

Dates for the Diary

Half Term

Monday 26th - Friday 30th May 2025

Year 10 AP2 Assessments

Monday 23rd June - Friday 4th July 2025

Year 11 Prom

Friday 27th June - 5:30-10pm

Year 12 AP2 Assessments

Monday 30th June - Friday 4th July 2025

Beginning of Year 9 Transition to Upper Academy

Monday 30th June 2025

Student Value of the Term

**CLIMATE CHANGE
IS REAL**

House Points - Week Ending 16th May



38,443
AUSTEN



36,225
ALI



24,182
HAWKING



23,524
SEACOLE

Leadership Message

Exam Season and Looking Ahead

Exam season is well underway, and it has been fantastic to see so many students engaged in breakfast revision sessions and demonstrating such determination across Key Stage 4 and the Sixth Form.

As we approach the half-term break, students are encouraged to use this time wisely—balancing study and exam preparation with rest and self-care to support their overall wellbeing.

Year 11 and Sixth Form Enrolment

Year 11 students intending to enrol in our Sixth Form will soon receive invitations to attend our enrolment session on GCSE Results Day. For those who may have missed the initial application window, there will be a further opportunity to apply during this enrolment period.

Celebrating Sixth Form Success

It has been a genuine pleasure to witness our Sixth Form students mature into thoughtful and ambitious young adults. Many of our Year 13 students have secured university offers, and we are proud of all they have achieved.

After the May half term, Year 10 and Year 12 students will begin preparing for their final assessments of the academic year. In particular, Year 12 students will be focusing on achieving at least a grade D in each of their subjects to progress into Year 13.

Beyond the Classroom

We are continually inspired by the diverse experiences our students pursue beyond the school gates. From flying planes in the RAF and joining the Army, to engaging in youth council initiatives focused on environmental issues—our students truly embody the values of leadership, service, and community engagement.

They are a credit to the school and to the wider community, and we thank you for your continued support in nurturing the many opportunities available to them.



K.McCarthy
Assistant Headteacher

Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded Student of the Week for week commencing 12th May 2025.

★ Year 11 - Ruby.W (R11X2)

★ Sixth Form - Ayala.R (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.

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

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 Friday
Breaktime & Lunchtime
Location:
The Medical Room



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](#)

Supporting Your Child's 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/>



Parent Drop In - Tuesday 20th May

This week's Parent Drop In will be on Tuesday 20th May between 9.30am and 10.30am.

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.



Criminology Students Visit to Crown Court

Year 12 Criminology students recently had the incredible opportunity to visit the Basildon Crown and Magistrates' Courts, immersing themselves in the real-world workings of the legal system. Throughout the morning, they engaged in conversations with judges and magistrates, gaining invaluable insights into the complexities of criminal law.



Students observed courtroom proceedings, including defendants, police officers, and witnesses presenting evidence, and watched a jury being sworn in. They also witnessed sentencing and took part in deliberations, considering how they might rule based on the evidence presented. The experience brought their classroom learning to life and deepened their understanding of the judicial process.

Mrs Butler, Criminology Teacher and trip organiser, said: "Visits like this bring criminology education to life by offering real-world exposure to the justice system. Rather than just studying theories and case studies, students can witness legal processes first-hand. Speaking with judges and magistrates gives them a deeper understanding of legal decision-making, ethical considerations, and courtroom procedures."



From a school perspective, enrichment experiences like this spark enthusiasm and engagement, making criminology feel more tangible and relevant. For some students, they may even inspire future careers in law, policing, or criminal justice; by witnessing the justice system in action, students gain a clearer understanding of legal professions and may be drawn to roles such as solicitor, barrister, police officer, forensic expert, or policy advisor.

It's not just all about the law though, engaging with Judges, Magistrates and court staff allows students to see the human side of law - how decisions are made, the ethical challenges involved, and the impact of justice on individuals and society. Moreover, watching live cases and deliberating on evidence develops critical thinking, analytical skills, and confidence - essential qualities for any career involving problem-solving and decision-making.

Whether students ultimately enter law enforcement, criminology research, social work, or legal advocacy, these experiences provide a strong foundation for their future.

"I found the visit very interesting, especially as we witnessed a very emotional court case. We also learned about the different processes that happen in a courthouse." Joy.N

"Today's visit was both intriguing and helpful. I learned a lot about the court system and the different roles — from the judge to the defendant." Ali.H

"This has been a fascinating experience. I saw how evidence is presented and how people give statements. It gave me a clear insight into how the justice system works." Eva-Nicole.B

"It was fun and educational to see how trials and appeals actually work — especially watching how judges and barristers interact." Grace.C



Careers in Sports: Inspiring the Next Generation

As part of Work Experience Week, Year 10 students got a taste of life in the world of sport during the Careers in Sports sessions, held on Thursday 1st and Thursday 8th May. Designed to do more than just get students moving, the bootcamp-style sessions combined practical activities with career insight to inspire students to explore the wide range of opportunities within the sports industry.

From adrenaline-pumping relay races to intense circuit exercises blending cardio and strength training, students experienced the physical demands often faced by professionals in the field. But the sessions weren't just about fitness — motivational talks on themes such as 'mind over matter' offered a powerful glimpse into the mindset and discipline needed not only for success in sporting careers, but also for life.

The energy was high, the effort was real, and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. By the end of both sessions, students left with a deeper appreciation of what it takes to thrive in the world of sport — and perhaps with a new ambition sparked.



"It was an amazing experience to participate in. The experience of giving it my all in the PE session." Braedon

"The PE sessions were fun, but also challenging." Milan

"We got to do lots of different exercises in the gym, including a circuit. Then we took part in a competition with rewards. It was a really good experience." Ola

Online Safety Hub Recommended Resource of the Week: Navigating the Need for Parental Controls

In the digital age, children have easy access to technology, and it's essential for parents to ensure their online experiences are safe. [Click here](#) to access information regarding online parental controls.

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](#)



Essex Sexual Health Service Webpages Dedicated to Secondary Parents & Carers

The Essex Sexual Health Service has a website dedicated to parents and carers. Parents can find a wealth of resources, including FAQs, insights into RSE, and advice on how to have those important conversations.

www.essexsexualhealthservice.org.uk/parents-and-carers/



The admin team on both sites are welcoming to visitors and parents and have access to the new EAL translator tools which enable them to speak to each parent or child in their own language when needed.








Leading Parent
Partnership Award

2023-2026

BASILDON ACADEMIES

WORD OF THE DAY

19th - 23rd May 2025

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Monday: | Pollination (Noun) การผสมเกสร in Thai Definition: The transfer of pollen to enable fertilisation and the production of seeds. Example: World Bee Day raises awareness about the essential role bees play in pollination and sustaining ecosystems. |  |
| Tuesday: <i>World Bee Day</i> | Biodiversity (Noun) biodiversité in Lingala Definition: The variety of plant and animal life in a particular habitat. Example: Protecting bees is crucial for maintaining biodiversity, as highlighted on World Bee Day. |  |
| Wednesday: | Ecosystem (Noun) hệ sinh thái in Vietnamese Definition: A biological community of interacting organisms and their physical environment. Example: Bees play a vital role in ecosystems, which is why their protection is a focus of World Bee Day. |  |
| Thursday: <i>International Day for Biological Diversity</i> | Conservation (Noun) itọjú in Yoruba Definition: The preservation and protection of the environment and wildlife. Example: The International Day for Biological Diversity emphasises the importance of conservation efforts worldwide. |  |
| Friday: <i>World Turtle Day</i> | Endangered (Adjective) ជិតផុតពូជ in Khmer Definition: At risk of extinction. Example: World Turtle Day promotes the protection of endangered turtle species. |  |

Job of the Week: Civil Engineer

What does a Civil Engineer do?

You can expect to be:

- Planning with the clients
- Reviewing surveys, testing, and mapping data using computer modelling software
- Creating blueprints using computer aided design

Labour Market Information

- UK jobs: 383,043
 - Essex Jobs: 8,415
 - Growth: +41.4%
- Top 5 LEAs: 1. Hampshire (11,941) 2. Lancashire (9,111) 3. Essex (8,415) 4. Surrey (8,334) 5. Hertfordshire (8,186)



Let's Talk Money

UK annual median: £50,352

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

In general, you'll usually need an engineering or a Master's degree in civil engineering. Alternatively, you could start as a technician and study part time for an HND or a foundation degree.

You could also enter this career via an apprenticeship if these are available in your country.



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.

Follow The Basildon Upper Academy on our social media channels



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.
- 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



Essex County Council
Education

GOOD TIMEKEEPING



What to do the night before:

Get everything you need for school ready



Set your alarm allowing plenty of time

Make your lunch and drink if you bring a packed lunch to school



Turn off devices half an hour before bedtime

Have a good night's sleep - a minimum of eight hours!



We are the Mental Health Support Team!

It's good to talk!

Talking to us can help stop difficulties from spiralling so you can enjoy school, time at home and time with friends and family.



Dealing with anxiety and low mood

Overcoming anxiety and low mood can be hard. But taking time to stop and learn how to manage anxious feelings, challenge unhelpful thinking and improve your mood can enhance your emotional wellbeing.



You are not alone

It's ok to not be ok. The MHST are specially-trained to help you with your emotional wellbeing. It is helpful to share your worries with someone you trust so you can work through your difficulties together.



Accepting that challenges are a part of life

Most people experience emotional difficulties at some point so it's important for you to acknowledge when this is happening and talk about it. This can help you understand how it affects your life.

Remember, these feelings will pass.



The Mental Health Support Team are here to provide support to all children, young people and their families with emotional wellbeing in schools and colleges. **To find out more about the service, scan the QR code to visit our website or talk to school staff.**

www.nelft.nhs.uk/essex-mental-health-support-teams



Mid and South Essex
Health and Care
Partnership

NELFT **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust



MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM