

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Greet, Meet, Eat - Parent Event

Thursday 17th September 2026 - 5.30pm-6.30pm

Year 10 AP1 Assessments

Monday 28th September - Friday 2nd October 2026

Upper Academy Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 1st October 2026: 5pm-7pm

Meet the Tutor - Parent Event

Monday 5th October 2026: 3.15pm-4.30pm

Half Term

Monday 26th - Friday 30th October 2026

STUDENT VALUE OF THE TERM

BLACK LIVES MATTER

HOUSE POINTS - WEEK ENDING 4TH SEPTEMBER



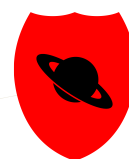
748
SEACOLE



650
ALI



548
AUSTEN



417
HAWKING

LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

It has been wonderful to welcome students back and see them settling into the new academic year, reconnecting with friends, making new ones, and enjoying activities with their form tutors. A particular highlight was Sports Day, which provided a fantastic launch for our reinvigorated House System and showcased the enthusiasm, teamwork and spirit of our students.

As we begin the term, we ask all students to maintain excellent attendance and high standards of uniform. Being in school every day, on time, and ready to learn gives students the best opportunity to succeed.

We have continued to invest in both school sites, with improvements including new gazebos, outdoor food venues, roofing projects, sports hall flooring and social spaces. We have also introduced our new school day, featuring one-hour lessons and a longer lunch break, in response to feedback from our students. We have listened and will continue to listen as we work together to make our school even better.

We are committed to providing clear and effective ways for families and the school to work together to support every student's success. We look forward to welcoming parents and carers to our Meet, Greet & Eat event on Thursday 17th September. Further details can be found within this newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to a successful year ahead.

R.Rees
Headteacher



PARENT/CARER UPDATING CONTACT INFORMATION

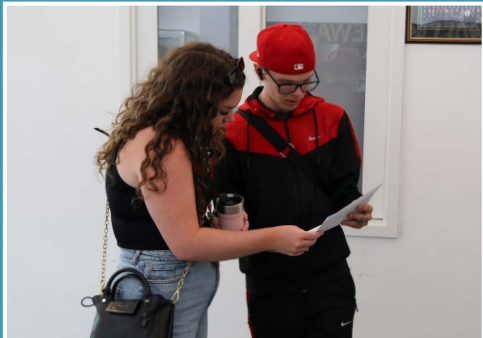
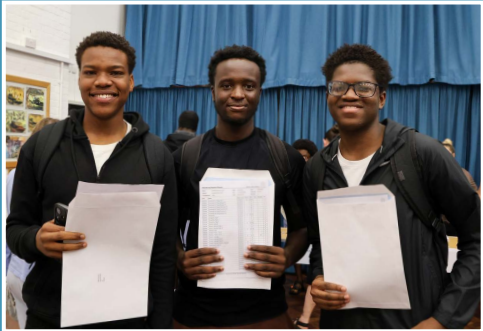
Please ensure we have current contact information on file for you, including home address, mobile phone number, and email address. If any of your details have changed, email us at admin@basildonacademies.org.uk with the updated information.



CELEBRATING EXAM SUCCESS

A huge congratulations to all our students who received their exam results over the summer.

We are incredibly proud of their achievements and wish them every success as they take their next steps in education, training, or employment. We look forward to seeing all that they go on to achieve.



STUDENTS PUT THEIR TEAMWORK SKILLS TO THE TEST

During the last week of the school year, our Year 11 students took part in the Upper Academy's very first Team Building Day, enjoying an action-packed day of problem-solving, communication and collaboration.

Delivered by The Problem Solving Company, the event saw students working in teams to complete more than 30 exciting challenges, each designed to develop valuable transferable skills that will benefit them both in school and beyond.

Throughout the day, students tackled a variety of practical and mental tasks that encouraged them to think creatively, communicate effectively and work together under pressure. Every activity required teamwork, resilience and determination, with students supporting one another to overcome each new challenge.



As teams successfully completed activities, they earned points, creating a friendly but highly competitive atmosphere as everyone worked hard to climb the leaderboard. The competition kept energy levels high throughout the day, with students demonstrating excellent enthusiasm, perseverance and team spirit.

INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY: WHY LITERACY MATTERS FOR EVERYONE

Every year on 8th September, the world comes together to celebrate International Literacy Day. Literacy means more than simply being able to read and write, it is about communicating ideas, solving problems, and accessing opportunities. Around the globe, literacy is recognised as a basic human right, giving people the power to learn, work, and participate fully in society.

For students at the Basildon Upper Academy, literacy is not just important in English lessons. Whether analysing data in Science, writing up findings in History, or presenting ideas in Business, strong literacy skills are the key to success across all subjects. Reading widely also improves vocabulary, boosts imagination, and builds confidence in speaking and writing.

Parents and carers can play an important role in supporting literacy at home. A few simple ideas include:

- Encouraging your child to talk about what they have read or learned in lessons.
- Reading together - even if just sharing a news article, recipe, or online blog.
- Asking questions that get them to explain or summarise in their own words.
- Making space and time for reading each day.

By working together as a school and home community, we can ensure our young people develop the literacy skills that will support them not only in exams, but in life beyond the classroom.

Thank you for continuing to support literacy at home and helping us to build confident, curious readers and writers.

Miss Harris - KS4 English Lead & KS4/5 Literacy Lead

BASILDON ACADEMIES SIXTH FORM

A LEVEL ART & DESIGN

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. The course is suitable to those committed to the Arts generally.

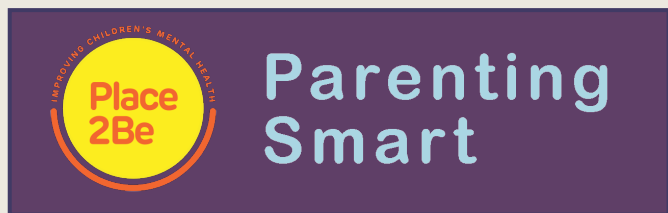
Full course information can be found by visiting the following link on our website: [A Level Art & Design](#)



SUPPORTING CHILD 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 MINDS

Young Minds 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.

The logo for Young Minds, featuring the word 'YOUNG' in yellow and 'MiNDS' in black, all in a bold, sans-serif font.

PARENT DROP IN

Our next Parent Drop In will be on Tuesday 22nd September between 11am and 12pm.

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.



ASPIRE - BELIEVE - ACHIEVE

CELEBRATING SUCCESS AT THE YEAR 10 END OF YEAR REWARD SUMMER PARTY

At the end of the last academic year, our new Year 11 students celebrated their achievements at a fantastic End of Year Reward Summer Party.

The event recognised students who had achieved the highest attendance and earned the most positive credits throughout Year 10, rewarding their commitment, hard work and consistently positive attitude.

Students enjoyed an afternoon of music, dancing and fun as they celebrated together before the summer holidays. It was wonderful to see everyone relaxing with friends, reflecting on a successful year and creating lasting memories as they looked ahead to the exciting challenges of Year 11.



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





THE BASILDON UPPER ACADEMY

ASPIRE · BELIEVE · ACHIEVE
Success Beyond Circumstance



— GREET, MEET & EAT —

YEARS 10–13 PARENTS & CARERS



THURSDAY
17 SEPTEMBER
2026



TIME
5:30PM -
6:30PM



VENUE
UPPER ACADEMY
MAIN HALL

— JOIN US TO LEARN ABOUT: —



GCSE & Post-16 Expectations



Attendance & Punctuality Requirements



Examination Information & Key Dates



Revision Support Strategies



Curriculum Overview



Careers Guidance & Pathways



Work Experience Opportunities



Sixth Form Information
(where appropriate)



University, Apprenticeship &
Employment Routes



Key Dates for the Academic Year



TOGETHER WE CAN ENSURE EVERY STUDENT ACHIEVES
SUCCESS BEYOND CIRCUMSTANCE

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 498882.

- 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.basildonupperacademy.org.uk/attendance

ARRIVE BE HERE ATTEND IN TIME TO TO TO ASPIRE BELIEVE ACHIEVE

**Attendance percentages as Number of days and lessons missed from school.
Students are required to attend school for 190 days each year.**

Attendance during one school year	Equals days absent	Which is approximately weeks absent	Which means this number of lessons missed	Absence over 5 years
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons	¼ year
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons	½ year
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons	1 year
70%	59 days	12 weeks	300 lessons	1½ years
60%	80 days	16 weeks	400 lessons	2 years
50%	100 days	20 weeks	500 lessons	2 ½ years

Government (DfE) research suggests that 16 days absence or 92% attendance in any one year equals a full GCSE drop in attainment
How does your attendance compare with this target?

Daily rewards - Daily text messages for 100% attendance are sent via text message or through the MCAS app.

Weekly Rewards - Weekly Student briefings held on Mondays highlight the students who have received 100% attendance and 0 late marks. These students will receive a raffle entry for a £5 lifestyle voucher

Half Termly rewards - Each Half-term 100% attendance postcards are given to students based on the attendance for that half term.

Termly rewards - Students receive a badge and certificate during a celebration event for their term attendance which can be pinned to their tie.



ONLINE SAFETY HUB - SUPPORTING YOUR TEEN WITH SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media can be a tricky area for parents and carers to navigate. This helpful resource offers practical advice on understanding your teen's social media use, encouraging healthy habits and supporting them to stay safe online. Take a look at the short video and explore the tips here: [Navigating Your Teen's Social Media Use](#)

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](#)



Job of the Week: Bricklayer

What does a Bricklayer do?

A bricklayer is a skilled construction worker who builds and repairs walls, houses, chimneys, and other structures using bricks, concrete blocks, and stone.

Key Responsibilities:

- Laying bricks and blocks in rows and patterns
- Mixing and applying mortar
- Reading construction plans and measurements
- Repairing damaged brickwork
- Using tools such as trowels, spirit levels, and cement mixers
- Following health and safety rules on building sites

Labour Market Information

- -7.7% 69,814 jobs
- -7.7% in your region of East of England, an decrease of 6,354 jobs

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median:
£45,021

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

Many bricklayers start through:

- A college construction course
- An apprenticeship
- On-the-job training with a construction company
- In the UK, useful qualifications include NVQs or City & Guilds construction courses.

BASILDON ACADEMIES WORD OF THE DAY

7th – 11th September 2026
Fairtrade Fortnight

Monday:	Sustainability (noun) Устойчивость in Russian <i>Definition:</i> The ability to be maintained at a certain rate or level, often referring to environmental balance. <i>Example:</i> Fairtrade Fortnight emphasizes sustainability in farming practices.	
Tuesday:	Ethical (adjective) Ethisch in German <i>Definition:</i> Relating to moral principles or the branch of knowledge dealing with these. <i>Example:</i> Fairtrade products are ethical, ensuring that workers receive fair wages.	
Wednesday:	Commodities (noun) Rohstoffe in German <i>Definition:</i> Raw materials or primary agricultural products that can be bought and sold. <i>Example:</i> Coffee and cocoa are major commodities discussed during Fairtrade Fortnight.	
Thursday:	Certification (noun) Certificazione in Italian <i>Definition:</i> The action or process of providing someone or something with an official document attesting to a status or level of achievement. <i>Example:</i> Products with Fairtrade certification guarantee better prices and fair conditions for producers.	
Friday:	Cooperative (noun) Cooperación in Spanish <i>Definition:</i> An organization owned and run jointly by its members, who share the profits or benefits. <i>Example:</i> Many farmers are part of cooperatives to ensure fair trade of their products.	



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