

Dates for the Diary

Half Term

Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May 2026

Year 10 AP2 Assessments

Monday 22nd June - Friday 3rd July 2026

Year 12 AP2 Assessments

Monday 22nd - Friday 26th June 2026

Year 11 Prom

Friday 26th June 2026 - 5.30pm-10pm

Last Day of Summer Term

Friday 17th July 2026

Student Value of the Term

**CLIMATE CHANGE
IS REAL**

House Points - Week Ending 8th May



130,364
AUSTEN



125,680
SEACOLE



113,339
ALI



110,735
HAWKING

Leadership Message

As we move into the busy and important exam season, we would like to take this opportunity to highlight just how crucial this period is for both our Year 10 and current Year 11 students. The coming weeks provide a key opportunity for students to showcase their learning, build confidence and strengthen the exam habits that underpin success, both now and in the years ahead. For Year 11, this is the culmination of their GCSE journey, while for Year 10 it is an essential foundation for next year.

We are extremely proud of the commitment and maturity shown by students across both year groups. To recognise this, we are pleased to share that a range of rewards and celebrations are planned to mark success throughout the exam season. These rewards will celebrate not only strong academic outcomes, but also effort, resilience, attendance, and highly positive attitudes to learning. Further details will be shared with students as the exam period progresses.



We also ask families to continue reinforcing our school behaviour expectations, particularly around punctuality and attendance to lessons. Truancy from lessons, even for short periods, has a significant impact on learning. Missing just 10 minutes of a lesson may not seem much in isolation, but over a week or month this quickly adds up to hours of lost learning, reduced understanding, and increased stress when content is revisited during revision or exams. Regular attendance and being on time are vital habits that support success, build resilience. By working together to address this early, we can ensure students remain fully engaged, supported and prepared during this crucial period.

N.Moore - Assistant Headteacher

Year 11 Interventions

To support our Year 11 students as they enter the exam season, there will be additional revision sessions in English, Maths & Science each Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday.

These will run from 3:00pm to 3:30pm, & students can choose which days to attend and which subjects to focus on.

Attendance is optional, but has proven to really support revision & exam preparation.

**YEAR 11
INTERVENTIONS**

ENGLISH - MATHS - SCIENCE

**EVERY TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY &
THURSDAY. 3PM - 3.30PM**

Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded Student of the Week for week commencing 4th May 2026.

- ★ Year 10 - Kolade.E (R10E1)
- ★ Year 11 - Ola.S (R11T2)
- ★ Sixth Form - Olivia.B (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, 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.

Spotlight On: A Level Psychology

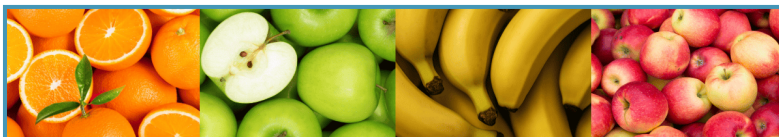


Psychology literally translates as 'the study of the human mind' – but Psychology is more than this. Psychology is everywhere around us. It is intriguing, it is emotional, it is scientific and above all, it is thought provoking. This course offers you the opportunity to learn about the science behind human behaviour by understanding how research is conducted and used to develop theories and laws about human behaviour.

This course will develop skills highly valued by Higher Education and employers, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research skills.

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

Aspire - Believe - Achieve



Free Fruit at Breaktime



Students can choose an item of fruit from the till area in the Dining Hall at breaktime each day

Online Safety Hub: Navigating the Need for Parental Controls

In the digital age, children have easy access to technology, and it's essential for parents to ensure their online experiences are safe, positive, and age-appropriate. Staying informed and using the right tools can make a big difference in protecting children online. [Click here](#) to access helpful information regarding parental controls.

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](#)



Performing Arts Students Take Final Bows in GCSE Performances

Year 11 Performing Arts students took their final bows last week as they completed their GCSE performances.

Students created and performed fantastic original pieces in response to their exam brief. They all did immensely well, bringing awareness to shared experiences of human emotion, how the arts can impact a team and an individual, and how friendships can blossom from common ground.

Congratulations to all of our Year 11 Performing Arts students for their hard work and commitment.



Year 11 Intervention Programme Continues to Support Exam Success

As our Year 11 students move into the exam season, we are continuing to provide a wide range of targeted intervention opportunities to support their revision and boost confidence across English, Maths and Science.

After-school revision sessions are running each **Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 3:00–3:30pm**, giving students the flexibility to attend on the days that suit them and focus on the topics where they need the most support.

Alongside this, we are also offering additional support through Saturday School sessions and our recent intervention week delivered in partnership with PET-Xi Training, providing further focused guidance in key subject areas.

Our second week of the Paper & Pizza revision initiative once again saw an excellent turnout, with over 120 students attending. The atmosphere remained extremely positive, with students fully engaged throughout the session, working hard alongside their peers before enjoying some well-earned pizza at the end of the session.

These strong attendance figures highlight just how much our students value these opportunities and their commitment to achieving their very best.



Careers Pro: Helping Your Child Explore Future Pathways

Help your child feel confident about their future with Careers Pro, an interactive online platform that matches young people with careers suited to their interests, skills, and personality.

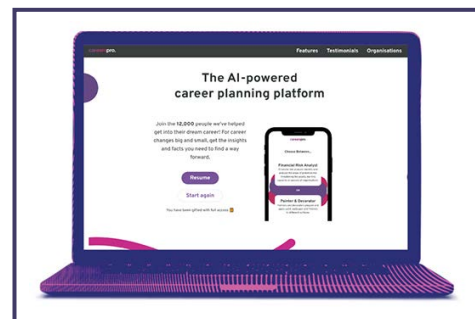
Through a fun quiz, your child will receive personalised career suggestions and learn what each role involves. They can also add their current skills or experiences, and Careers Pro will highlight where these can be transferred into different career paths.

The platform outlines all the possible routes into each career — from GCSEs, A Levels, and university to apprenticeships, short courses, and work experience — helping you and your child understand every option available.

Through a fun quiz, your child will receive personalised career suggestions and learn what each role involves. They can also add their current skills or experiences, and Careers Pro will highlight where these can be transferred into different career paths.

With Careers Pro, your child can explore their potential and make informed decisions about their future.

Please click the link to access: <https://www.careerspro.co.uk/the-basildon-upper-academy>



Saturday School Supporting Exam Success

Year 11 and Sixth Form students continue to make the most of Saturday School sessions as they prepare for their upcoming summer examinations.

Running from 9:30am to 11:30am, these sessions provide valuable additional time for revision in a focused environment. Students have the opportunity to consolidate their learning, strengthen their understanding, and receive targeted support from teachers.

Saturday School has already proven to be a great success, with students benefiting from the chance to revisit key topics and build confidence ahead of their exams. Rather than introducing new content, the sessions focus on refining existing knowledge and helping students achieve their full potential.

With two sessions still to go, all Year 11 and Sixth Form students are encouraged to attend and take advantage of this valuable support in the final lead-up to exams.

Upcoming sessions:

- Saturday 16th May
- Saturday 23rd May

"I think Saturday School is really helpful because it provides extra support for my learning. The teachers are there to explain things when I don't understand, and it gives me more opportunity to revise in a focused environment and prepare for my GCSEs."

Serah.G - Year 11

We look forward to seeing as many students as possible continue to benefit from these sessions and support their journey to success.



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 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.



BASILDON ACADEMIES

WORD OF THE DAY

11th - 15th May 2026

Monday:	Reclusive (adjective) 隱居的 in Mandarin Chinese – avoiding the company of others. <i>The reclusive poet rarely left his home.</i>	
Tuesday:	Ameliorate (verb) kuboresha in Swahili – to make something better. <i>The reforms aimed to ameliorate working conditions.</i>	
Wednesday:	Mindfulness (noun) sati in Thai – maintaining awareness of thoughts and feelings. <i>Mindfulness exercises helped students stay calm before exams.</i>	
Thursday:	Equanimity (noun) samādhāna in Sanskrit – calmness in difficult situations. <i>She faced the exam with equanimity.</i>	
Friday:	Luminous (adjective) 'ālohilohi in Hawaiian – bright or glowing. <i>The luminous moon lit the path home.</i>	

Job of the Week: Agricultural Engineer

What does an Agricultural Engineer do?

Agricultural engineers make and maintain agricultural, horticultural and forestry machinery and equipment.

Key Responsibilities

- Assessing the environmental impact of agricultural production methods
- Supervising construction projects, like land drainage, reclamation and irrigation
- Solving engineering problems, like designing all-terrain vehicles to move over uneven ground in different weather conditions
- Testing and installing new equipment, like harvesters and crop sprayers
- Using GPS, weather data and computer modelling to advise farmers and businesses on land use
- Planning service and repair programmes for machinery

Labour Market Information

- +3% 20,747 jobs
- +4.2% in your region of East of England, an increase of 2,817 jobs

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

Typical Entry Requirements:

You'll need a foundation degree, HND or degree in: Agricultural Engineering, Environmental Engineering Electrical or Mechanical Engineering.

If you've got a further education qualification in a land-based engineering subject, or relevant experience, you could start as an agricultural engineering technician. You'd then complete further study to qualify as an engineer.

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median:
£44,843

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.



DOUGHNUT WEEK

Monday 18th – Friday 22nd May



To celebrate National Doughnut Week the Dining Hall will be serving a selection of Jam & Ring Doughnuts.

All Doughnuts are 75p each & will be available throughout the week at break & lunchtime.

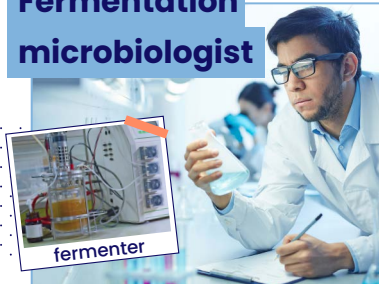


Do you enjoy learning about respiration?

You could be a/an...



Fermentation microbiologist



fermenter

Yusef **improves the fermentation process** of biomass waste, creating a sustainable alternative to palm oil, thereby reducing deforestation.

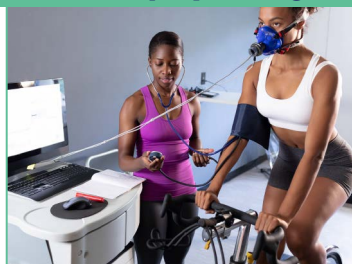
Career route Degree

Salary range £23,000 – £45,000

Top essential skill



Exercise physiologist



Zoe measures blood pressure, heart rate and muscle strength at rest and during exercise **to improve fitness or reduce disease progression.**

Career route Degree

Salary range £23,000 – £50,000

Top essential skill



Bioprocess engineer



Emma works with microbes such as bacteria and fungi **to develop new antibiotics** in huge quantities.

Career route Degree

Salary range £54,500 – £96,500

Top essential skill



Distiller



yeast

Ben **maintains the fermentation equipment** that produces alcoholic drinks such as spirits and beer.

Career route Work experience, personal interests or degree

Salary range £27,500 – £42,500

Top essential skill



You don't need a degree to be a scientist!
You can take a different career route including an **apprenticeship, degree apprenticeship** or by **training on the job.**



Which job would you like to do?



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

SWi

Ready, Set, Save!

15%
off

Everything!

18th - 26th May

Limited time only! In-store & Online

Use Code: **SAVE15** at checkout.

We're making back-to-school easier
(and cheaper!) for you.

Promo starts Monday 18th May for a limited time
only, enjoy **15% off everything!**

Whether you're stocking up or prepping ahead, this
is the perfect time to grab everything you need.



Shop early and avoid
the summer rush.



Built to last sustainable
and high-quality
products.



Worried about growth
spurts? Don't be **we've
got extended returns.**



One-stop shop:
All your school
essentials in one place.

Shop online today and start saving!

Use Code: **SAVE15** at checkout.

swischoolwear.co.uk