

Dates for the Diary

Presentation Evening

Wednesday 2nd April 2025 - 4pm-5pm

Last Day of Spring Term

Friday 4th April 2025 - Students finish at 12:30pm

Easter Holidays

Monday 7th - Monday 21st April 2025

Year 10 Work Experience

Monday 28th April - Friday 9th May 2025

Bank Holiday

Monday 5th May 2025

Half Term

Monday 26th - Friday 30th May 2025

Student Value of the Term

**WOMEN'S
RIGHTS
ARE HUMAN
RIGHTS**

House Points - Week Ending 28th March



34,471
AUSTEN



32,431
ALI



22,187
HAWKING



20,938
SEACOLE

Leadership Message

As we near the end of this term and look forward to a well-deserved Easter break, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on something truly important to us — the voices of our students.

This term, we've been focused on actively listening to our students, gathering their insights, ideas, and feedback about their experiences at school. Our commitment to student voice is stronger than ever, as we know that when students feel heard, it creates an even more positive and engaging school environment that fosters a sense of belonging.

We are thrilled to share that we have already begun reviewing the feedback we received, and we are excited to put plans into action. To ensure transparency and celebrate the positive changes, we will be sending home a "They Said, We Did" letter after the break. This letter will outline the key points shared by the students and the steps we are taking in response to their thoughts and suggestions.



Thank you for encouraging your child to share their perspective with us. Your support in encouraging this open dialogue is invaluable and truly helps our school community thrive.

Wishing you all a joyful and restful Easter break. We can't wait to continue our journey together after the holidays, with our students' voices guiding us forward.

R. Rees
Headteacher

Parent Drop In - Tuesday 1st April

This week's Parent Drop In will be on Tuesday 1st April between 9am and 10am.

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.

This session will be led by our Assistant Headteacher – Attendance Champion, who will be available to discuss any attendance-related concerns and answer your questions.



Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded Student of the Week for week commencing 24th March 2025.

- ★ Year 10 - Kian.H (R10Y2)
- ★ Year 11 - Megan.C (R11Y2)
- ★ Sixth Form - Reese.S (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 Psychology



Psychology literally translates as 'the study of the human mind' – but Psychology is more than this. Psychology is everywhere around us. It is intriguing, it is emotional, it is scientific and above all, it is thought provoking.

This course offers you the opportunity to learn about the science behind human behaviour by understanding how research is conducted and used to develop theories and laws about human behaviour.

This course will develop skills highly valued by Higher Education (HE) and employers, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research skills.

Core maths must be taken alongside this course, if you are not taking A-Level Maths.

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

Uniform Exchange Scheme

If you have uniform that your child has outgrown, please bring it in and see if there is something in the exchange shop that has been donated that you can simply swap your item for. We are still gratefully receiving donations of jumpers, shirts, trousers and PE kits that are in pre-loved condition and these can be donated via the reception office on either site.

Please remember, the Uniform Exchange shop is located at the Lower Academy, is open from 8am – 3:30pm Monday – Friday and is accessible via the school office.



Online Safety Hub: Unmasking the World of Digital Disguise

The Basildon Academies' Online Safety Hub has published an insightful article titled "Unmasking the World of Digital Disguise," which explores the various ways individuals may conceal their identities online, the potential risks associated with such practices, and offers guidance on how parents can educate their children to navigate the digital world safely. Read more here: <https://basildonacademies.onlinesafetyhub.uk/parent/articles/unmasking-the-world-of-digital-disguise>

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](#)



Year 11 History Students Step Back in Time on Educational Visit

Last week, Year 11 GCSE History students embarked on an exciting educational visit to London, where they explored two remarkable historical sites: The Golden Hinde and The Old Operating Theatre Museum. The trip provided an immersive experience that deepened students' understanding of maritime history and the evolution of medical practices.

At The Golden Hinde, students stepped aboard a reconstructed 16th-century galleon, gaining firsthand insight into the challenges faced by sailors during the Age of Exploration. The visit highlighted the harsh conditions, navigation techniques, and the significance of Sir Francis Drake's voyages. Additionally, students gained a detailed knowledge of 17th-century weaponry, learning about the different types of firearms and cannons used in naval warfare, as well as the strategies employed in sea battles.

The journey continued at The Old Operating Theatre Museum, where students explored the realities of surgery before modern anaesthesia. The visit shed light on early medical procedures, surgical advancements, and the development of healthcare over time.

This trip brought history to life, enhancing classroom learning with real-world experiences. Students left with a greater appreciation of the past and its influence on the modern world.



"The trip gave me a better understanding of what surgery was like during the Victorian era. I took part in a demonstration of an amputation, which showed how unsanitary and dangerous surgeries were at the time. Lying on the operating table made me feel a sense of worry—seeing all the surgical tools being taken out of boxes and realising they may have been used to cut through someone's bones. It was a fascinating experience, and I enjoyed it overall." Lavinia.G

"The visits to the Golden Hinde and the Old Operating Theatre Museum were fascinating and really broadened my understanding. On the ship, we got a sense of what life was like at sea and learned about the Spanish Armada from the Spanish perspective. The museum provided a detailed history of medicine from medieval times to the modern era, and the guide's talk will definitely help with my revision." Treasure.O

"The trip helped me improve my history knowledge, especially about the Spanish Armada. The guide explained key events during the naval conflict in detail. The surgical demonstration showed how operations were performed on women during the Victorian era, which has strengthened my understanding in preparation for my exams." Juwon.A

Pathway to Employment: Preparing Students for the Future

The Basildon Upper Academy recently hosted the Pathway to Employment programme, an interactive and engaging initiative designed to equip students with essential employability skills. Led by Sally Hinkins and Penny Reason from Enterprise in Education and funded by Make Happen, the programme provided students with invaluable insights into the job market, interview techniques, and the skills employers look for in candidates.

The morning session was packed with activities focused on employability, first impressions, and accessing the employment sector. Students explored job specifications, discussed transferable skills, and gained a deeper understanding of employer expectations. A highlight of the session was a group activity where students compared the skills required for different professions – from a care home worker to an England football manager – reinforcing the importance of adaptability in the workplace.

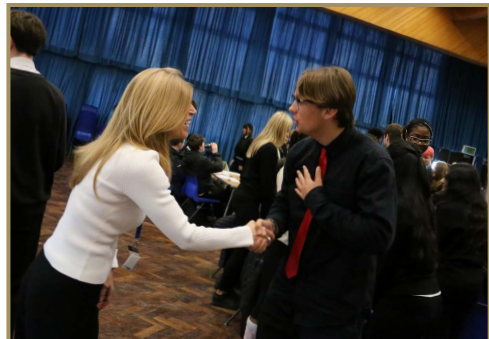
The afternoon was a great opportunity for students to gain real-world interview experience as they took part in mock interviews with industry professionals from organisations such as NatWest, Waitrose, Paul Robinson Solicitors, and CNH. This hands-on experience allowed them to put their learning into practice, receiving valuable feedback on their interview skills, body language, and responses to common questions.

Throughout the day, students were also introduced to key aspects of career planning, including the importance of LinkedIn for networking, CV writing best practices, and building a personal brand to showcase achievements and ambitions. The programme left students with greater confidence and a clearer understanding of how to navigate the employment landscape.

By engaging in hands-on activities and professional interviews, students gained the tools they need to stand out in the job market, ensuring they are well-prepared for their future careers.

"The experience of learning new skills and taking part in an interview was incredible. It will really help young people with their future pathways, whether in further education or finding a job." David.D – Year 11

"I really enjoyed today's workshop—it was interesting and provided useful insights into the job industry. The mock interview was great practice for the real thing. More workshops like this would be really beneficial, especially for students considering university." Maribel.O – Year 13



Pathway to Employment: Preparing Students for the Future

"Myself and the team really enjoyed taking part in the event and were all very impressed with the students who clearly put in a lot of preparation in the lead up to the afternoon. Thanks for a great afternoon." Mica Pengelly - Faster Payments Team Manager, NatWest Digital X

"The programme was really effective in improving my interview skills. Penny and Sally did a great job preparing us, from how to present ourselves to what to say. My interviewer, Freddie, made me feel welcome and comfortable, which really helped." Oliver.N – Year 11

"This programme benefitted me greatly—it showed me that interviews aren't as stressful as I thought and helped me improve the way I present myself. I really hope we can have more of these workshops in the future as they were fun, engaging, and informative." Riley.L – Year 11

"This was a fantastic opportunity to help students understand and prepare for job interviews. I learned about things I hadn't known before, such as assessment criteria. We also explored the importance of first impressions—how 33% of employers decide within seconds whether they would hire someone. I would highly recommend this experience to other schools as it will positively impact students' future employment." Eluney.B – Year 12

"This programme was very effective. I started the day unsure of what to expect in an interview, but I left feeling more prepared and confident." Amira.C – Year 11



BASILDON ACADEMIES

WORD OF THE DAY

31st March - 4th April 2025
Eid al-Fitr

Monday:	Festivity (Noun) perayaan in Malay Definition: The celebration of a religious or other festival. Example: Eid al-Fitr is a major festivity marking the end of Ramadan, celebrated with feasts and community gatherings.
Tuesday: <i>April Fool's Day</i>	Hoax (Noun) păcăleală in Romanian Definition: A humorous or malicious deception, often intended to trick someone. Example: Many playful hoaxes are carried out on Hoax Day, also known as April Fools' Day, as part of the tradition of light-hearted pranks.
Wednesday: <i>World Autism Awareness Day</i>	Neurodiversity (Noun) niwroamrywiaeth in Welsh Definition: The concept that neurological differences are to be recognised and respected as any other human variation. Example: World Autism Awareness Day promotes neurodiversity, advocating for understanding and acceptance of autistic individuals.
Thursday:	Sensory (Adjective) pūoko in Maori Definition: Relating to sensation or the physical senses. Example: Sensory processing issues are often discussed on World Autism Awareness Day, highlighting the unique experiences of autistic individuals.
Friday:	Inclusivity (Noun) inklusiwiteit in Afrikaans Definition: The practice or policy of including people who might otherwise be excluded or marginalised. Example: World Autism Awareness Day focuses on promoting inclusivity in all areas of society for autistic individuals.

Job of the Week: Lighting Engineer

What does a Lighting Engineer do?

You'll usually specialise in film and TV, or theatre, concerts and live events. Your work would range from basic spotlighting to operating strobes, lasers and pyrotechnics.

Depending on your role, your day-to-day tasks may include:
interpreting a lighting designer's plan
carrying out risk assessments for health and safety purposes
planning where to run cables and place lights at film locations
helping to rig and check the equipment

Labour Market Information

UK jobs: 342,899

Essex Jobs: 6,251

Growth: +.2%

Top 5 LEAs: 1. Surrey (8,868) 2. Hackney (8,587) 3. Kent (8,466) 4. Hertfordshire (8,120) 5. Lambeth (7,261)



What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

You could qualify as an electrician and get practical experience in production lighting. You could also do a college course to learn skills like stage electrics and lighting design. You'll need relevant practical experience, like a traineeship with a specialist lighting company, or work experience in: lighting equipment hire theatres or concert venues amateur theatre

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median: £29,047



Pupils learn about, and understand, the importance of respecting themselves and others. The personal, social and health education (PSHE) curriculum teaches pupils how to look after their physical and mental well-being. Pupils meet a range of employers and representatives from further education colleges. This helps pupils make well-informed choices about their next steps.

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

Did you know? **90%** of young people with attendance **BELOW** **85%** fail to get good grades.

MISSING **1** DAY A WEEK



LOSING **ONE YEAR** OF SCHOOL LIFE.

Good attendance means:

Being in school at least **97%** of the time, that's at least **184** days a year.

Target
97%+



175

days are **NOT**
spent in school
each year.*

* Plenty of time for shopping,
holidays & appointments.

143

Days of
education

75%

47 days absent

152

Days of
education

80%

38 days absent

162

Days of
education

85%

28 days absent

171

Days of
education

90%

19 days absent

184

Days of
education

97%

6 days absent

190

Days of
education

100%

0 days absent

SERIOUSLY WORRIED

Very poor attendance has a serious
impact & reduces life chances.

VERY CONCERNED

Poor attendance gives
less chance of success.

WELL DONE

Good attendance gives the
best chance of success.



EASTER TREATS



On Friday 4th April the Dining Hall will be serving a selection of Easter themed cakes & biscuits at breaktime

Each item will be 50p



EXTRA-CURRICULAR SPORTS CLUBS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Running Club Lunchtime: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gym Club (Max 30 spaces) After School: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Netball Girls Football 	After School: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basketball *Gym Club 		Before School: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basketball After School: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 11 Sports Studies Intervention Badminton 	Before School: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gym Club Lunchtime: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young Carers Multi-Sports Club

* The After School Gym Club on Tuesdays is postponed until after the Easter Holidays

As staff have felt empowered and confident to come forward with their own ideas new developments have flourished. A great example of this is the school play currently taking place which is the first for many years and has been a great opportunity for students and the school to showcase their talents to their school community and the wider community.



Excellence in Pupil Development Award

2023-2026