

# The Basildon Upper Academy Newsletter

14th July 2025

#### **Dates for the Diary**

**Last Day of Summer Term** Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025 - Students finish at 12:30pm

**A Level Results Day** Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2025

GCSE Results Day Thursday 21st August 2025

**First Day of Autumn Term** Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025

**School Photos - Year 10 & Year 12** Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025

#### Student Value of the Term



#### House Points - Week Ending 11th July



#### Leadership Message

As we come to the end of another busy and fulfilling academic year, I want to take a moment to thank each and every one of you for your hard work, commitment, and unwavering support.

It has been an incredibly rewarding journey, two years as Head at Upper and now a year at Lower. I feel truly privileged to lead two such exceptional schools, where community spirit shines and every day is filled with golden moments that bring countless reasons to smile.

The growth, development, and achievements of our students continue to inspire me. This year, we've seen fantastic performances across both schools, from academic progress to creative talents and sporting success. I look forward with great excitement to welcoming our new Year 7 and Year 12 students in September.



I am so grateful to the staff, parents, and students for the strong partnerships we have built and the way everyone supports one another. It is this sense of community that makes our schools such special places to be.

Wishing you all a very happy, safe, and restful summer holiday. I look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for the new academic year in September.

R.Rees Headteacher

#### **Summer Activities for Students**

Active Essex's Find Your Active platform helps students and families discover a wide range of free or low-cost sports and fitness opportunities across Basildon, Billericay, and beyond. Whether you're into team sports, dance, walking groups, or gym sessions, the Activity Finder makes it easy to find something fun and local to keep active and support both physical and mental wellbeing over the summer break.



One great local example is the Activity Holiday Camp at Briscoe Primary School & Nursery, which offers fun, engaging sessions for 12–16 year olds – ideal for many of our students at the Basildon Academies.

Click the following link for more information: findyouractive.activityfinder.net

#### Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded Student of the Week for week commencing 11<sup>th</sup> July 2025.



Mckenzie.W - Year 10 (R10Y2)



Riley.W - Year 10 (R10T2)

#### **Safeguarding**

Safeguarding our students is at the forefront of everything we do. Parents and carers can access information via the following link <a href="https://www.escb.co.uk">www.escb.co.uk</a> 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 <u>Contact Us</u> page via the Basildon Upper Academy website and select the option for General Enquiries.

#### **Spotlight on: A Level Photography**



If you are interested in the world around you and your place within it, enjoy picture taking and would like to learn how to take better photographs that translate into creative and meaningful imagery then you would be very suited to the Photography course.

Studying Photography will give you a greater understanding of the world we live in, and your place within it. You will be encouraged to explore subject themes with a personal interest to ensure that you are always on a meaningful creative journey.

Full course information can be found by visiting the following link on our website: A Level Photography

## Aspire - Believe - Achieve

#### **Young Minds**

<u>Young Minds</u> 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.



#### Online Safety Hub: Is Your Teen Using Tech to Cover Their Tracks?

From the simple act of deleting browser history or minimising a window to more sophisticated techniques like decoy apps and VPNs, young people who want to keep their online activity hidden will continue to look for innovative ways. Click here to access information and support relating to teens using technology to cover their tracks online.

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



#### Year 10 Take on the MADE Training Challenge

We were fortunate to welcome back James Sherwood from MADE Training to the Upper Academy last week, as he delivered a series of engaging and practical workshops for our Year 10 students to help them prepare for the year ahead.

The sessions focused on three key areas: motivation and goal setting, effective revision techniques, and how making small changes now can lead to significant long-term success — both in studies and beyond.

Students were given the opportunity to try out the revision strategies for themselves and experienced first-hand the difference these techniques can make to learning and recall. These approaches will continue to be a focus in Year 11 and will also be shared with parents and carers in September, so they can support students in the lead-up to their exams.

James set Year 10 a clear challenge: to commit to 20 minutes of revision each day over the summer break. By starting now, students can get ahead of the curve and begin building the positive habits that will support them through Year 11 and beyond.







"I found the workshops really enjoyable. James taught us lots of new techniques to improve the quality of our revision and helped us learn how to memorise information more efficiently." Boglarka.B

"The workshops were interesting and interactive. James shared fun facts and showed us new ways to revise and study — I think they'll really help me in Year 11." Madalina.V

"The sessions have helped a lot. I'll be using the revision strategies in the lead-up to my GCSEs." Lee.M



#### **Love to Ride This Summer**

Looking for a fun and healthy way to spend time outdoors this summer? Love to Ride Essex is a free, family-friendly cycling challenge open to all ages!

Simply download the free app, log your cycling adventures, and start tracking your progress. You can set personal goals, compete in fun challenges, and even win prizes—all while enjoying the great outdoors and staying active.

Why not give it a go and see how far you can ride this summer.

Click the following link for more information: https://www.lovetoride.net/essex



#### Parent Drop In - Thursday 17th July

This week's Parent Drop In will be on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July between 9.30am and 10.30am.

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.



#### **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 90% of young people with 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.

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

\* Plenty of time for shopping, holidays & appointments.

Days of education

> 75% 47 days absent

Days of education

80% 38 days absent 162 Days of education

85%

171 Days of

90%

184 Days of education

> 97% 6 days absent

Davs of

education

100% O days absent

#### SERIOUSLY WORRIED

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

#### **VERY CONCERNED**

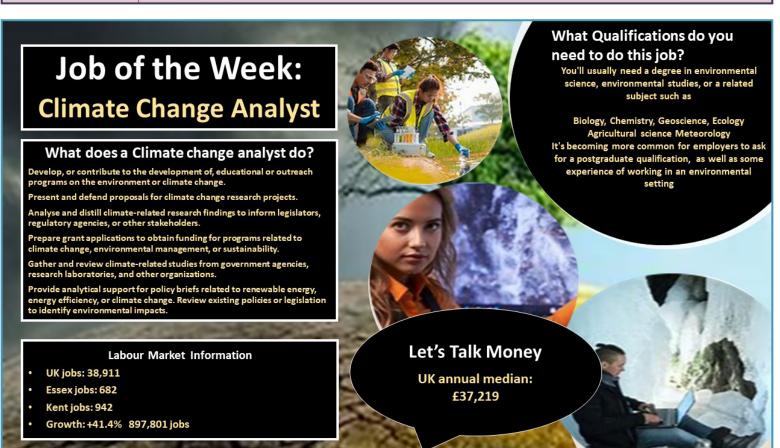
Poor attendance dives less chance of success.

#### **WELL DONE**

Good attendance gives the best chance of success.

# BASILDON ACADEMIES WORD OF THE DAY

14 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	
Monday: Bastille Day	Revolution (Noun) revolucija in Bosnian  Definition: A forcible overthrow of a government or social order in favour of a new system.  Example: Bastille Day commemorates the French Revolution, which marked a turning point in French history.
Tuesday:	Liberty (Noun) slobodu in Croatian  Definition: The state of being free within society from oppressive restrictions imposed by authority.  Example: The spirit of liberty is celebrated across France on Bastille Day.
Wednesday:	Republic (Noun) गणतंत्र in Hindi Definition: A state in which supreme power is held by the people and their elected representatives.  Example: Bastille Day symbolises the birth of the French Republic and the end of monarchy
Thursday:	Citizenship (Noun) staatsbürgerschaft in German  Definition: The status of a person recognised under the law as being a legal member of a sovereign state.  Example: Bastille Day celebrations remind citizens of the importance of active participation in their country's future.
Friday:	Commemoration (Noun) komemorasyon in Seychelles French Creole  Definition: A ceremony or celebration in which a person or event is remembered.  Example: The annual parade on Bastille Day serves as a commemoration of the storming of the Bastille and the ideals of freedom.





Pupils learn about, and understand, the importance of respecting themselves and others. The personal, social and health education (PSHE) curriculum teaches pupils how to look after their physical and mental well-being. Pupils meet a range of employers and representatives from further education colleges. This helps pupils make well-informed choices about their next steps.

Follow The Basildon Upper Academy on our social media channels









# CHARACTER: CHARACTER: \*

YEAR 9 & 10 REWARDS COMPETITION



# WHO ARE YOU WHEN NO ONE'S WATCHING?

We're on the lookout for students who show strong character, every single day!

Show us your best self for a chance to WIN amazing rewards!



- Politeness Using your manners and being respectful
- Kindness Helping others, including those you don't know
- Positivity Bringing good energy into the room

Integrity - Doing the right thing, even when it's hard

Responsibility - Owning your actions and leading by example

## Prizes include:

- Brunch on the 18th July
- Sweets
  - Gift bags /

Competition runs from:

Monday 7th July -Thursday 17th July

For extra recognition, go above and beyond.

Be the reason someone smiles today.



# Free holiday clubs, fun activities and food across Essex and Thurrock!

- Specialist SEND, mental wellbeing and youth clubs.
- Sports and games, arts and crafts, cooking and so much more!
- Nutritious snacks and tasty meals
- Run by qualified, local club providers
- Family support, resources and guidance
- Discretionary paid and paid for spaces

## WHAT IS ESSEX ACTIVATE?

Essex ActivAte is the name for the exciting activity clubs run by Active Essex! During school holidays, local club providers across the county deliver free holiday clubs and fun activities to get eligible primary and secondary children active, as well as support young people to make friendships and learn new skills, helping to enhance their wellbeing.

Please only book your child/ren a space at an Essex ActivAte club if they will attend. If they are booked on and do not attend, other children may miss out on this beneficial opportunity across the holidays.

www.activeessex.org







@EssexActivAte



Turn this flyer over to read more on how to book a space!

**SCAN ME** 

