

DATES FOR THE DIARY

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

Year 11 AP1 Assessments

Monday 12th - Friday 23rd October 2026

Half Term

Monday 26th - Friday 30th October 2026

STUDENT VALUE OF THE TERM

BLACK LIVES MATTER

HOUSE POINTS - WEEK ENDING 18TH SEPTEMBER



21,714
SEACOLE



21,146
HAWKING



20,042
ALI



18,269
AUSTEN

A WARM WELCOME FROM ENHANCED PROVISIONS

Welcome back to a new Academic Year from the Enhanced Provisions team. A special welcome to all students and families joining The Upper Academy for the first time this year. Our team is here to help every student feel safe, supported and ready to learn. We work closely with families to help young people grow in confidence, overcome challenges and achieve their best. Together, we encourage every student to **Aspire, Believe and Achieve**.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US

Thank you to everyone who attended our recent Greet, Meet & Eat event on Thursday 17th September 2026. It was great to meet families and talk about:

- GCSE and Post-16 expectations
- Attendance and punctuality
- Exam dates and assessments
- Curriculum Overview
- Revision and wellbeing support
- Careers, work experience and future pathways



We appreciate your support and look forward to working together throughout the year.

LOOKING AHEAD

This term Enhance Provisions we will continue to provide personalised support through key workers, wellbeing sessions and regular reviews of progress. We will also keep families updated about:

- Progress and support plan meetings
- Wellbeing and enrichment activities
- Revision and exam preparation
- Targeted intervention support



To our students: we believe in you and are here to support you every step of the way. To our parents and carers: thank you for your continued support and partnership. We look forward to a successful year together.

J. Stoddart

Senior Student Development Leader & Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead for Enhanced Provision

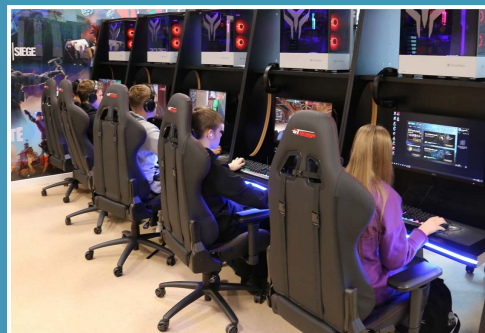
SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING – THURSDAY 1ST OCTOBER

The Basildon Academies Sixth Form Team wish to invite you to attend our Open Evening on Thursday 1st October 2026, at the Upper Academy. Doors open from 5pm until 7pm.

During the evening you'll have the opportunity to:

- Meet our passionate teaching staff, who will be showcasing their courses and will be available to answer your questions.
- Explore our fully equipped technology block, with live demonstrations in 3D printing, construction, and more.
- Visit open classrooms, including our E-Sports gaming room, photography dark room, and art exhibitions, alongside many other exciting courses.
- Discuss the application process in a relaxed setting, with staff on hand to guide you through every step.

We're excited to share our passion, belief, and commitment to student success with you. Whether you're a student considering your next steps or a parent supporting that journey, we look forward to welcoming you.



STUDENT VOICE: HELPING SHAPE OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Our students are at the heart of the decisions we make. Through regular Student Voice meetings, they challenge us, share ideas and tell us what is working well and what needs to improve. Importantly, these conversations do not stay in the meeting room. Through our They Said, We Did updates, students, staff and families can see how feedback has directly influenced change across our academies. We want every student to know that their voice matters and that they have the power to help shape their school community.

"I found the experience fun and engaging as it allowed me to share my opinions with senior members of the school and hopefully contribute to making positive changes. I also enjoyed supporting my peers' points with information I had collected myself." Harrison.S - Year 11

"I am very proud to be part of the Student Voice. It gives us the opportunity to raise concerns, provide feedback on school life and suggest ways that things could be improved. I think it is an excellent and effective panel. I feel privileged to be one of the voices representing other students, and I am happy that changes are made and that our voices are heard."

Sammiat.B - Year 11



SPACE (SUPPORT FOR PARENTS AND CARERS ESSEX)

SPACE is part of the Essex SEND Local Offer, providing support from trained Peer Educators with lived experience of raising a child with SEND. They offer parents/carers workshops, online learning opportunities, community events, and a chance to speak with someone who understands.

For more information please visit: [SPACE - Supporting Parents and Carers in Essex](#)



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.



FREE OCTOBER HALF TERM CLUBS WITH ESSEX ACTIVATE

[Essex ActivAte](#) half term programmes provide free, fun and engaging activities for eligible children and young people during the October half term break. From sports and crafts to outdoor adventures and more, there are plenty of opportunities to stay active, make friends and try something new, alongside receiving nutritious meals and snacks.

Spaces are limited and can be booked directly with local clubs when they go live, with no Holiday Activities voucher code or referral required.

To find a club near you, visit the [Find Your Active Activity Finder](#) on the Active Essex website. Simply select 'Programmes' to view the upcoming half term activities, enter your local area, and book directly with the club using the contact details provided.



BASILDON ACADEMIES SIXTH FORM

ESPORTS BTEC LEVEL 3

Do you enjoy gaming? Do you love the idea of competitive gaming and the challenge of difficult games? Would you like an understanding of how the professional Esports industry works? Perhaps you'd like a career as a professional gamer or to study Esports at university?

Endorsed by The British Esports Association, the Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Esports will give you a solid foundation in understanding how the Esports industry works.

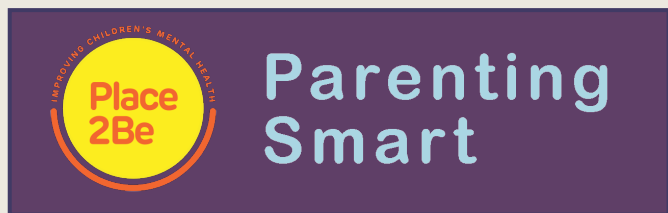
Full course information can be found by visiting the following link on our website: [Esports BTEC Level 3](#)



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, with 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

SUCCESSFUL MEET, GREET & EAT EVENINGS

Last week, we held consecutive Meet, Greet & Eat events at the Lower and Upper Academies, welcoming parents, carers and families to meet our teams and find out more about the support and opportunities available to their children.

The evenings gave families the opportunity to learn more about school life, including curriculum, expectations, revision, careers, work experience, Sixth Form and future opportunities. Many families also stayed afterwards to speak with staff, ask questions and discuss how we can support their children.



Feedback from families was overwhelmingly positive, with many commenting on how supportive, welcoming and informative they found the events.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us at our recent Meet, Greet & Eat events. It was a pleasure to welcome so many families and have the opportunity to meet and talk with you.

For those who would like to revisit the information shared during the events, or for those who were unable to attend, the presentations can be found here: [Greet, Meet and Eat Parent Presentation](#)

FREE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

FREE BOXING & KICKBOXING + MENTORING

Confidence. Fitness. New mates.

- 5 Elements Combat Academy, Basildon SS14 3JF
- Weekly, Thursdays 7–9pm, from 1 Oct 2026
- Ages 14–24 — all welcome
- 100% free — all equipment provided

SIGN UP FREE

contact@changingelements.co.uk | +44 7713 161164

Delivered by Changing Elements CIC — supported by

ESSEX SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICE

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/



ASPIRE - BELIEVE - ACHIEVE

SOLUNA – MENTAL WELLBEING SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Soluna by Kooth is a free, confidential mental wellbeing service for young people aged 10–25, providing support online and through the Soluna app.

Young people can access one-to-one support from qualified practitioners, self-guided tools and resources, and moderated peer-support spaces covering topics such as anxiety, friendships, sleep, identity and exam stress. No referral is needed and there is no waiting list.

Soluna is designed to complement the support already available through school and can be accessed whenever young people need some additional support.

Find out more about Soluna: <https://solunaapp.com/uk>



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	2½ 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: UNDERSTANDING THE RISKS OF SNAPCHAT

Social media platforms are a regular part of many young people's lives, and it is important that parents and carers are aware of the potential risks they may present. The Children's Society has published a helpful article highlighting some of the risks Snapchat can pose to children and young people, along with guidance to support safe and informed conversations at home.

For further information, please click here: <https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/what-we-do/blogs/the-risks-snapchat-poses-to-children>



Job of the Week: Anthropologist

What does an Anthropologist do?

Anthropologists research various aspects of human development from the past to the present.

Key Responsibilities:

- gathering and analysing artefacts, skeletal remains, and other historical sources to learn about ancient cultures
- teaching and mentoring undergraduate and graduate students in anthropology
- planning research projects
- writing and presenting research findings
- studying the economic, demographic, health care, social, political, linguistic, and religious institutions of distinct cultural groups, communities, and organization

Labour Market Information

- +41.4% 897,801 jobs
- +40.8% in your region of East of England, an increase of 89,463 jobs

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median:
£39,899

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

- You'll need a degree in Anthropology or a related field (at least a 2:1).
- You'll also need to have completed or be working towards a postgraduate master's or PhD in Anthropology, and have academic work published.
- Some Anthropology researchers begin by working as research assistants, for which you will need a master's degree in Anthropology or a related field.

BASILDON ACADEMIES WORD OF THE DAY

21st - 25th September 2026

Monday:	Linguistics (noun) Linguistik in Danish <i>Definition:</i> The scientific study of language and its structure. <i>Example:</i> European Day of Languages celebrates the diversity of linguistics across the continent.	
Tuesday:	Bilingualism (noun) Bilingqizëm in Albanian <i>Definition:</i> The ability to speak two languages fluently. <i>Example:</i> Bilingualism is highly valued and encouraged during European Day of Languages.	
Wednesday:	Dialect (noun) Dialektas in Lithuanian <i>Definition:</i> A particular form of a language which is peculiar to a specific region or social group. <i>Example:</i> The event highlighted the variety of dialects spoken across Europe.	
Thursday: <i>European Day of Languages</i>	Fluency (noun) Fluencyjność in Polish <i>Definition:</i> The ability to express oneself easily and articulately in a language. <i>Example:</i> Language classes are designed to help students achieve fluency in their target languages.	
Friday: <i>Macmillan Coffee Morning</i>	Polyglot (noun) Poliglotă in Romanian <i>Definition:</i> A person who knows and is able to use several languages. <i>Example:</i> The polyglot gave a speech in five different languages during the European Day of Languages.	



FOLLOW US



HEALTH & CARE ACADEMY APP



Thinking about a career in healthcare? Our app can help you get started.

Whether you're starting to explore healthcare careers or ready to gain hands-on experience, connect to opportunities across Essex and take your next step in health and care.

With the Health & Care Academy app, you can:

- ◉◉ **Work Experience Hub**

Real-world placements & Skills Lab training

- ◉◉ **Explore Careers**

Discover roles and career pathways

- ◉◉ **Practical Advice**

Get ready for work with expert guidance

- ◉◉ **Local Opportunities**

Events, placements, and experiences near you

- ◉◉ **Build Confidence**

Develop skills and hands-on experience

**Start shaping
your future -
Download the app today!**

SCAN ME



OR download 'HealthZone UK' and type in
'NHS Essex Health & Care Academy'



Be the future of
health and care
in Essex