

Dates for the Diary

Year 10 Work Experience

Monday 20th April - Friday 1st May 2026

Bank Holiday

Monday 4th May 2026

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

Student Value of the Term

**CLIMATE CHANGE
IS REAL**

House Points - Week Ending 24th April



124,823
AUSTEN



119,077
SEACOLE



107,738
ALI



106,043
HAWKING

Leadership Message - Every student is capable of success!

At The Basildon Academies, we believe in providing every possible opportunity to develop the full potential of all students. Inclusive education is at the heart of our ethos. We actively foster pathways to ensure all students regardless of any vulnerability, disadvantage or circumstance complete a successful educational journey with us.

Our recently refurbished SEND Intervention Room accommodates timetabled interventions and supported tuition in core subjects.

Students are given the opportunity to provide information and express their views about their SEND and the support provided. They are invited to participate in discussions and decisions about this support. This might include:

- Explaining what their strengths and difficulties are
- Contributing to setting targets or outcomes
- Attending review meetings
- Giving feedback on the effectiveness of interventions

Student views are taken into consideration in making decisions that affect them, whenever possible.

Parents or carers of a student on the SEND register are invited to provide information and to express their views about the student's SEND and the support provided. One Plans are updated termly. Students and their parents are included in discussions and decisions about this support.

All teachers are teachers of students with special educational needs and are responsible for ensuring that all students have access to high quality teaching, learning and assessment, adapting the curriculum to meet individual needs.



Students have access to our non-teaching pastoral team alongside their SEND support, including our specialist Wellbeing Room. The SEND Team and Heads of Year can be contacted through the [Contact Us](#) page on the Basildon Upper Academy website.

Please inform the school if you have any concerns about your child's progress or development. The SEND Team can be contacted at upperSEN@basildonacademies.org.uk

Z.Grannon
Assistant Headteacher & SENCO

Parent Drop In - Friday 1st May

This week's Parent Drop In will be on Friday 1st May between 9am and 10am.

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 20th April 2026.

- ★ Year 10 - Joshua.T (R10E1)
- ★ Year 11 - Rebecca.B (R11E1)
- ★ Sixth Form - Eluney.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: VTCT Level 1 and 2 Hairdressing



This qualification is based on the hairdressing National Occupational Standards (NOS) and is recognised by the UK's leading professional body (The Hairdressing Council) as being fit for purpose for preparing students for a career as a junior hairdresser/stylist.

The aim of the course is to develop hairdressing skills and knowledge and it will also enable you to perform your own services and to assist others in the salon. Students will gather evidence for assessment through the study of mandatory and optional units, in a real working environment without the need for fee-paying clients.

Full course information can be found by visiting the following link on our website: [VTCT Level 1 and 2 Hairdressing](#)

YOUNG CARERS CLUBS

TUESDAY

3-4PM

MS DUNWELL
G8

WEDNESDAY
ESPORTS

1-1.30PM

MR EDWARDS
A17



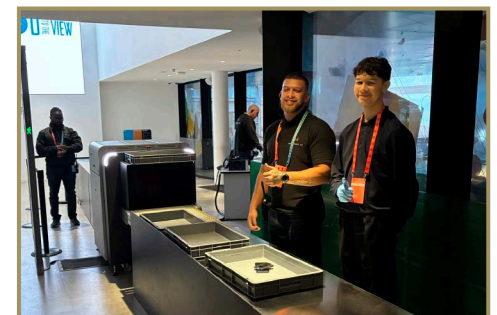
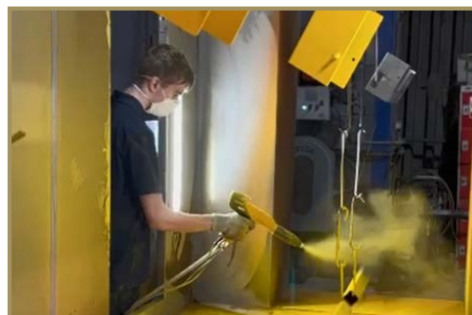
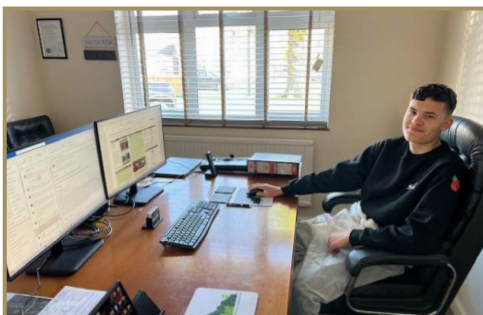
IF YOU BELIEVE YOU ARE A YOUNG CARER, PLEASE
SPEAK TO MS DUNWELL TO REGISTER.

Year 10 Take First Steps into the World of Work

Last week, our first group of Year 10 students took part in their week-long work experience placements, marking an important step in preparing for life beyond school.

Students had the fantastic opportunity to work alongside professionals across a wide range of industries, gaining valuable insight into the world of work while developing key skills such as communication, teamwork and independence. From hands-on roles to customer-facing environments, students embraced the experience with enthusiasm and maturity.

Placement providers included a diverse range of organisations such as Hadleigh Farm, Advanced Metal Finishers, The Entertainer Toy Shop, Home Creations Essex Ltd, Tudor Lodge Luxury Boarding Kennels, local food retail businesses, Toomey Motor Group, Taylor Wimpey, Feelgood Fitness & Wellness Centre, CIS Security, ASTA, Hazmat Pro, and a number of primary and nursery schools. These varied placements allowed students to explore different career pathways and gain real-world experience in environments suited to their interests.



We have received extremely positive feedback from employers, who praised our students for their professionalism, positive attitude and willingness to learn. They have represented the academy exceptionally well and made a strong impression across all placements.

We now look forward to hearing about the experiences of our second group of Year 10 students, who are taking part in their placements this week.

"I have loved working at the farm and have learned many different things, including being trained in animal handling to present animals to the public. I've really enjoyed the job, but I would say that not everything is as easy as it seems."
Declan.P - Hadleigh Farm

"I really feel this experience has helped build my confidence, and I have also learned a lot of new skills. I enjoy this work as I get to be hands-on, work with friendly people, and visit customers' homes to measure up and learn about fitting."
Zeyed.K - Home Creations Essex Ltd.

Sixth Form Students Lead CPR Training Initiative

The Basildon Upper Academy has partnered with Essex & Herts Air Ambulance as part of the CPR Smart campaign, giving Sixth Form students the opportunity to become trained CPR ambassadors.

Working alongside the Air Ambulance team, students have developed the skills and confidence needed to deliver CPR training to their peers, helping to spread this vital, life-saving knowledge across the school community.

As part of the programme, students learned the DRS ABC approach (Danger, Response, Send for help, Airway, Breathing, CPR), practised compression-only CPR, and were shown how to use a defibrillator. They also gained hands-on experience using CPR training manikins, allowing them to apply their learning in realistic scenarios.



In the UK, the survival rate for out-of-hospital cardiac arrest is around 10%, often due to a lack of confidence in delivering CPR. Through this initiative, The Basildon Upper Academy and the CPR Smart campaign aim to ensure that all students receive CPR training from Sixth Form ambassadors, equipping them with the skills and confidence to respond in an emergency and potentially save lives.

"It was really interesting and fascinating to learn CPR and take part in the course. I now feel ready to teach others about it." Christina.K – Year 12

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

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.

Saturday School Supporting Year 11 GCSE Preparation

Saturday School is running each week to support Year 11 students as they prepare for their upcoming GCSE summer exams.

These sessions provide valuable additional time for revision, allowing students to consolidate their learning and receive extra support in a focused environment.

Saturday School takes place at the Upper Academy from **9:30am to 11:30am**, and school uniform is not required.

All Year 11 students are encouraged to attend and make the most of this opportunity in the lead-up to their exams.

We look forward to seeing as many students as possible taking advantage of these sessions and supporting their journey to success.



SATURDAY SCHOOL

2ND MAY
9TH MAY
16TH MAY
23RD MAY

ALL SESSIONS: 9.30AM - 11.30AM

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



ARRIVE BE HERE ATTEND
— IN TIME 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

27th April - 1st May 2026

Monday:	Sagacity (noun) <i>sabiduría</i> in Spanish – the quality of having keen insight. <i>The leader's sagacity inspired confidence.</i>	
Tuesday:	Obsequious (adjective) <i>servil</i> in Catalan – excessively obedient or servile. <i>The obsequious assistant agreed with every word.</i>	
Wednesday:	Transient (adjective) – <i>transiente</i> in Galician – lasting only a short time. <i>The transient storm passed quickly.</i>	
Thursday:	Inevitable (adjective) <i>inevitável</i> in Portuguese – certain to happen. <i>The inevitable exam timetable arrived.</i>	
Friday:	Euphoria (noun) <i>euforia</i> in Basque – a feeling of intense happiness. <i>There was euphoria at the May Day parade.</i>	

Job of the Week: Laboratory Technician

What does a Laboratory Technician do?

Key Responsibilities

- Setting up experiments and investigations
- Carrying out risk assessments
- Collecting and analysing samples
- Preparing solutions, cultures or specimens
- Recording and presenting data
- Ordering and controlling stock
- Disposing of chemicals and waste products safely
- Cleaning and maintaining equipment

Labour Market Information

- +41.4% 897,801 jobs
- +40.8% in your region of East of England, an increase of 89,463 jobs

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

Typical Entry Requirements:

You'll usually need at least 4 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) including English, maths and science.

Employers may also expect you to have A levels or a degree in a subject like:

Biology, biomedical science, chemistry, physics, pharmacology, forensic science, environmental science, materials science

Experience of working in a laboratory could help you get this job.

You could get into this job through an apprenticeship.

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median:
£28,210

Ofsted
Good
Provider

Pupils in key stage 4 are well prepared for their next steps. They learn about a range of careers and, like students in the sixth form, they can study a range of vocational courses. Pupils with social, emotional and mental health needs (SEMH) who attend the school's own provision also receive highly effective support that improves their behaviour and well-being.





PHYSICAL ACTIVITY FOR ALL GET TOGETHER

- Try adapted sports seen at the Paralympics, including Power Chair Football and Boccia!
- Discuss inclusivity in sports with Ellie Challis and small changes you can use to help make a difference!
- Take part in a social media workshop, to help share your top tips for creating inclusive activity opportunities.

Tuesday 26th May 2026 9:30am - 2:30pm

Witham (more details provided upon registration) Lunch will be provided

This event is first come, first served. To secure your place, please register using the link in the email by the 8th May. We may also be able to cover public transport costs, so please get in touch with us about this.

WITH SPECIAL GUEST

ELLIE CHALLIS

Ellie is a Paralympic champion para swimmer from Essex, winning gold at Paris 2024 and silver at Tokyo 2020 in the S3 50m backstroke.

She's also a multiple-time world champion and world-record holder, cementing her place among Britain's leading para swimmers.



Please note you must be registered as an Ambassador to attend!

www.activeessex.org/move-with-us/

Online Safety Hub: Is Your Child's Screen Stealing Their Sleep (and Their Smarts)?

Is your child scrolling late into the night or struggling to switch off from their screen? With many young people using devices right up until bedtime, experts are raising concerns about the impact on sleep, focus, and learning.

For guidance and advice for parents and carers, visit: <https://basildonacademies.onlinesafetyhub.uk/parent/articles/is-your-child-s-screen-stealing-their-sleep>

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](#)



DANCE

CLUB

Start date: Thursday (23rd April)

Place: Drama Room (F-Block)

Contact: Ms Taylan-Riley / Ms Child

See you there at 3pm!!

Fundamental Dance Positions - Hip-Hop - Modern/Contemporary
Interpretative Dance - Street Dance Festival - Thematic



THROUGH THE DOOR

100%

FOR 24

Easy Raffle Entry
£50 to win



EVENT RULES

Attend everyday on time for 24 days
for your chance to be entered into this
terms attendance competition.
Winners will be announced May 22nd.

PRIZES

- 1st Draw**
£50 Lifestyle Voucher
- 2nd Draw**
£10 Lifestyle Voucher
- 3rd Draw**
£5 Lifestyle Voucher

APRIL 20TH-

MAY 22ND

INFORMATION

For more information, pop down
to the attendance window.



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