

Dates for the Diary

Armistice Day

Tuesday 11th November 2025

Year 11 AP1 Assessments

Monday 17th November - Friday 5th December 2025

Year 13 AP1 Assessments

Monday 17th - Friday 28th November 2025

Last Day of Autumn Term

Friday 19th December 2025

First Day of Spring Term

Tuesday 6th January 2026

Student Value of the Term

**NO HUMAN
IS ILLEGAL**

House Points - Week Ending 24th October



33,488
SEACOLE



33,231
AUSTEN



26,513
HAWKING



23,054
ALI

Leadership Message

Welcome back, I hope that you all had a good half term break. This half term will see the Year 11 and 13 students sitting their mock examinations, starting the week beginning 17th November. These pre-public examinations are important to give the students, and us, an understanding of their progress from the end of last academic year, as well as identifying which gaps still need to be closed before the public exams in the summer. Students will also be using these results to support them with the next stage of their journey, the Year 11 students for sixth form and college applications and Year 13 for UCAS, apprenticeships or work applications.

To support students with their upcoming exams, there are a number of strategies that we have put in place:

Revision guides - These are available to purchase through ParentPay for all year groups in a variety of subjects for GCSE and A Level; an example of each is on display in reception for students or parents/carers to look through.

Seneca - This is our online homework platform for all KS4 subjects, allowing both teacher-led and independent revision.

After-school revision support - Sessions run Tuesday – Thursday, from 3pm to 3.30pm. A list of all subject clubs and revision groups is available on our website here. www.basildonupperacademy.org.uk/out-of-hours-learning

Breakfast Revision – Every morning during the exam period, starting at 7.45am.



A copy of both the Year 11 and 13 Mock Examinations timetables can be found in this newsletter.

Thank you for all your support during this important time for our students.

S. Bellenie
Assistant Headteacher
Raising Standards 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 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.

Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded Student of the Week for week commencing 20th October 2025.

★ Year 10 - Adebola.B (R10S2)

★ Year 11 - Sydney.S (R10S2)

★ Sixth Form - Amy.W (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 Home Learning/Homework.

Spotlight on: A Level English Literature



An historicist approach to the study of literature rests upon reading texts within a shared context. Working from the belief that no text exists in isolation but is the product of the time in which it was produced, English Literature encourages students to explore the relationships that exist between texts and the contexts within which they are written, received and understood.

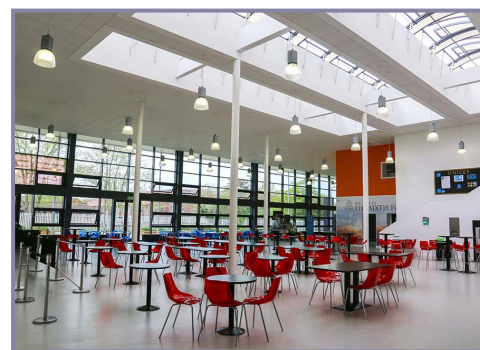
Studying texts within a shared context enables students to investigate and connect them, drawing out patterns of similarity and difference using a variety of reading strategies and perspectives. Encouraging students to debate and challenge the interpretations of other readers they develop their own informed personal responses.

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

Parent Drop In - Tuesday 4th November

This week's Parent Drop In will be on Tuesday 4th November 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.



Online Safety Advice: Understanding Steam

Steam is a popular gaming platform where users can play, create, and interact with others online. While it offers a wide range of games and social features, it's important for parents to be aware of the platform's settings and safety tools to help protect their child's online experience.

For more information on managing privacy settings, in-app purchases, and communication features on Steam, visit:

<https://basildonacademies.onlinesafetyhub.uk/parent/reviews/steam>

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 Bring Creativity to Life at the Royal Opera House Workshops

Our Year 11 Performing Arts students stepped into the magical world of theatre during their recent visit to the Royal Opera House workshops in Purfleet.

The day began with an exciting costume design workshop, where students explored how costume designers use colour, texture and symbolism to bring characters to life. Looking at productions such as *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *Alice in Wonderland*, they discovered how every fabric choice and design detail helps tell a story on stage.

Students then had the chance to unleash their creativity, designing their own costumes for a character of their choice. Using croquis templates, fabrics, and a variety of materials, they sketched, coloured, and annotated their ideas — just like professional costume designers do!

The adventure continued with a behind-the-scenes tour of the Royal Opera House's incredible workshop spaces, where sets are designed and built for world-class productions in Covent Garden. Students were amazed to see the scale of the workshops and to learn about the sustainable practices used to recycle and repurpose set pieces for future performances.

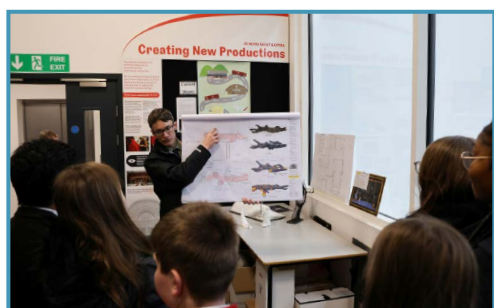
"I discovered what really happens behind the scenes of a theatre production. A huge amount of hard work goes into the costumes and set designs. Experiencing the thought process of costume designers by creating my own costume was my favourite part of the trip, as well as exploring the sets with my friends." Rigel.D

"I really enjoyed touring the production workshop. It showed how much work goes into each show and helped me realise how many different jobs exist within a working theatre. It was so organised, and I've learned that there are even apprenticeships available in this field." Elizabeth.H

"I liked the costume design activity and seeing how the stage areas were decorated. The people there were really nice." Anthonia.J

"My favourite part was looking at all the costumes and seeing how many were actually stored there. I also enjoyed creating a mini costume design and displaying it on a mannequin." Hannah.A

"I really enjoyed learning about the history behind the props, drawings, costumes, and sets. I found it all fascinating and would love to visit again." Evie-May.S



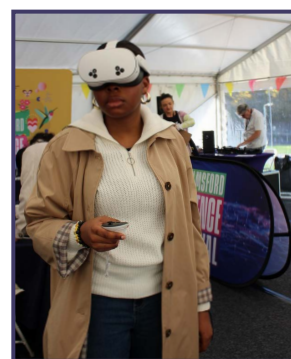
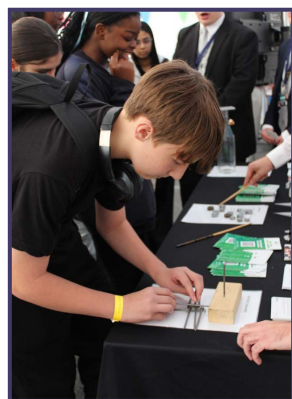
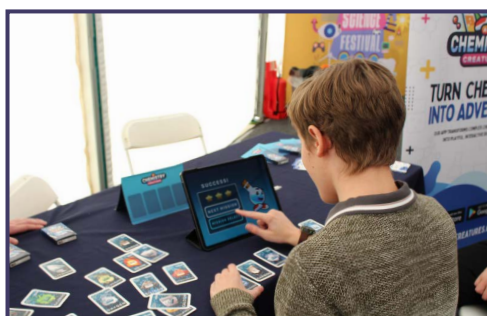
Year 10 Scientists Explore the Future at Anglia Ruskin University Science Festival

Year 10 Triple Science students recently enjoyed an inspiring trip to the Anglia Ruskin University Science Festival at the Chelmsford Campus.

The visit began with an engaging and interactive session titled AI vs Humanity, where students explored the differences between music created by humans and by artificial intelligence. The lecturers brought the topic to life using drum sets, guitars, and keyboards, with one of our students even volunteering to perform on the keyboard!

Throughout the day, students took part in a range of sessions covering fascinating topics such as animal behaviour and the use of technology in rehabilitation. They also explored a variety of stalls and stands offering valuable information about future career pathways, university courses, and apprenticeships. Many students left with useful resources to help guide their future studies and aspirations in science and technology.

A highlight of the day was the immersive mobile planetarium experience, where students took a virtual journey through the solar system. The trip concluded with a Q&A session led by an ARU ambassador, who provided insightful advice about university life and the transition into higher education.



"I may now venture into engineering after speaking to the careers stalls that were available, they gave me lots of information on future careers that I hadn't previously considered!" Joy.A

"It was really interesting to learn about other people's professions, especially ones I didn't know about. I've been thinking about a career in neuroscience, but speaking to the police force today was very interesting and I might consider that as a career." Elizabeth.A

"It gave me an idea about what university life would be like in the future and more ideas on courses that I want to take." Anna.R

"The event was really fun and the ambassadors were really friendly. They gave advice on my upcoming work experience and websites on careers." Sammiat.B

"It gave me more insight into what I would like to do in the future, it made me feel more confident about going to university." Olivia.H

Creative Writing Competition Winners Announced

We are delighted to announce the winners of our Autumn Creative Writing Competition!

Last term, students were challenged to craft stories that captured the eerie atmosphere and creative flair of the Halloween season. The response was phenomenal, we received an abundance of imaginative, moving, and spine-tingling entries, making the judging process both exciting and incredibly difficult for Mr Kirk and me.

Overall KS4 Winner:

Holly-Marie.E: "What is Death?"

An outstanding and thought-provoking story that showcased exceptional writing craft and emotional depth.

Year 11 Winner:

Timi.N: "The Portrait of Silence: Frame by Frame."

A beautifully written and sophisticated piece, with vocabulary and style that truly impressed the judges.

Year 10 Winner:

Megan.L: An engaging and creative story that demonstrated a strong sense of atmosphere and originality.

Joint 2nd Place (Year 11):

Lucy.P, Richard.K and Evie-May.S

2nd Place (Year 10):

Lolita.L

Outstanding Effort Awards:

Luke.R, Evie.W, Malakai.S, and Kamel.B

A huge congratulations to all of our winners and, of course, to every student who entered. The quality and creativity of the submissions this year were truly remarkable, and we're so proud of the effort, imagination, and dedication shown across all entries.

Miss S.Harris - Key Stage 4 English Leader & Literacy Leader



Senior Girls Basketball Team End Term on a High with Strong District Cup Performance

On the final day of last term, our Senior Girls Basketball team demonstrated outstanding teamwork, determination, and progress as they took to the court in the District Cup Quarter Final against James Hornsby.

Despite missing out on a win, the girls delivered a spirited performance that reflected just how much they have developed over the term. Their positive attitude and resilience have set the tone for what promises to be an exciting next half term, with a busy schedule of District League and Essex Cup fixtures already lined up.

Well done to all the players for their fantastic effort and commitment throughout the season!



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



Update to Catering Menu

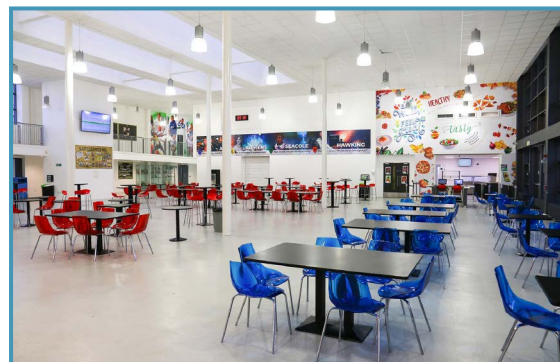
From **Monday 3rd November 2025**, there will be a few updates to our catering options. **At lunchtime**, students can now choose from **four dessert options**:

- Dessert of the Day (changes daily as shown on the menu)
- Jelly Pot
- Fruit Pot
- Yoghurt

At breaktime (and only at breaktime), students can purchase items such as:

- Crisps
- Popcorn
- Brownies, flapjacks, and other baked cakes

To view all current menus, please [click here](#).



Royal Navy Officers Inspire Year 10 Students

Year 10 students recently welcomed Royal Navy Officers Andy Redgate and Mo Osman, who delivered an engaging assembly about the vital role the Navy plays in protecting the UK both at home and abroad.

Students learned about the wide range of operations the Navy undertake, from safeguarding trade routes and cargo ships to maintaining security below the sea by protecting important underwater infrastructure.

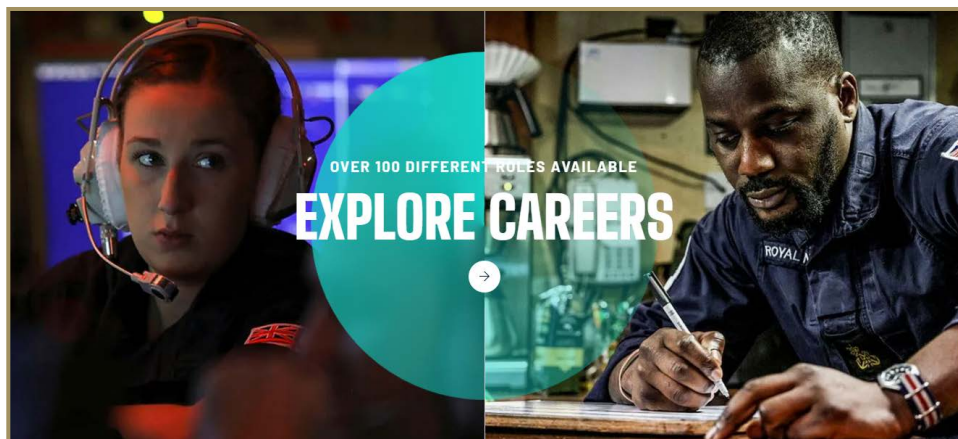
The officers also spoke about the career and apprenticeship opportunities available within the Navy, including roles in engineering, photography, and food technology. They highlighted the Navy's commitment to being an equal opportunities employer, encouraging applications from people of all backgrounds and noting that there is still a drive to increase female representation within the force.

Following the assembly, students took part in skills sessions during their PE lessons, where they completed ice-breaker challenges and team-building activities designed to test communication, problem-solving, and reaction skills.

"I enjoyed the ice breakers and testing our situational skills. They were challenging but really fun. I learned a lot about the Royal Navy and might even consider joining one day." Lillie.S

"We did several ice breaker games that tested our reactions and teamwork. It was enjoyable and gave us the chance to ask questions about life in the Navy." Liam.B

"The visit gave us a real insight into life in the Navy. The activities were challenging and showed us what cadets might experience. The assembly helped us understand the many opportunities available through the Royal Navy." Adebola.B








For more information about careers and opportunities in the Royal Navy, please visit:

<https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/careers/find-a-role>

BASILDON ACADEMIES

WORD OF THE DAY

3rd - 7th November 2025

Monday:	Innovative (adjective) innovative in Albanian – introducing new ideas; original and creative in thinking. <i>The innovative solution impressed the whole science department.</i>	
Tuesday:	Ineffable (adjective) hana jeuet tapeugah in Acehnese – too great or extreme to be expressed in words. <i>The ineffable beauty of the night sky left her speechless.</i>	
Wednesday:	Incendiary (adjective) आग लगानेवाला in Hindi – designed to cause fires or provoke strong feelings. <i>The incendiary fireworks lit up the November sky.</i>	
Thursday:	Trepidation (noun) felindulás in Hungarian – a feeling of fear about something that may happen. <i>With trepidation, she walked into the exam hall.</i>	
Friday:	Pristine (adjective) óspilltur in Icelandic – in its original condition; unspoilt. <i>The pristine snow blanketed the field in silence.</i>	

Job of the Week: Car designer

What does a Car designer do?

You'll work in one of the following areas of car manufacturing:

design – turning ideas into blueprints for development and testing, taking into account safety, cost-effectiveness, environmental impact and look

development – building and testing prototypes using computer simulations and physical models to assess components' strengths, weaknesses, performance and safety

production – planning the production run, including redesigning car machine tools, equipment and processes to make new parts, monitoring costs and production schedules, and overseeing quality control

Labour Market Information

- UK jobs: 383,043
- Essex jobs: 8,415
- Growth: +41.4% 897,801 jobs

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

You will usually need a qualification like an HNC, HND, foundation degree or degree, before starting a 1 to 2 year company training scheme.
Relevant subjects include:

Mechanical Engineering
Electrical or Electronic Engineering
Design Engineering
Manufacturing Engineering
Automotive Engineering

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median:
£46,761



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





GUY FAWKES NIGHT



To celebrate Guy Fawkes Night, the Dining Hall will be serving fireworks-themed treats for 50p each at break & lunchtime on Wednesday 5th November!



**TO COMMEMORATE ARMISTICE DAY
THE DINING HALL WILL BE SELLING A SELECTION
OF CAKES & BISCUITS FOR 50P EACH
ON TUESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER**



ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



Lest We Forget

The range of opportunities for parents to be involved and/or get involved is constantly growing and at all levels the school are actively seeking to develop the opportunities they provide for families to be involved in the life of the school.



Leading Parent
Partnership Award

2023-2026

Year 11 AP1, commencing 17th November 2025

AM (9.00am start)

PM (1:30pm start)

Monday 17 th November	English Lang P1	1 hr 45		Biology P1	1 hr 15
Tuesday 18 th November	Geography P1	1 hr		Maths P1	1 hr 30
	History P1	2 hrs			
Wednesday 19 th November	English Literature 1	1 hr 45		Chemistry P1	1 hr 15
Thursday 20 th November	GCSE Business / Enterprise P1	1 hr 45		Maths P2	1 hr 30
	Catering	1 hr 20			
	Music Listening	1 hr 20			
	Engineering Unit 3	1 hr 30			
Friday 21 st November	English Language P2	1 hr 45		French Writing	F: 1 hr 10 H: 1 hr 15

Monday 24 th November	Geography P2	1 hr 30		Physics P1	1 Hr 15
	History P2	2 hrs			
Tuesday 25 th November	Statistics P1	1 hr 45		Biology P2	1 hr 15
Wednesday 26 ^h November	English Literature 2	2 hr 15		Chemistry P2	1 hr 15
Thursday 27 th November	ICT	1 hr 20		Maths P3	1 hr 30
	GCSE PE	1 hr 15			
	GCSE Business / Enterprise P2	1 hr 45			
	Psychology P1	1 hr 30			
Friday 28 th November	French Reading / Listening	F: 1 hr 30 H: 1 hr 50		Physics P2	1 hr 15

Monday 1 st December	Practical Exams		Practical Exams
Tuesday 2 nd December	Practical Exams		Practical Exams
Wednesday 3 rd December	Practical Exams		Practical Exams
Thursday 4 th December	Practical Exams		Practical Exams
Friday 5 th December	Practical Exams		Practical Exams

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Leading Parent
Partnership Award

2023-2026

Year 13 AP1, commencing 17th November 2025

AM (9.00am start)

PM (1:30pm start)

Monday 17 th November	Physics P1	2 hr		Engineering P1	1 hr 30
	Accounting P1	3 hr			
Tuesday 18 th November	Criminology Controlled Assessment	4 hr			
	Chemistry P1	2 hr			
	English Literature P1	3 hr			
	Geography P1	2 hr 30			
Wednesday 19 th November	Maths P1	2 hr		Psychology P1	2 hr
	Business Unit 3	2 hr			
Thursday 20 th November	IT Unit 1	2 hr		Maths P2	2 hr
	Biology P1	2 hr			
	Sociology P1	2 hr			
Friday 21 st November	Computing Unit 1	2 hr			

Monday 24 th November	Physics P3	2 hr		Engineering P2	1 hr 45
	Accounting P2	3 hr			
	Practical Exams				
Tuesday 25 th November	Chemistry P3	2 hr			
	English Literature P2	2 hr			
	Geography P2	2 hr 30			
	Practical Exams				
Wednesday 26 ^h November	Maths – Statistics	2 hr		Psychology P2	2 hr
	Practical Exams				
Thursday 27 th November	Biology P3	2 hr			
	Sociology P2	1 hr			
	Practical Exams				
Friday 28 th November	Practical Exams				

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.



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**

Do you enjoy learning about renewable energy resources?

You could be a/an...

an energy resource that won't run out

Solar design engineer



James uses cutting-edge technology to design solar panel systems on buildings, maximising the amount of electricity converted from sunlight.

Career route Degree, apprenticeship, on the job training

Salary range £30,000- £50,000

Top essential skill



Ecologist



Jen researches the effects of new renewable energy installations on the plants and animals living in the area.

Career route Degree

Salary range £18,000- £45,000

Top essential skill



Wind turbine technician



Nikil installs, tests and maintains wind turbines on land and at sea. He ensures they are safe and generating as much electricity as possible.

Career route On the job training, apprenticeship, college course or degree

Salary range £23,000- £42,000

Top essential skill



Helicopter pilot



Bekka transports equipment and people to wind farms and carries solar panels for installation in hard-to-reach locations.

Career route Pilot course and medical fitness test

Salary range £25,000- £45,000

Top essential skill



Did you know?

By 2029, solar energy is expected to become the largest renewable power source globally.

The **green job** market is increasing every year, with over 270,000 jobs advertised in the UK alone, in 2024.

a job that protects or restores the environment

Which renewable energy sector would you like to work in?

For more about essential skills see skillsbuilder.org

www.energisingfutures.co.uk



EXTRA-CURRICULAR SPORTS CLUBS

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School 7.30am-8.20am *Gates open and close at 7.30am sharp. Please manage your timekeeping accordingly.	Year 10 & 11 Boys Basketball Year 10 & 11 Girls Football Year 10-13 Boys/Girls Fitness Suite	Year 10 & 11 Boys/Girls Cross Country	Year 10-13 Boys/Girls Fitness Suite	Year 10 & 11 Boys/Girls Cross Country Year 10 & 11 Girls Netball Year 10 & 11 Boys Rugby Year 10 & 11 Girls Dance	Year 10 & 11 Boys Football Year 10 & 11 Girls Basketball
Break Time 11.00am-11.30am		Year 10 & 11 Girls Basketball/Open Gym	Year 10 & 11 Boys Basketball/Open Gym		
Lunch Time 1.00pm-1.30pm	SA Programme Seminar *Admission via application	Year 10 & 11 Girls Fitness Suite	SA Programme *Admission via application		Year 10 & 11 Boys/Girls Badminton Year 10 & 11 Boys Fitness Suite
After School *Fixtures & House Sports Season times will vary	Fixtures	Fixtures	Fixtures	Fixtures	House Sports Season

