.

Book a place via the [Essex Book Festival website](#)

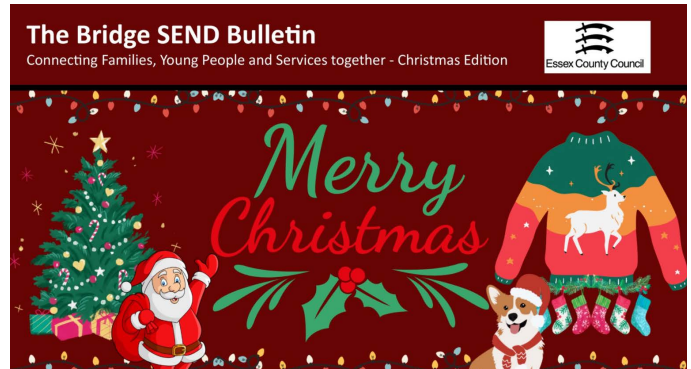


## SEND Information Website Launched

The new look Essex Local Offer website has recently been launched. This has been developed following research with families and practitioners.

The website includes information about SEND services & how to access them. The aim is to help families and professionals understand the breadth of support and early help on offer.

<https://send.essex.gov.uk/> Essex County Council





## 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](http://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](http://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.

# Aspire - Believe - Achieve

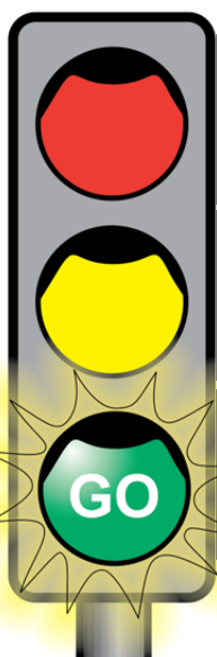
## Attendance Expectations

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.

# ATTENDANCE

*Every Minute Counts!*



**89% & below**

*Drastic effect on academic achievement*

**95-90%**

*Less chance of success. Harder to make progress*

**100-96%**

*Good chance of success and progress*

### 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 [Contact Us](#) 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](http://www.basildonupperacademy.org.uk/attendance)

# National Online Safety

The online world is posing an ever-increasing risk to children, and it is important that schools, parents and carers work together to take an active role in teaching children about online dangers. Learning how to act safely when using the internet is an incredibly important part of safeguarding our children.

We are therefore delighted to announce that we have shown our commitment to protecting students online by working with National Online Safety- providing resources for all parents and carers. The resources include Parents & Carers courses, online video resources and weekly guides covering a huge range of topics, including:

- Online Relationships
- Fake Profiles & Social Bots
- Online Bullying
- Online Grooming
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Sexual Harassment & Violence
- Sexting
- Live Streaming
- Online Identity
- Screen Addiction
- Online Challenges
- Overspending
- Social Media Platforms
- Online Gambling
- Radicalisation, Terrorism & Extremism
- Age Inappropriate Content
- Copyright & Ownership
- Hacking
- Fake News
- Online Fraud
- Online Reputation
- Personal Data
- Pornography
- Targeted Adverts & Pop-Ups
- The Dark Web
- Games & Trends



National  
Online  
Safety®

## Download your Free Online Safety App for Parents & Carers

The image shows a collection of colorful safety guides and a smartphone. The guides cover topics like Xbox Series X/S, PlayStation 5, Fortnite, and Trolling & Online Abuse. The smartphone displays the National Online Safety app interface, which includes a search bar, a grid of course cards for different age groups (e.g., 'Parenting Course AGES 4-7'), and a featured video for '#OnlineSafetyKlass' hosted by Myleene Klass. The NOS logo is also visible in the top right corner of the app interface.

Be **#OnlineSafetySavvy**

Keep up with the latest apps  
games and tech your children  
are using, with the worlds  
most comprehensive online  
safety app for parents.

To create your account, please follow <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/basildon-academies> and complete your details. When you're set up, you'll be able to set 'Parent/Carer' as your user type.

You can access National Online Safety online via any device- including via the brand-new smartphone app.

To download the app, please go to:

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/national-online-safety/id1530342372>

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.co.nationaleducationgroup.nos>





# Christmas Dinner

## Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December

### Main Meal

Roast Turkey & Pigs in Blankets  
or  
Quorn Roast

Served with: Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Peas,  
Brussel Sprouts, Yorkshire Puddings,  
Stuffing & Gravy

### Dessert Options

Christmas Pudding  
Mincemeat Slice  
Chocolate Crackle Pudding  
Meringue Snowmen  
Trifle

Christmas Dinner comes with fresh  
fruit juice & a Christmas Cracker

Christmas Dinner is free for all of our students



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

Friday  
6<sup>th</sup> January

## Shortbread Day


All shortbread will be 50p  
Available in the Dining Hall



## Veganuary is coming in 2023



## Upper Academy Breakfast Menu



Egg on Toast .....	50p
Egg Roll .....	50p
Omelette .....	50p
Porridge .....	75p
Coffee .....	30p
Hot Chocolate .....	30p
Tea .....	30p

Our Upper Academy Breakfast Menu is available  
Monday - Friday from 7:30 - 9:15am.