

Dates for the Diary

Year 11 Individual & Group Photos

Monday 9th March 2026

Year 10 & 12 Parents Evening

Thursday 12th March 2026 - 3.30pm-6.30pm

Easter Holidays

Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April 2026

Year 10 Work Experience

Monday 20th April - Friday 1st May 2026

Bank Holiday

Monday 4th May 2026

Student Value of the Term

**WOMEN'S RIGHTS
ARE HUMAN RIGHTS**

House Points - Week Ending 6th March



95,661
AUSTEN



93,373
SEACOLE



83,103
HAWKING



79,917
ALI

Leadership Message - Celebrating Progress and Preparing for the Next Steps

As we move further into the spring term, we are delighted to celebrate the achievements of our Year 11 and Year 13 students, who have now completed their mock examinations. This is a significant milestone in their academic journey, and we are incredibly proud of the maturity, determination, and resilience they have shown throughout the process.

The mock exams provide an invaluable opportunity for students to reflect on their progress and identify any gaps in their learning. We strongly encourage all students to use this feedback to refine their revision strategies as they prepare for the upcoming summer examinations. With continued focus and support, we are confident they will rise to the challenge.

Alongside their academic preparation, both year groups are already thinking carefully about their next steps. For many, this means planning their post-16 or post-18 pathways, and we are pleased to see sixth form applications coming in rapidly. A reminder that the deadline for sixth form applications is **Friday, 27th March**. Students have begun receiving invitations for interviews and are taking the first steps toward shaping their future pathways.



To further support our Year 13 cohort, all students on the Advanced Pathway have now been issued a dedicated intervention timetable. These targeted sessions, combined with access to bespoke online learning platforms, are designed to give students every advantage as they approach their final examinations.

We remain exceptionally proud of all our students and wish them the very best as they continue their hard work in the lead up to the summer exams. Their commitment and aspiration reflect the very best of our school community.

K.McCarthy - Assistant Headteacher Key Stage 5

Important Reminder: Working Together to Keep Our School Neighbourhood Safe

In recent weeks, we have received communication from residents raising concerns about obstructions caused to properties at the start and end of the school day.

We appreciate we continue to ask you not to use the school carpark for drop off and collection of students however, we must ask that you remain respectful to our neighbours and not cause any obstruction to their properties or private driveways. The medical centre opposite should also not be used for the purpose of dropping off or collecting your child.

Please also be reminded that the yellow zigzag lines immediately in front of the school indicate that parking or stopping is strictly prohibited to maintain safety to all road users, including children crossing the road. Thank you for your continued support.

Parent Drop In - Friday 13th March

This week's Parent Drop In will be on Friday 13th March between 1.30pm and 2.30pm.

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.



Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded Student of the Week for week commencing 2nd March 2026.

★ Year 10 - Ryan.B (R10EPAM)

★ Year 11 - Sydney.S (R11U1)

Spotlight on: BTEC Level 3 Esports



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.

Equivalent to one A Level, and as part of our Esports pathway, this qualification can only be studied alongside two other qualifications worth 1.5 A Levels each, such IT or Computing.

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

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 Home Learning/Homework.

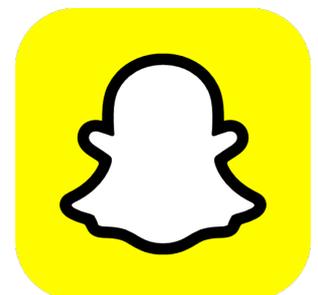
Aspire - Believe - Achieve

Online Safety Hub: Staying Safe on Snapchat

Snapchat is a popular social media platform that allows users to send disappearing photos and videos, known as 'snaps', to friends. The platform offers creative tools, including filters, lenses and augmented reality features to alter appearances. Users can share their daily lives through Stories, which disappear after 24 hours, and connect with friends through instant messaging, voice and video calls. [Click here](#) to access information and support relating to Snapchat.

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](#)



Upper Academy Celebrates Diversity at Cultural Fair

On Tuesday 3rd March the Upper Academy hosted the Annual Cultural Fair, an event designed to celebrate and explore the wide range of cultures we have here at the Academies. The event included over 25 stalls created by students in their tutor groups that explored the different cultures traditions, history, background and even cuisine! The stalls were all incredibly

The afternoon was also full of performances. We had a Hip Hop fusion dance performance who worked with Society Dance to choreograph and learn the routine that morning to then perform in the afternoon. We had performances from Year 10's Brazilian Samba Band, BTEC Singing Groups, Year 10 Performing Arts and Year 10 and 11 solo performances.

The atmosphere throughout the day was vibrant and inspiring, with students across all year groups showing enthusiasm, creativity and pride in the cultures they represented. A huge well done to all tutor groups who took part and to every student who performed during the afternoon showcase. Events like this highlight the strength of our school community and the value of celebrating the diversity that makes our Academies so special.

"The Cultural Fair was really fun and a great opportunity to learn about cultures from countries all around the world. It helped us to understand the history and traditions of places we didn't know much about before. The singers and dancers made the atmosphere really enjoyable." Boglarka.B – Year 11

"I really enjoyed the Cultural Fair because it was fun and gave us an insight into how different countries celebrate their culture." Rebecca.B – Year 11

"The fair was fantastic and gave us the chance to reflect on the diverse community within our school. I enjoyed the dancing, singing and visiting the stalls. Many students shared creative ideas, and some even brought in food from their own cultures." Kamel.B – Year 11

"The Cultural Fair was brilliant. There was music, dance, food and games, and the rooms were filled with a buzzing energy. We gave out free food at our stall, which was really fun, and we enjoyed visiting the other stalls too. I'm very proud of the effort everyone put in – it was an amazing experience." Jenna.M – Year 10



Year 11 Students Mark International Women's Day

To mark International Women's Day (IWD), Year 11 students took part in a range of activities designed to celebrate the achievements of women and recognise the progress made towards gender equality around the world. Students researched influential women from a variety of career fields, exploring how their work and determination have contributed to social change, equality, and the advancement of women's rights.

International Women's Day is celebrated globally as an opportunity to reflect on the progress that has been made, while also recognising the work that still needs to be done to achieve full gender equality.

As part of the activities at the Upper Academies, students were challenged to find inspirational quotes connected to IWD and research key female figures who have made a significant impact worldwide. They then used their findings to create colourful collages that highlighted these inspiring women and their powerful messages.

Some of the quotes students explored included:

- "I raise up my voice—not so that I can shout, but so that those without a voice can be heard." – Malala Yousafzai
- "There is no limit to what we, as women, can accomplish." – Michelle Obama
- "Well-behaved women seldom make history." – Laurel Thatcher Ulrich
- "A woman is like a tea bag—you never know how strong she is until she gets in hot water." – Eleanor Roosevelt

The activity encouraged students to reflect on the importance of equality, resilience, and empowerment, while celebrating the achievements of women who have helped shape a more equal world. The finished collages were proudly displayed across the academy, highlighting the creativity and thoughtful research completed by our Year 11 students.



The Essex SEND Local Offer Roadshows for all Schools

We're pleased to share that the Essex SEND Local Offer Roadshows are back, providing a friendly drop in space for parents and carers to learn more about SEND support.

- Tuesday 17th March - 9.30am to 12.30pm - Wat Tyler, Pitsea Hall Lane, Pitsea, Basildon, SS16 4UH

The roadshows are for parents/carers of children with SEND aged 0-25. No booking needed, just drop in. For further information about what to expect from a roadshow and who will be there visit the [Local Offer Website](#)

Year 10 Explore Digital Careers During Skills Showcase

As part of National Careers Week, Year 10 students took part in an engaging Digital Skills Showcase, welcoming guest speakers from local organisations and businesses.

The event, commissioned by Basildon Borough Council, focused on employability within the digital sector. Students heard from George and Amanda from The Consortium, representatives from NatWest, and Councillor Jessica Power alongside Careers Advisor George Miranda.

The session explored digital career pathways, interview preparation and professional communication. Students received practical advice on preparing for online interviews, writing professional emails and confidently presenting the best version of themselves. They were also encouraged to reflect on their own unique skills — from coding and website design to content creation and social media — and to understand the value of both soft and hard skills in the workplace.

A particularly impactful session from NatWest focused on online safety, highlighting how to spot scams, understand digital footprints and stay safe online. Real-life examples helped students recognise warning signs such as money mule schemes, cryptocurrency scams and online “catfishing”.

The showcase was highly interactive, with students asking thoughtful questions and engaging in discussion throughout. Overall, the event helped to unlock potential, build confidence and inspire students to explore future careers in the growing digital sector.

“The digital workshop covered online safety, scams and the skills we need to stand out during a job interview. The interview tips really helped me understand what I should be prepared with and how to present myself confidently.” Janna.M

“The workshop taught us how to avoid scams and how to prepare properly for future job interviews. We learned useful tips about what employers look for and how to improve our chances of getting a job.” Ali.R

“They gave real examples of people who have been scammed online and lost a lot of money. We learned that text messages might not always be from who you think they are, and how scammers try to get bank details.” Michael.I



EXTRA-CURRICULAR SPORTS TIMETABLE

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School 7.30am-8.15am		Track Throws High Jump		Throws High Jump	
Break Time 11.00am-11.30am			High Jump	Hurdles	Throws
Lunch Time 1.00pm-1.30pm	GCSE Table Tennis High Jump	GCSE Badminton Fitness Suite	Strength & Conditioning Gymnasium	Athletics	Track
After School		Year 11 GCSE PE Intervention Long Jump - @Lower Academy 3.30pm-4.15pm	Track Throws High Jump	Year 11 GCSE PE Intervention	Open Session 3pm – 4pm

BASILDON ACADEMIES WORD OF THE DAY

9th - 13th March 2026

Monday:	Catalyst (noun) catalisador in Portuguese – something that causes change. <i>The teacher's praise was a catalyst for renewed effort.</i>	
Tuesday:	Zealous (adjective) ਜੇਜੀਲੇ in Punjabi – showing great energy in pursuit of a cause. <i>The zealous campaigner worked tirelessly for climate action</i>	
Wednesday:	Sagacity (noun) sagacitatea in Romanian – keen judgement and wisdom. <i>Her sagacity made her an influential voice in the council.</i>	
Thursday:	Ambidextrous (adjective) амбидекстр in Russian – able to use both hands equally well. <i>The ambidextrous artist painted with both hands at once.</i>	
Friday:	Benevolence (noun) agalelei in Samoan – the quality of being kind and generous. <i>The benevolence of donors raised millions for charity.</i>	

Job of the Week: Politician

What does a Politician do?

A politician participates in government policy-making, often holding an elected position.

Day-to-day responsibilities include:

- Vote on new laws and policies
- Raise constituents' concerns with relevant ministers
- Debate issues and raise questions
- Talk to businesses and schools about local, national and international issues
- Speak to the media
- Hold surgeries and advice sessions in the constituency

Labour Market Information

-1% 25,076 jobs

+1.1% in your region of East of England, an increase of 2,863 jobs

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

- To be at least 18 years old
- To be a citizen and a resident of the country you want to represent
- To be able to speak the national language of the country you want to represent
- To be a member of a political party

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median: £46,636



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





School Nurse Drop-in

**Basildon Upper Academy Drop-in:
Monday Breaks & Lunchtimes Medical Room**

Awkward Topics...

Sexual Health & Sex Relationships
Drugs & Alcohol
Smoking
Sexuality

Confidentiality

You can talk to me in confidence at drop-in about things you're worried about, but maybe don't want to talk about with other adults

Support with

- **Emotional & Physical health**
- **Exam Stress**
- **Friendship issues**



Just Drop-in at break or lunchtime



School nurse door is open at break and lunchtimes for pupils to drop in

School Nurse Info...

Lauren Collins

NMC Registered Nurse

Safeguarding Support

Allan Ersser

Child and Young Person Practitioner



CREATE MEMORIES

AT EASTER

Join us at 5 Elements during the Easter Holidays where every activity is designed to make this holiday unforgettable.

FREE



Boxing



Kickboxing



Mentoring



Sports Based Games



Essex County Council



<https://portal.nestmanagement.co.uk/event/Index>