



## LOWER ACADEMY

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## UPPER ACADEMY

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Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025

### Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your continued support. Based on recent feedback from students, we have made several improvements across the school. Below is a summary of the key areas raised and how we have responded:

- **Homework remains optional**, with printed or digital resources available for students who request it from their teachers.
- **More clubs and break-time activities will be introduced**, enabled by the change in the timings of the school day next academic year, including better access to outdoor areas and sports equipment, with increased staff supervision in place.
- **Lunch queue management has been improved**, with additional staff supporting key areas.
- **The Sixth Form attendance process has been reviewed**, so that delayed registers no longer automatically trigger incorrect absence messages home.
- **Laptop access in Sixth Form is being expanded**, with 19 new devices ordered for use in the study centre and smaller laptop trolleys being introduced to improve availability.
- **Printed materials are now more readily available** for students without consistent access to devices, supporting those unable to view work on phones or download apps.
- **Predicted grades in Sixth Form are being adjusted**, so they reflect only the content covered to date, ensuring a fairer and more accurate measure of progress.
- **Support has been put in place for subject-specific concerns** to improve the delivery and engagement of Sixth Form lessons.
- **Lesson timings will be 60 or 90 minutes** from 09/25.
- **Past exam papers are now being made available**, aligned with the curriculum, to support student revision and independent study.
- **Agency staff are being supported**, with cover checklists in use and improved briefing procedures to ensure consistency and appropriate work is delivered. Internal cover is being prioritised whenever possible.
- **Sixth Form communication and organisation are being improved**, including better clarity on timetables, marks, and quicker resolution of queries or issues.
- **The option change deadline remains October for year 10 students**, and this is now clearly communicated to students well in advance.

- We are making our **attendance office more accessible** with a student facing window that should be ready to use 09/25.

By listening to our students and acting together, we are strengthening our school community, fostering a culture of respect, and creating a more inclusive and supportive environment for everyone. These positive changes help our students feel heard, valued, and empowered—and that benefits us all.

Yours sincerely



R Rees  
Headteacher The Basildon Upper Academy