

Dates for the Diary

Christmas Dinner (Free for all students)

Year 10 - Wednesday - 18th December 2024

Year 11 & Sixth Form - Thursday 19th December 2024

Presentation Evening

Wednesday 18th December 2024 - 4pm-5pm

Last Day of Autumn Term

Friday 20th December 2024 - *Students finish at 12:30pm*

First Day of Spring Term

Tuesday 7th January 2025

Year 10 AP1 Assessments

Monday 20th - Friday 31st January 2025

Student Value of the Term

**NO HUMAN
IS ILLEGAL**

House Points - Week Ending 13th December



20,791
AUSTEN



20,050
ALI



15,088
HAWKING



13,302
SEACOLE

Leadership Message

As we approach the end of this term, I would like to take a moment to express our gratitude for the hard work, dedication, and spirit of collaboration that have made this term so successful. It's been a time of growth, learning, and building connections, and we couldn't be more proud of the achievements across our school community.

It's a season to celebrate the bonds we share, to show appreciation for one another, and to spread goodwill throughout our community. Let us embrace the true meaning of this season — of hope, peace, and joy.

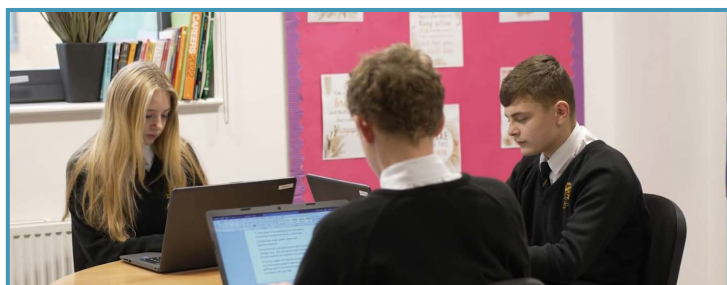
Whether in the classroom, on the sports field, or through extracurricular activities, everyone has contributed to making this term special. We hope that you take pride in all that has been accomplished, and that you enjoy a well-deserved break to recharge.

I look forward to the new opportunities the next term will bring, and am excited to continue our shared journey of learning and growth in the year ahead.

Wishing you all a restful and rejuvenating break, and I look forward to welcoming you back for another term of success!

Thank you for being part of our wonderful school family.

R.Rees, Headteacher



Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded Student of the Week for week commencing 9th December 2024.

- ★ Year 10 - Ava.R (R10X1)
- ★ Year 11 - Kieran.H (R11Z2)
- ★ Sixth Form - Jack.S (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 General Enquiries.

School Nurse Drop In

If students are worried about their health, would like a confidential chat or would just like to find out more about how our school nurse can help them, the nurse

Every Wednesday
Breaktime

Location:
The Medical Room



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. They will learn about how and why our society has changed and analyse the theories of historians.

Students get a chance to understand the language used to discuss ideas, to develop an understanding of how the past has been interpreted and, importantly, to express their own ideas confidently and effectively as budding historians.

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

Young Minds

[Young Minds](#) is the UK's leading charity committed to improving the emotional wellbeing and mental health of children and young people. Just as people's bodies can become unwell, people's minds can become unwell too.

Young Minds offer information to young people and children about mental health and emotional wellbeing. If you need to talk, they can let you know about organisations that listen, plus they offer online support and info.

YOUNG MiNDS

Introducing Our New EAL Coordinator

I am delighted to introduce myself as the new EAL Coordinator for the Upper Academy. We have many exciting plans for the upcoming term, and I look forward to working closely with our students and families to support their learning journey.

In the meantime, should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via email at eal@basildonacademies.org.uk

Have a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year.

B.Head - EAL coordinator



Students Take Inspiration from Live Theatre

Upper Academy Performing Arts students recently had the opportunity to visit the National Theatre on London's South Bank, to watch a production of *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

The trip offered students a chance to experience live theatre in a professional setting, enhancing their understanding of drama and performance.

"Seeing *The Importance of Being Earnest* was a marvellous experience. I really enjoyed the comedy, which made it even more entertaining. Most of all, it has inspired me to improve my own work and deepen my interest in drama and theatre. Overall, it was amazing." Jeethwara.J – Year 10

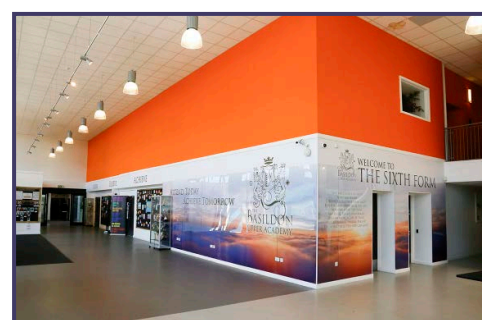
"Watching *The Importance of Being Earnest* was an amazing experience and a fantastic opportunity to learn more about acting and theatre. The show was very funny and enjoyable, and it will help me in my Performing Arts studies now that I've experienced a professional theatre production." Isabelle.P – Year 10



Parent Drop In - Thursday 19th December

This week's Parent Drop In will be on Thursday 19th December 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.



Non-uniform/Christmas Jumper Day 20th December

All students are invited to take part in this year's Christmas Jumper Day on the last day of term, Friday 20th December.

The Basildon Academies are raising money for Save the Children so we ask that a donation is made from all students participating in non-uniform. Staff will be at the front door with collection buckets to greet the students as they arrive.



Online Safety Hub Recommended Resource of the Week: Top Tips to Protect Your Child's Digital Privacy

Being mindful about sharing personal information, understanding how an app or platform tracks, collects, stores, and uses data, and practising good digital hygiene can go a long way in helping to protect your child's privacy online. [Click here](#) to access information and top tips to help protect your child's digital privacy.

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](#)



The admin team on both sites are welcoming to visitors and parents and have access to the new EAL translator tools which enable them to speak to each parent or child in their own language when needed.



Leading Parent
Partnership Award

2023-2026



FREE HOT CHOCOLATE & COOKIE



Free hot chocolate and cookies will be available to all students in the Dining Hall during breaktime on



FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER



VEGANUARY MONTH

Throughout January the Dining Hall will be serving a Vegan Dish of the Day

BASILDON ACADEMIES

WORD OF THE DAY

16th - 20th December 2024

Monday:	Festivity (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> The celebration of something in a joyful and lively manner. <i>Example:</i> Christmas is a time of great festivity, marked by decorations, music, and gatherings.
Tuesday:	Tradition (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> The transmission of customs or beliefs from generation to generation. <i>Example:</i> The Christmas season is rich with tradition, including carolling and gift-giving.
Wednesday:	Revelry (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> Lively and noisy festivities, especially when these involve drinking a large amount of alcohol. <i>Example:</i> The Christmas revelry often includes parties and social events.
Thursday:	Observance (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> The action of celebrating or marking an event or tradition. <i>Example:</i> The Christmas observance includes a variety of cultural and religious practices.
Friday: International Human Solidarity Day	Solidarity (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> Unity or agreement of feeling or action, especially among individuals with a common interest; mutual support within a group. <i>Example:</i> International Human Solidarity Day is dedicated to promoting solidarity among people across the globe.

Job of the Week: Yacht Deckhand

What does a Yacht Deckhand do?

- You may work on deck, below deck or on the bridge of a range of different ships.
- You'll help deal with safety equipment and lifeboats, help the officers and carry out watch duties
- You'll help look after navigation, radar, satellite and computer systems, and carry out watch duties
- You'll help with deck operations and maintenance, cargo handling and storage

Labour Market Information

- 723 jobs in the local area of Essex
- National jobs 171,912
- Growth +9.3% in East of England, an increase of 18,750 jobs

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

You can join the commercial shipping industry (also called the Merchant Navy) from age 16 as a marine apprentice and start training as a deckhand.

- You'll need at least 4 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), including English, maths and physics (or combined science).
- You could also do an industry-backed HND, foundation degree, or degree in a subject like nautical science or marine engineering.
- You'll need to pass an eyesight and medical exam.

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median:
£27,750



Pupils appreciate the guidance and support that the school gives them to be the best they can be. As a result, there are positive relationships between staff and pupils. Pupils also get on well with each other.

Follow The Basildon Upper Academy on our social media channels



Absence Procedures

To report a student absence please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Upper Academy website and select the option for Attendance.

- 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

Did you know? **90%** of young people with attendance **BELOW** **85%** fail to get good grades.

MISSING **1** DAY A WEEK



LOSING **ONE YEAR** OF SCHOOL LIFE.

Good attendance means:

Being in school at least **97%** of the time, that's at least **184** days a year.

Target
97%+



175

days are **NOT**
spent in school
each year.*

* Plenty of time for shopping,
holidays & appointments.

143

Days of
education

75%

47 days absent

152

Days of
education

80%

38 days absent

162

Days of
education

85%

28 days absent

171

Days of
education

90%

19 days absent

184

Days of
education

97%

6 days absent

190

Days of
education

100%

0 days absent

SERIOUSLY WORRIED

Very poor attendance has a serious
impact & reduces life chances.

VERY CONCERNED

Poor attendance gives
less chance of success.

WELL DONE

Good attendance gives the
best chance of success.



Christmas Dinner

Year 10 - Wednesday 18th December
Year 11 & Sixth Form - Thursday 19th December

Main Meal Options

Roast Turkey & Pigs in Blankets
Vegan Wellington

Served with: Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Peas,
Brussel Sprouts, Yorkshire Puddings,
Stuffing & Gravy

Dessert Options

Christmas Pudding
Mince Pies
Chocolate Yule Log
Mini Blackforest Gateau
Jelly

Christmas Dinner comes with
Fruit Juice & a Christmas Cracker

Christmas Dinner is free to all of our students

FREE WINTER TEEN HOLIDAY CLUBS IN BASILDON!

Essex ActivAte helps to support eligible children and families during the school holidays and half term breaks, through free engaging and fun activities. Book a space using your emailed HolidayActivities voucher code or contact one of our clubs to book a space!

ATF - Briscoe Teen Session (11-16 yrs, SEND Level 1)

Briscoe Primary School, Felmores End, Basildon, SS13 1PN
kherring@atfcommunity.com & 07956770446
23rd December 1-3pm | 2nd and 3rd January 1-3pm

ATF - Vange Teen Session (11-16 yrs, SEND Level 1)

Vange Primary School, London Road, Basildon SS16 4QA
smartin@atfcommunity.com & 07989515757
23rd December 1-3pm | 2nd and 3rd January 1-3pm

ATF - King Edwards (11-16 years, SEND Level 1)

King Edwards Community Centre, King Edwards Road, Laindon, Basildon, SS15 6GY
kherring@atfcommunity.com & 07701365822
3rd January 5-7pm

ATF - Markhams Chase Saturday Session (11-16 yrs, SEND Level 1)

Markhams Chase Park, SS15 5LU
kherring@atfcommunity.com & 07701365822
28th December 1-3pm

Future Of Sport (11-16 years)

Legends Experience
thefutureofsport@icloud.com & 07358612611
2nd January 6-8pm

Find out more: activeessex.org





FREE WINTER TEEN HOLIDAY CLUBS IN BASILDON!

Future Of Sport (11-16 years)

James Hornsby School, Leinster Rd, Laindon, Basildon SS15 5NX
thefutureofsport@icloud.com & 07359612611
23rd December 1pm-5pm | 2nd January 1pm-5pm

Active Essex Foundation Flex Youth (11-16 years)

3 Gibcracks, Basildon SS14 1PE
info@flexyouth.com & 07342469249
20th, 21st, 23rd December | 3rd January

Active Essex Foundation I-UP (11-16 years)

Southernhay Youth Centre, 16-20 Southernhay, Basildon, SS14 1FN
23rd December 7-9pm | 2nd January 7-9pm
louise@1upcollective.com

Active Essex Foundation Five Elements (11-16 years)

Adams Business Centre, Cranes Farm Rd, Basildon SS14 3JF
contact 01268330050 for dates/times

If you are eligible for income-based free school meals, you can book your spot by emailing us at haf@activeessex.org to receive your booking code.

SCAN
ME



Scan the QR code
to find out more!

Better Housing Better Health

The Warmth & Wellbeing Service

HOME ENERGY ADVICE

Better Housing Better Health (BHBH) is a service working locally to improve your domestic warmth & wellbeing. In a preventative approach, our free helpline provides you with a single point of contact for advice and support in order to help improve the energy efficiency of your property and lower your bills.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Our team of experts can work with households to apply for grants and funding to help with your home energy. Schemes like the Warm Home Discount can take £150 off your bills and ECO Funding can replace heating systems as well as install insulation. Call us to see if you're eligible and start the process.



WE ARE HERE.

GET IN TOUCH

0800 107 0044

WWW.BHBH.ORG.UK