

Dates for the Diary

Year 11 AP2 Assessments

Monday 23rd - Monday 2nd March 2026

Year 13 AP2 Assessments

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th February 2026

National Careers Week

Monday 2nd - Saturday 7th March 2026

Year 11 Individual & Group Photos

Monday 9th March 2026

Year 10 & 12 Parents Evening

Thursday 12th March 2026 - 3.30pm-6.30pm

Student Value of the Term

**WOMEN'S RIGHTS
ARE HUMAN RIGHTS**

House Points - Week Ending 13th January



86,241
AUSTEN



85,038
SEACOLE



75,995
HAWKING



71,777
ALI

Leadership Message - Supporting Year 11 and 13 as They Prepare for Summer Exams

Year 11 and 13 complete their final round of practice exams this week, in preparation for the Public Exams in the summer term.

These mocks can have a significant positive impact on the summer results, as they provide us with the information we need to best support our students in the months ahead. They can also be a great confidence boost for the students, as they see how much progress they have made this year.

You can support your child at this time by ensuring they get plenty of sleep, they come to school every day, and that they maintain a balance between revising and relaxing. It is also important that they establish routines and habits ready for the summer exams to reduce anxiety at that time, so please remind them of the following:

1. Breakfast revision starts at 7.45am each exam morning, where teachers are available to support students.
2. Phones are not allowed in exam venues.
3. Students arriving after an exam starts may not be permitted to enter the venue.
4. Students that miss an exam will not be able to take it at a later date and may receive a U grade for that paper.

I will end with a reminder that we run a Revision and Intervention Programme after school every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, if your child needs additional help. [Click here](#) to view the Revision and Intervention Programme Timetables.

Should you have any questions or concern, please contact me directly or bring them to our attention at a parent drop-in.

S.Bellenie - Assistant Headteacher & Raising Standards Lead

Parent Drop In - Thursday 26th February

This week's Parent Drop In will be on Thursday 26th February between 2pm and 3pm.

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 9th February 2026.

★ Year 10 - Erika.B (R10X2)

★ Year 11 - May.G (R11E1)

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 History



History A Level gives an opportunity to learn about the world we are a part of and how its political, social, religious and economic structures were created. It will enable students to learn about the significance of various events, people, issues and societies in the Modern World.

It develops the knowledge and awareness of the types of provision in the Health, Social Care and Children's and Young People's sectors. It includes the roles played by workers, from principles and values through to health and safety and working with others. The content is also aligned with the knowledge and skills required for the Adult Care Worker and Healthcare Support Worker roles and pathways

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

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

Upper Academy Marks Children's Mental Health Week

During the last week of term, students at the Upper Academy took part in a series of Children's Mental Health Week activities during Tutor Time, exploring this year's theme, 'This Is My Place'.

The sessions focused on belonging; helping students reflect on what makes them feel happy, safe and that they truly belong. Through guided discussion, students explored what belonging means, the difference between fitting in and truly belonging, and how they can support both themselves and others.

Students considered practical ways to build a sense of belonging, including being authentic, following their interests, practising self-compassion and reaching out to trusted adults or friends when needed.

Display screens around the school featured staff reflections on what 'This Is My Place' means to them, reinforcing a shared sense of belonging across our school community.

The week provided a thoughtful and meaningful opportunity for reflection, reminding everyone that the Upper Academy is a place where we belong together.

"Children's Mental Health Week means helping and looking after everyone, especially younger students. I'm grateful for the skills and talents I've developed and for the support the school provides." Stevie.G – Year 10

"Children's Mental Health Week means protecting young people from negativity and letting them know they are not alone." Elisha.P – Year 10



USP College Visit Supports Year 11 with Post-16 Choices

Representatives from USP College recently visited the Upper Academy to speak with our Year 11 students about their Post-16 options and future pathways.

During the session, students were introduced to the wide range of courses available, including A Levels, vocational qualifications, technical courses, and the newly introduced T Levels. The team explained what each pathway involves and how students can choose the option that best suits their strengths, interests and future career aspirations.

Students also learned about the career pathways linked to different courses, as well as opportunities for work placements, which form an important part of certain study programmes. The USP team provided insight into what a typical college day looks like and the structure of the study programme.

USP College also offers a range of apprenticeship programmes, giving students the opportunity to earn while they learn and gain valuable, real-world experience alongside their qualification. This pathway is ideal for those keen to enter the workplace while continuing their education.

Towards the end of the session, representatives talked students through the application process, explained the entry requirements and grades required for specific courses, and answered individual questions to help students feel confident about their next steps.

The visit provided valuable guidance and reassurance as Year 11 begin making important decisions about their future education and career pathways.

For more information about USP College, please visit: <https://www.uspcollege.ac.uk/>



Ice Skating Reward Trip a Fantastic Success

On Wednesday 11th February, a group of our Year 10 students enjoyed a well-deserved reward trip to Sapphire Ice & Leisure in Romford.

The students earned their place on the trip by achieving the highest number of positive behaviour points from September through to the Christmas break; a fantastic achievement that reflects their commitment and positive attitude.

From skating around the rink to spending time with friends, the morning was filled with fun, laughter and plenty of memorable moments.



Year 10 Work Experience Update

Year 10 students who have not yet secured their own work experience placement will be able to choose from a range of available opportunities when the WebView system goes live on 27th February.

Students will have two weeks to log in and select up to six preferred placements via the WebView system: <https://bep.learnaboutwork.net/>

They will need their unique PIN to access the system, which has already been provided to them.



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 13 AP2, commencing 9th February, 2026

Monday 23 rd February	Physics P2	2 Hrs		Engineering P2	1 Hr 45 Mins
	Accounting P2	3 Hrs		Chemistry P2	2 Hrs
Tuesday 24 th February	Chemistry P3	2 Hrs		IT Unit 1 (Year 12 Only)	2 Hrs
	English Literature P2	2 Hrs 30 Mins			
	Geography P2	2 Hrs 30 mins			
	Computing Unit 1 (Year 12 Only)	2 Hrs 30 mins			
Wednesday 25 th February	Maths P2	2 Hrs		Psychology P3	2 Hrs
				Physics P3	2 Hrs
Thursday 26 th February	Biology P2	2 hrs			
	Sociology P2	2 Hrs			
	3D Design Practical	5 Hours			
Friday 27 th February				Biology P3	2 Hrs
				Maths P3	2 Hrs
				Sociology P3	2 Hrs

Year 11 AP2, commencing 23rd February 2026

AM (8:30am start)

PM (1:30pm start)

Monday 23 rd February	English Language P1	1 hr 45	Maths P1	1 hr 30
Tuesday 24 th February	English Literature P1	1 hr 45	Science C1	1 hr 15
Wednesday 25 th February	English Language P2	1 hr 45	Maths P2	1 hr 30
Thursday 26 th February	English Literature P2	2 hr 15	Science C2	1 hr 15
Friday 27 th February	Maths P3	1 hr 30	Geography	1 hr
			History	1 hr
Monday 2nd March	Psychology P2	1 hr 45	Sport P2	1 hr 15
	Statistics Higher	1 hr 45		

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



Manifesto for Essex Eco-Gathering (Secondary Schools) - Saturday 28th February

The Essex Book Festival is hosting the Manifesto for Essex Eco-Gathering at Chelmsford Theatre Studio, aimed primarily at young people aged 13–25.

The event offers an opportunity to hear about local eco-projects, take part in creative eco-workshops, learn new skills, and connect with like-minded young people who are passionate about climate action, culture and community. Students are encouraged to get involved, share ideas and make a positive difference both locally and beyond.



For more information and to book a place for FREE, please visit: <https://www.essexbookfestival.org.uk/event/manifesto-for-essex-eco-gathering/>

BRITISH PIE WEEK

2nd - 6th March



To celebrate British Pie Week, the Dining Hall will be serving a different pie each day, alongside the usual lunchtime menu.

Monday: Cheese, Onion & Potato

Tuesday: Steak & Kidney

Wednesday: Chicken

Thursday: Minced Beef

Friday: Chicken & Vegetable



BASILDON ACADEMIES

WORD OF THE DAY

23rd - 27th February 2026

Monday:	Resplendent (adjective) košs in Latvian – attractive and impressive through being richly colourful. <i>The resplendent costumes dazzled the theatre audience.</i>	
Tuesday:	Avarice (noun) gobšumas in Lithuanian – extreme greed for wealth or material gain. <i>The king's avarice led to rebellion.</i>	
Wednesday:	Alleviate (verb) erliichtenen in Luxembourgish – to make suffering less severe. <i>The medicine helped alleviate her pain.</i>	
Thursday:	Serendipity (noun) смирение in Macedonian – the occurrence of events by chance in a happy way. <i>Their meeting was pure serendipity.</i>	
Friday:	Conviviality (noun) kemesraan in Malay – the quality of being friendly and lively. <i>The conviviality of the dinner party was unforgettable.</i>	

Job of the Week: Tour Guide

What does a Tour Guide do?

Tour guides plan, organise, and conduct tours and expeditions for individuals and groups.

Day-to-day responsibilities include:

- Arranging for tour or expedition details like transport and any access to sites of interest on the way
- Leading individuals or groups to tour site locations and describe points of interest
- If relevant, setting up camps and preparing meals for tour group members
- Promoting your tours online or in-person

Labour Market Information

-4.2% - 30,919 jobs

-3.2% - in your region of East of England, a decrease of 2,360 jobs

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

There are no set requirements, but the following may help:

- School leaver qualifications, like a high school Diploma, National 5s, GCSEs, or Brevet
- A qualification or completion of a program in travel and tourism or hospitality
- A first aid certificate, the ability to speak a second language (for some jobs)
- An interest in and knowledge of the history and culture of the places you'll be visiting

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median: £26,656

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.

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