

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 17th April



120,380
AUSTEN



116,772
SEACOLE



103,855
ALI



103,694
HAWKING

A Clear Focus on Mobile Phones: Supporting Learning, Wellbeing and Culture

As part of our continued drive to strengthen culture and community across the school, we are placing a renewed and explicit focus on our mobile phone expectations.

Our position is simple: **mobile phones should be not seen, not heard during the school day.**

This approach is fully aligned with the direction set by the Department for Education, which has been clear in its guidance to schools: limiting mobile phone use is essential to improving behaviour, safeguarding students, and ensuring classrooms remain focused learning environments.

We appreciate the strong support many of you have already shown in reinforcing this expectation-it is making a real difference.

Why this matters - Removing mobile phones from the school day is not about being restrictive-it is about creating the very best environment for young people to thrive. Research and national guidance highlight several key benefits:

- 1. Improved focus and learning** - Mobile phones are one of the biggest distractions for students. Without them, students are more engaged in lessons, able to concentrate for longer, and more likely to achieve their potential.
- 2. Better behaviour and fewer disruptions** - Phones can often be at the centre of low-level disruption and conflict. Removing them helps create calmer classrooms where teachers can teach and students can learn without interruption.
- 3. Safer school environment** - Limiting phone use reduces the risks associated with social media, including online conflict spilling into school, filming incidents, and safeguarding concerns. It allows staff to deal with issues quickly and appropriately.
- 4. Stronger relationships and social interaction** - When phones are away, students talk to each other. We are already seeing more positive interactions, improved friendships, and a stronger sense of community across social times.
- 5. Supporting wellbeing** - Constant notifications and online pressures can impact students' mental health. Time away from phones during the school day provides a valuable break and supports overall wellbeing.

Working together - Our expectations are clear and consistent for all students, and we will continue to apply them firmly and fairly. Where phones are seen or heard, sanctions will be applied in line with our behaviour policy.

However, the success of this approach relies on strong partnership with you. You can support us by:

- Ensuring your child understands the school's expectations before they leave home
- Encouraging them to keep phones switched off and out of sight
- Reinforcing the importance of focusing on learning during the school day

If there is a genuine need to contact your child during the day, please do so via the school office-we will always ensure messages are passed on promptly.

Parent Drop In - Thursday 23rd April

This week's Parent Drop In will be on Thursday 23rd April between 10am and 11am.

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 13th April 2026.

★ Year 10 - Ryan.B (R10EPAM)

★ Year 11 - May.G (R11E1)

★ Sixth Form - Erika.E (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 Geography



Simply put, Geography is our future. When we look at any issue with the balance and scrutiny that geographical study offers, we move beyond the media hype or political spin. Geography allows us to see the world more clearly. (Tom Biebrach)

Geography is unique in that it helps students to see the world as a whole instead of split up into subject boxes. Geography examines the complex interaction of people and their natural environment and helps understand that decisions and actions will have an impact on the world.

Geographers study the world at a local level and at an international level and bring together global political decisions, natural events and changes in lifestyles.

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

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

Online Safety Hub: Dealing With Digital Disobedience

In today's digital world, young people may sometimes ignore rules around screen time, app use, or online behaviour, which can expose them to risks and impact their wellbeing. [Click here](#) to access information and support on managing digital disobedience, including practical advice for setting boundaries and encouraging safe, responsible online habits.

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: [The Basildon Academies Online Safety Hub](#)



Year 10 Students Celebrated in End-of-Term Awards

The final week of the Spring Term saw Year 10 students recognised for their achievements, as they received certificates celebrating their effort, progress, and positive contributions to school life. In total, over 150 certificates and 100 gift bags were presented.

Nominations were submitted by staff across a wide range of categories, ensuring that as many students as possible were acknowledged for their hard work and commitment.



Salon Instagram Channel

The Basildon Upper Academy has a dedicated Salon Instagram channel, where you can keep up to date with everything happening in our salon.

Follow the channel for:

- Exclusive deals
- Appointment updates
- A behind-the-scenes look at our salon in action

We look forward to connecting with you and showcasing the exciting opportunities within our Salon. Access our new Instagram channel here: [buasa_lon1](https://www.instagram.com/buasa_lon1)



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.



Year 11 End of Term Celebration

Year 11 students were honoured in a special awards celebration to mark the end of the Spring Term and recognise their achievements as they enter the final months of Key Stage 4.

A wide range of awards were presented, celebrating both academic and non-academic achievements, including subject excellence, consistent effort, resilience, and a number of personality awards that recognised qualities such as kindness, leadership, positivity and contribution to the school community. Each award highlighted the unique strengths of the students and reflected the commitment, maturity and character they have developed throughout their time at school.



Preparing for GCSE Success

As students enter their final term and prepare for their upcoming GCSE examinations, the celebration provided a valuable opportunity to pause, reflect and acknowledge the dedication and perseverance they have shown, particularly in the lead-up to this important period. It was a meaningful moment to come together as a year group, celebrate individual and shared successes, and recognise how far they have come since starting their school journey. The event also served as a reminder of the support around them as they take these next important steps.

Miss Khan and Miss Byne are incredibly proud of all that the Year 11 students have achieved and the determination they have shown throughout their time at school. They would like to take this opportunity to wish every student the very best with their revision and upcoming exams, encouraging them to stay focused, confident and positive in the weeks ahead.

"Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard."



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.

Science After School Interventions

Open to all Year 11 Students



AQA
Assessing potential

GCSE
COMBINED
SCIENCE:
TRILOGY

	Mr Mendaroz B16	Mr Sankaran B12	Mr Price B18	Ms Pereira B1	Ms Radley B11	Ms Ribin B17	Ms Degan B5
Tue 21.4				Photosynthesis			
Wed 22.4		Forces					
Thur 23.4						Quantitative chemistry	
Tue 28.4							Respiration
Wed 29.4							
Thur 30.4							
Tue 28.4			Cell biology				
Wed 29.4	Electricity						
Thur 30.4					Chemical changes		
Tue 5.5							Digestive system
Wed 6.5					Organisation		
Thur 7.5			Communicable disease				
Tue 12.5				Energy changes			
Wed 13.5						Periodic Table	
Thur 14.5		Structure and bonding					



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



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.



BASILDON ACADEMIES WORD OF THE DAY

20th - 24th April 2026

Monday:	Conducive (adjective) thuận lợi in Vietnamese – making a situation likely or possible. <i>A quiet room is conducive to concentration.</i>	
Tuesday:	Jubilant (adjective) gorfoleddus in Welsh – feeling or expressing great happiness. <i>Crowds were jubilant during the celebrations.</i>	
Wednesday:	Sustainable (adjective) luy wáy in Wolof – able to be maintained at a steady level. <i>Sustainable energy is crucial for the future.</i>	
Thursday:	Rhetoric (noun) irhethic in Xhosa – persuasive or effective speaking or writing. <i>Shakespeare's rhetoric has echoed for centuries.</i>	
Friday:	Epistolary (adjective) epistolar in Romanian – relating to letters or letter-writing. <i>Dracula is an epistolary novel.</i>	

Job of the Week: Mechatronics Engineer

What does a Mechatronics Engineer do?

A Mechatronics Engineer designs and develops intelligent systems by combining mechanical engineering, electronics, computer science, and robotics. They help create automated machines and smart technology used in factories, cars, and robotics.

Key Responsibilities

- Designing automated systems and robotic machines
- Programming control systems
- Testing and improving mechanical and electronic components
- Troubleshooting technical problems
- Working with software and sensors

Labour Market Information

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

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median:
£51,110

What Qualifications do you Need to do this job?

Typical Entry Requirements:

- Degree in Mechatronics Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, or Electrical Engineering
- Strong maths and problem-solving skills
- Knowledge of programming (e.g., Python, C++)
- Understanding of robotics and automation
- Teamwork and communication skills



The curriculum at Basildon Upper Academy is well thought out. It is carefully planned with staff from the Basildon Lower Academy. These plans identify what pupils need to know. It breaks down this knowledge into manageable chunks so that pupils can build on previous knowledge securely. There are frequent checks on what pupils have learned.

Follow The Basildon Upper Academy on our social media channels



PROM HAIR



Would
you like the
opportunity to
have your hair
styled for your prom
by industry professionals
at no cost to you?

If that's a YES, please see Miss Cleal in the HUB (A15) on a
Thursdays or Fridays for more details.