

Dates for the Diary

Parent Drop In

Wednesday 8th July 2026 - 9.30am-10.30am

Health and Wellbeing Drop Down Day

Friday 10th July 2026

Last Day of Summer Term - Students finish at 12:30pm

Friday 17th July 2026

A Level Results Day

Thursday 13th August 2026

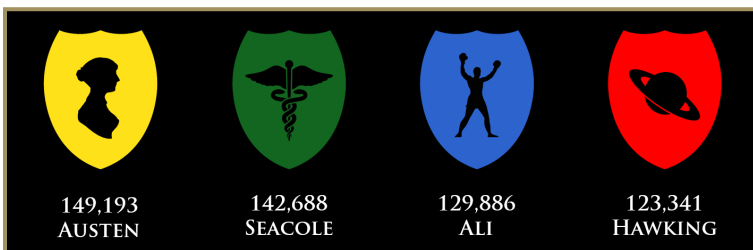
GCSE Results Day

Thursday 20th August 2026

Student Value of the Term



House Points - Week Ending 3rd July



A Message to Our Current Year 10 Students going into Year 11

As you move into Year 11, you are entering one of the most important stages of your school journey. The year ahead will bring challenges, opportunities, and many moments to be proud of. Remember that success is built through consistent effort, determination, and a positive attitude.



Use the summer break to rest, recharge, and spend time doing the things you enjoy, but also take opportunities to reflect on your goals and aspirations. Year 11 will move quickly, so be prepared to embrace every opportunity that comes your way.

We have every confidence that you will rise to the challenge and make the most of your final year at school. Believe in yourselves, work hard and remember that your teachers are here to support you every step of the way.

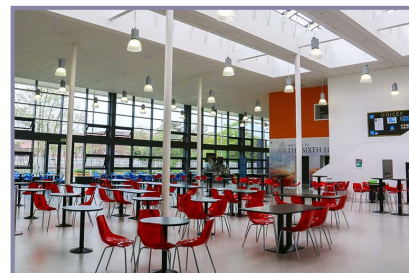
L. Hendy - KS4 EBacc Lead

Parent Drop In - Wednesday 8th July

Our next Parent Drop In will be on Wednesday 8th July 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.

Please note, if your matter is of a confidential nature, we kindly ask that you call the school to arrange a separate appointment, as parent drop-in sessions are not intended for one-to-one discussions.



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.

Upper English Department Message

As we approach the summer holidays, I want to take a moment to talk about something incredibly powerful: the joy and importance of reading.

Reading is not just a school task; it is a gateway to imagination, confidence, and success. Whether it is escaping into a gripping novel, unpicking a news article, or exploring new ideas in a biography or podcast, every word you engage with helps you become a sharper thinker, a stronger writer, and a more confident communicator.

This summer, we encourage every student, whether preparing for GCSEs or entering Sixth Form, to nurture a love of reading. Not because it is homework, but because it opens doors. The most successful students are those who read often, think critically, and enjoy discovering stories and voices beyond their own.



Year 11: What to Expect in September

In HT1, our returning Year 11s will focus on the World and Lives Poetry Anthology and non-fiction reading and writing, Language Paper 2. Expect engaging real-world texts and practice in persuasive and informative writing. These are skills that will not only serve you at GCSE, but in the wider world beyond.

Year 10: Enter An Inspector Calls

Our brand-new Year 10 students will begin the term with J. B. Priestley's powerful play An Inspector Calls, a gripping mystery with big ideas about social responsibility, class, and power. It is set in 1912 but feels just as relevant today. To get ahead, you might:

- Watch a stage or film adaptation over the summer.
- Read about Edwardian Britain and the idea of social class.
- Reflect on questions such as: What do we owe each other? Who is responsible for change?

Literacy Over the Summer – Without the Stress

We know summer should be a time to rest and recharge. Raising your literacy does not need to mean textbooks and essays. You could:

- Read one book from your favourite genre
- Listen to podcasts or audiobooks while walking or relaxing.
- Write a short review of a film, game, or show you enjoy. This is a great way to build analytical thinking.

These small habits make a big difference and will help keep your mind sharp for September.

Ready for September

We are incredibly proud of how hard our students work, and we are here to support you every step of the way. Whether you are preparing for your final GCSE year or just beginning your KS4 journey, this summer is your opportunity to grow your voice, sharpen your thinking, and discover the joy of words.

Wishing you a restful, inspired, and well-read summer.

Warm regards,

Miss S Harris - KS4 Head of English and KS4/5 Literacy Lead

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.

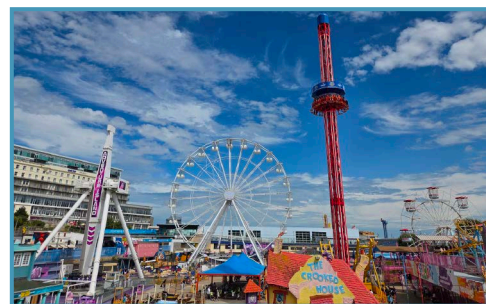


Sixth Form Students Celebrate Success with End-of-Year Celebration

It was fantastic to welcome back so many of our Year 13 students as we celebrated their hard work, dedication, and achievements throughout their time with us. We were also delighted to be joined by our top-attending Year 12 students, who were recognised for their excellent commitment.

To mark their successes, students enjoyed a well-deserved celebration at Adventure Island, with unlimited access to all rides and a food voucher for lunch. The day was a fantastic opportunity for students to relax, enjoy themselves, and celebrate everything they have accomplished.

Every student who attended should feel incredibly proud of their achievements, and we are thrilled to have been part of their journey. We look forward to welcoming them back on **A Level Results Day – Thursday 13th August**, where we can celebrate their next steps and future successes.



Students Enjoy Immersive Orchestra Experience at Saffron Hall

Year 10 and Year 11 students recently enjoyed a memorable visit to Saffron Hall, where they experienced an extraordinary performance by the renowned Aurora Orchestra.

Unlike a traditional concert, the orchestra performed amongst the audience, allowing students to sit just a few feet away from the musicians and see each instrument being played up close. This unique and immersive setting gave students a fascinating insight into the skill, teamwork and communication required to bring an orchestral performance to life.

The orchestra performed Mozart's Jupiter Symphony entirely from memory, creating an engaging and dynamic experience for everyone in attendance.

Throughout the performance, the conductor explained the role of each section of the orchestra, highlighting how every instrument contributes to the overall sound of the symphony. Our students enthusiastically took the opportunity to

The visit provided students with a deeper appreciation of classical music while bringing the performance to life in a way that was both educational and inspiring. It was a fantastic opportunity to experience live music in an innovative setting and to discover how every musician plays an essential role in creating a truly unforgettable performance.

"The music was amazing, and watching the conductor lead the orchestra was incredible. He guided the instruments through the loud and quiet sections and gave each one its chance to shine." Michael.I - Year 10

"I really enjoyed this trip. I loved all the instruments, and the music was fantastic. It was a very immersive experience, and I would 100% do it again." Kaci.C - Year 10

"I loved watching the orchestra. It was amazing to see every instrument shine in its own way. It was such an incredible experience." Gracie-Mae.M - Year 10



Student of the Week

Congratulations to the following student who has been awarded Student of the Week for week commencing 29th June 2026.

★ Year 10 - Ellie.A (R10H3)

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, please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Upper Academy website and select the option for Home Learning/Homework.

Student Portal

Within the Student Portal, you will find links to a range of resources and learning platforms that students can access to support their studies. The main page, which provides access to all key links, can be found here: [Student Portal](#)

Accessing the Student Portal also enables single sign-on, meaning students do not need any additional passwords for platforms such as SENECA. Students simply log in to the portal in the same way they would when logging in to a school computer.

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

Spotlight on: A Level Creative Media



Are you curious to know how films, TV shows or online videos streams are made? This course is designed to be a hands on course that enables you to have an insight into industry practices. You will develop and build skills in production and editing.

This is a challenging subject in which you will develop multidisciplinary practice. Students will incorporate technical skills in moving images, character environment, sound and graphics.

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

YOUNG CARERS CLUBS

TUESDAY

3-4PM

MS DUNWELL
G8

WEDNESDAY
ESPORTS

1-1.30PM

MR EDWARDS
A17



IF YOU BELIEVE YOU ARE A YOUNG CARER, PLEASE
SPEAK TO MS DUNWELL TO REGISTER.

Online Safety Hub: Is Your Teen Using Tech to Cover Their Tracks?

From the simple act of deleting browser history or minimising a window to more sophisticated techniques like decoy apps and VPNs, young people who want to keep their online activity hidden will continue to look for innovative ways. [Click here](#) to access information and support relating to teens using technology to cover their tracks online.

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](#)



Congratulations to Our Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award Achievers

A huge congratulations to three of our Year 11 students who have successfully achieved their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

This is a fantastic accomplishment that reflects their commitment, resilience and determination. Throughout the award, students challenged themselves by developing new skills, volunteering within the community, improving their physical fitness and completing an expedition, demonstrating excellent teamwork, perseverance and independence.

We are incredibly proud of their achievements and the dedication they have shown throughout the programme.

Congratulations to:

- Lilly.Y
- Angelina.A
- Mija.K



Year 10: Explore Your Future with Unifrog This Summer

As we approach the end of the academic year and look ahead to the summer holidays, now is the perfect time for Year 10 students to explore Unifrog and start thinking about their future options. Spending even a small amount of time on the platform over the coming weeks can help students develop a clearer understanding of possible career pathways, post-16 choices and the skills they may need for their next steps. The summer break provides an ideal opportunity to research opportunities, record achievements and gain valuable insights into the world of work.

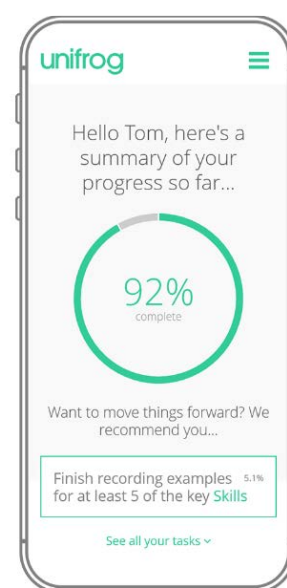
We encourage students to log in and complete some of the activities available on the platform, including:

- Exploring careers that match their interests and strengths.
- Researching post-16 options, including sixth form, college, apprenticeships and training routes.
- Building and updating their personal profile and career interests.
- Recording achievements, skills and experiences.
- Using the Courses tool to explore a range of Virtual Work Experience programmes.

Regular use of Unifrog can help students make informed decisions about their next steps and begin preparing for future applications. Just a small amount of time over the coming weeks can make a significant difference.

This is a [quick list of tasks](#) that your Year 10 students can start off with. They can also explore our [Virtual work experience courses](#) within the Courses tool.

Students can access Unifrog at any time using their school login details. We encourage parents and carers to take a look with their child and discuss the opportunities they discover.

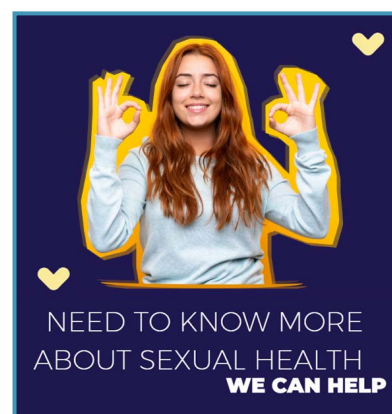


Supporting Personal Development and Wellbeing

As part of our Personal Development curriculum, the Academies use resources from the Essex Sexual Health Service to support students with age-appropriate information about growing up and development. Students are signposted to a trusted online hub where they can find reliable advice and answers to common questions:

Asking for a friend: <https://askingforafriend.org.uk/>

Parents and carers are also encouraged to visit the dedicated Parents and Carers section of the [Essex Sexual Health Service website](#). This provides up-to-date guidance for supporting young people, as well as advice on how to approach and discuss more challenging topics at home.



Absence Procedures

Please let us know as soon as possible if your child is unable to attend school, ideally by 8am, by email to upperattendance@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



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.

190

Days of education

184

Days of education

171

Days of education

162

Days of education

152

Days of education

143

Days of education

100%

0 days absent

97%

6 days absent

90%

19 days absent

85%

28 days absent

80%

38 days absent

75%

47 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.

BASILDON ACADEMIES

WORD OF THE DAY

6th - 10th July 2026

Monday:	Resoluteness (noun) <i>ukuzimisela</i> in Zulu – firm determination. <i>His resoluteness ensured the project's success.</i>	
Tuesday:	Metamorphosis (noun) <i>変態 (hentai)</i> in Japanese – a complete change of form or character. <i>The caterpillar's metamorphosis into a butterfly fascinated students.</i>	
Wednesday:	Noble (adjective) <i>mulia</i> in Malay – having fine moral principles. <i>His noble gesture earned admiration.</i>	
Thursday:	Diligence (noun) <i>勤勉 (kinben)</i> in Japanese – careful and persistent work. <i>Her diligence was rewarded with top marks.</i>	
Friday:	Majestic (adjective) <i>majestueux</i> in French – having impressive beauty or dignity. <i>The majestic castle towered above the valley.</i>	

Job of the Week: Historian

What does a Historian do?

Historians use various research methods to uncover the past.

Key Responsibilities:

- Trace historical development in a particular field, such as social, cultural, political, or diplomatic history.
- Conduct historical research, and publish or present findings and theories.
- Research and prepare manuscripts in support of public programming and the development of exhibits at historic sites, museums, libraries, and archives.
- Conserve and preserve manuscripts, records, and other artifacts.
- Collect detailed information on individuals for use in biographies.

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 bachelor's degree in History (usually a 2:1 or higher) and also have, or be working towards, a postgraduate degree in your area of research (master's and/or PhD).

Start building up a portfolio of published research early in your career, ideally with reputable academic journals.



Ofsted
Good
Provider

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.





Essex ACTIVate

FREE

holiday clubs, fun activities and food across Essex and Thurrock!

Essex ActivAte is the name for the exciting holiday activity and food clubs delivered by Active Essex! During school holidays, club providers across the county offer free clubs for eligible primary and secondary children, giving them the chance to get active, make friends, learn new skills, and support their wellbeing. The programme also offers:

- ✓ Specialist SEND, mental wellbeing and youth clubs
- ✓ Sports and games, arts and crafts, cooking and much more!
- ✓ Nutritious snacks and tasty meals
- ✓ Activities run by qualified, local club providers
- ✓ Family support, resources and guidance
- ✓ Discretionary paid and paid for spaces



www.activeessex.org 



@EssexActivAte

**Free places are for children eligible for income-related free school meals. Only book a space if your child will attend. Non-attendance means other children may miss out on this valuable holiday opportunity.*

SCAN ME



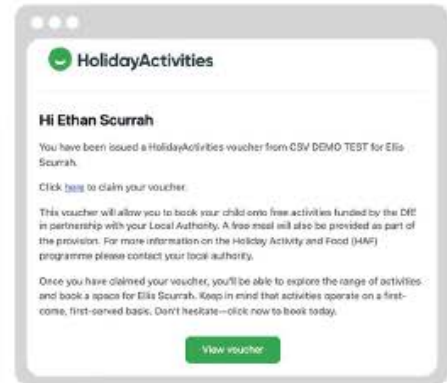
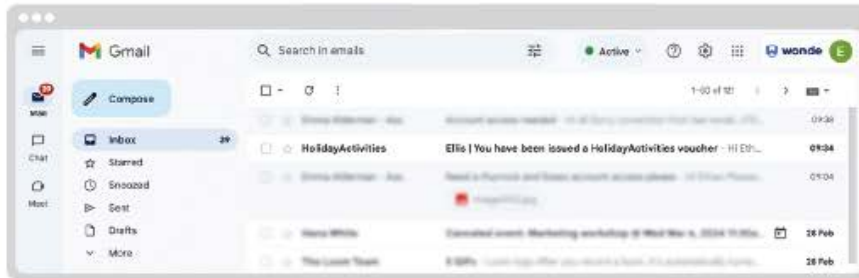


HolidayActivities

A guide on claiming your voucher and booking activities

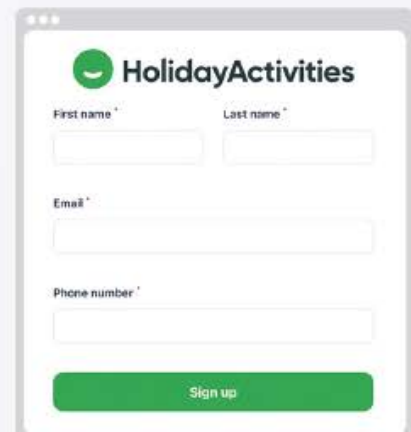
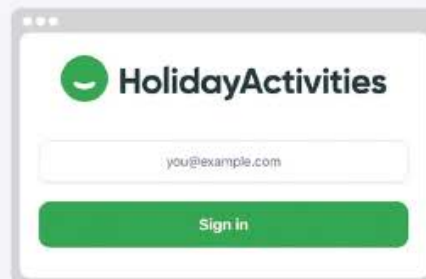
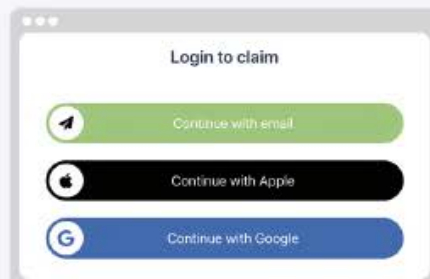
Step 1 – Open the email and click the green button

This voucher will come from hello@holidayactivities.com



Step 2 – Select *Continue with email* and log in/sign up

After selecting Continue with email, you will be asked to enter your email address. If you do not have an account, you will be asked to sign up



Step 3 – Making a booking

Clicking the green arrow on the voucher of your child will take you to a list of providers. From here, you can browse available activities and, once you find one suitable, you will be asked to complete a booking form.

