

## Dates for the Diary

### Half Term

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026

### Year 10 AP2 Assessments

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2026

### Year 12 AP2 Assessments

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2026

### Year 11 Prom

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June - 5.30pm-10pm

### Last Day of Summer Term

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026

## Student Value of the Term

# CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL

## House Points - Week Ending 1<sup>st</sup> May



126,844  
AUSTEN



122,925  
SEACOLE



110,028  
ALI



109,034  
HAWKING

## Leadership Message

We are incredibly proud of the effort so many of our students are already showing by attending regularly and arriving on time. This commitment is making a real difference to their progress and achievement, and it does not go unnoticed.

To recognise and encourage this positive approach, we are excited to introduce our "Through the Door for 24" attendance reward. Students who attend every day from 20<sup>th</sup> April to 22<sup>nd</sup> May will be entered into a raffle to win a £50 lifestyle voucher. This is just one of the ways we are celebrating the dedication and resilience shown by our students. After half term, we will also be running a series of rewards for those demonstrating strong attendance and punctuality—more details to follow soon.

As we move into the final stretch of the academic year, we want to highlight the importance of maintaining excellent attendance and punctuality, particularly for those preparing for post-16 study and future careers. Being in school every day, right through to the end of term, is essential in building the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed for success—especially with exam season approaching.



By attending consistently, students are not only setting themselves up to achieve their best in assessments but are also contributing to a positive and supportive school community. 187 of you have over 97% attendance this year, well done! Together, we are building a school where everyone can thrive.

Thank you to all our students and families for your continued effort, commitment, and positivity.

R. Drisdale - Attendance Champion

**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.

## 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](mailto:admin@basildonacademies.org.uk) with the updated information.

## Parent Drop In - Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May

Our next Parent Drop In will be on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May between 11am and 12pm.

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 27<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

- ★ Year 10 - Ellie.A (R10E1)
- ★ Year 11 - Millie.S (R11T1)
- ★ Sixth Form - Micah.M (R1213)

## 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

## 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](http://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](http://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.

## 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.

## Aspire - Believe - Achieve

## Online Safety Hub: Online Bullying FAQs

Online bullying can have a significant impact on a child's wellbeing, and knowing how to respond is crucial. Our Online Safety Hub provides clear, practical advice on handling common online bullying situations. [Click here](#) for guidance on how to support your child and help them stay safe 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 Continue Their Journey into the World of Work

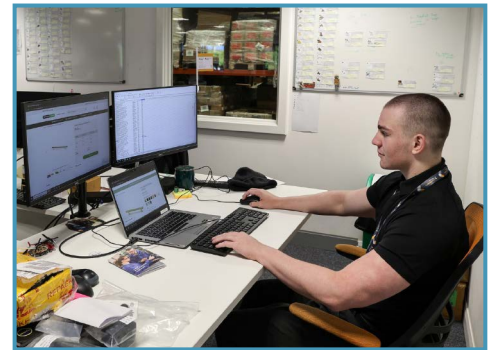
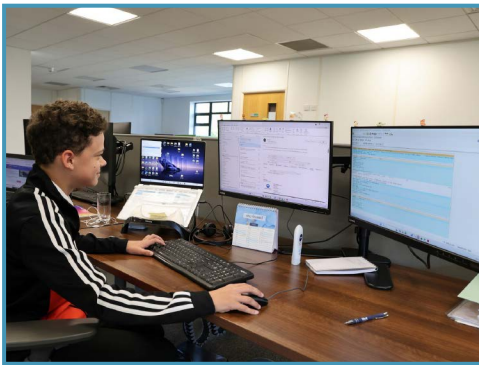
Last week, our second group of Year 10 students took part in their work experience placements, continuing an important step in preparing for life beyond school.

Students had the opportunity to work alongside professionals across a wide range of industries, gaining valuable insight into the workplace while developing key skills such as communication, teamwork and independence. From practical, hands-on roles to customer-focused environments, students approached their placements with enthusiasm and maturity.

Placement opportunities included organisations such as Basildon Borough Council, Konica Minolta Business Solutions UK Ltd and Carousel School of Gymnastics, as well as roles within electrical contractors, joinery, automotive services, care settings, animal parks, car dealerships and hair and beauty salons. These varied experiences allowed students to explore different career pathways and gain meaningful, real-world insight into industries that interest them.

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

Work experience continues to be a valuable opportunity for our students to build confidence, develop employability skills and begin shaping their future aspirations.



"This has been a great experience, my favourite aspect has been interacting with the gymnasts and helping them." Exalted.I – Carousel School of Gymnastics

"My work experience has been really interesting, with lots of different tasks. I've had the opportunity to see different parts of the business, including a tour of the large printing workshop. I've also input data, worked on spreadsheets, and learned about pre-delivery inspections." Kolbey.B - Konica Minolta Business Solutions UK Ltd

"I am really enjoying my work experience. It's a friendly environment, and I enjoy serving customers. I also feel that my problem-solving skills have improved." Ogheneyenrovwo.A - Success Food

"I found it fun counting stock and loading the vans. This has been a really good experience for me." Max.B – Harris Electrical Contractors

"During my work experience, I've seen how challenging it can be to be a teacher. I've really enjoyed being here—it's been nice to be back and see everyone." Gracie-Mae.M - The Basildon Lower Academy

## PET-Xi Intervention Week Supports Year 11 Success

Last week, we welcomed PET-Xi Training to the Upper Academy to deliver targeted intervention sessions for our Year 11 students as they prepare for their upcoming GCSE examinations.

Across English, Maths and Science, students took part in focused sessions designed to build confidence, strengthen key skills and maximise their potential ahead of exam season.

### Strong Praise from PET-Xi

We are incredibly proud to share the following feedback from Toyosi, Associate Lead Trainer at PET-Xi Training, who has been working closely with our students throughout the week:

"Basildon Upper Academy is honestly one of the best schools we have the chance to work in partnership with. Every visit has been a great experience, and that says a lot about the kind of place this school is.

What stands out most is how much the students actually want to be there. In our English, Maths, and Science sessions, we've had more students wanting to join than we had space for which is a brilliant problem to have. Seeing young people choose to show up and push themselves is something special.

In the sessions, students came in ready to get involved. They answered questions, shared their thoughts, and looked out for each other. That kind of energy makes the whole room better and honestly makes our job a joy. When students are engaged and supportive of one another, great things happen.

A big part of that comes down to the teachers. You can tell they genuinely care, and it shows in how their students show up. Confident, curious, and willing to try and that's everything.

We're really proud to be part of the Basildon Upper Academy community and can't wait to keep supporting their students as they grow. Watching them build confidence in subjects they once found tough is a reminder of why this work is so worthwhile." **Toyosi - Associate Lead Trainer @ PET-Xi Training**



## Sixth Form Students Boost Revision Skills with Expert Workshop

Sixth Form students recently took part in a series of engaging revision workshops delivered by Sander de Groot, Director of MADE Training. The sessions were designed to support students in preparing effectively for their upcoming summer examinations, equipping them with practical strategies to enhance their revision.

Across the workshops, students explored a range of techniques, including building positive study habits, applying marginal gains to improve performance over time, and developing metacognitive approaches to better understand how they learn. Interactive memory exercises also helped students strengthen their recall skills in a fun and engaging way.

The sessions included a focus on rapid revision through the "Power Hour" workshop, alongside a separate session centred on the impact of small, consistent improvements. Students responded positively to the dynamic and interactive delivery, gaining valuable tools to support their independent study.

In addition to the workshops, students will receive further revision resources from both MADE Training and the Sixth Form team to support their continued preparation in the lead-up to exams.

"I really enjoyed the workshop, and I learned a lot of new revision methods." George.A – Year 13

"The workshop was really helpful. I learned some new ways to approach revision, which I'll be using for my upcoming Criminology exam." Micah.M – Year 13

"It was really useful, and the examples and explanations were clear and easy to understand." Omotayo.A – Year 12



## Year 10 Students Inspired by Careers and Resilience Workshop

Year 10 students recently took part in an engaging and thought-provoking workshop delivered by Performance in Education.

The performance-based session, titled *Working Wonders*, used drama to explore the importance of “futureproofing” and preparing for life beyond school. Through a series of acted scenarios from different perspectives, students were encouraged to reflect on what motivates them and how to stay focused on achieving their goals.

The workshop highlighted that career paths are not always linear, and that life events, changes in location, or new opportunities can all influence future directions. Students were encouraged to remain open-minded, avoid limiting themselves to a single path, and recognise how skills developed in school can transfer across a wide range of careers.

A key focus of the session was the importance of qualifications, skills and personal qualities. Students explored how core subjects such as English, Maths and Science play a vital role, alongside essential skills like problem solving, communication and time management. The importance of qualities such as being reliable, responsible and honest was also emphasised.

Students were also encouraged to set realistic goals, seek support when needed, and not feel overwhelmed when planning their futures. The session concluded with group discussions, allowing students to reflect on their next steps and decisions around further education.

The workshop was highly engaging and provided valuable insights to help students prepare for the ever-changing world of work.

“It was very eye-opening in showing the possibilities if things don’t go to plan. It helped me understand the world of work and how skills I thought were useless are actually valuable.” Logan.W

“I found the workshop very engaging. The performers covered topics I think about quite often and helped ease my mind. It was a great, harmonious mix of humour, education and advice; an amazing start to my morning.” Mia.L

“The workshop was very entertaining and helpful in showing us the different paths we can take in the future.” Lillian.M



## Year 11 Intervention Programme Supporting 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.

Last week, we also introduced our *Paper & Pizza* revision initiative, which saw an excellent turnout of 110 students. The atmosphere was fantastic, with students fully engaged, working hard and supporting one another throughout the session; followed by well-earned pizza as a reward for their efforts.

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



## Saturday School Supporting Year 11 GCSE Success

Year 11 students have been making the most of weekly Saturday School sessions as they prepare for their upcoming GCSE summer examinations.

Running each week 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.

Students have shared positive feedback about the impact of the sessions:

"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."

"Saturday School has been helpful for boosting my confidence. You get more time with teachers to support you, and it helps improve your knowledge to the highest standard, making things easier for me."

Timi.N

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

Upcoming sessions:

- Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May
- Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May
- Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

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



## King George's Playing Field's (KGPF) Got Talent for all Schools

KGPF's Got Talent is being launched at King George's Playing Fields, Brentwood, and they would love students to get involved! Children and adults are being invited to take part by submitting a short video audition, with the chance to perform live at the grand final and win some fantastic prizes!

Students can submit a video (maximum 2 minutes) by emailing [keeleyheasman@everyoneactive.com](mailto:keeleyheasman@everyoneactive.com) by end of May 2026. Every entry receives a voucher.

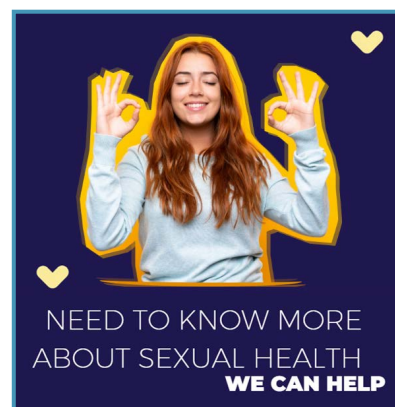


## Supporting Personal Development and Wellbeing

As part of our Personal Development curriculum, the Academies use resources from the Essex Sexual Health Service to support students with age-appropriate information about growing up and development. Students are signposted to a trusted online hub where they can find reliable advice and answers to common questions:

Asking for a friend: <https://askingforafriend.org.uk/>

Parents and carers are also encouraged to visit the dedicated Parents and Carers section of the [Essex Sexual Health Service website](#). This provides up-to-date guidance for supporting young people, as well as advice on how to approach and discuss more challenging topics at home.



## Mental Health Awareness Month – The Power of Language

This month, the Safeguarding Team is recognising Mental Health Awareness Month and focusing on the power of language. The words we use every day – whether we mean them or not – can have a strong effect on how others feel.

We want to remind students to think carefully about the language they use and how it might be heard by someone else. Words, jokes or comments can sometimes be taken the wrong way and may feel unkind, discriminatory or hurtful. Even if something is said “as a joke”, it can still cause upset and damage someone’s emotional wellbeing.



Choosing kind, respectful and inclusive language helps everyone feel safe, accepted and valued. It also helps build positive friendships and a stronger school community.

As adults, both in school and at home, we play an important role. By modelling positive language and challenging harmful words when we hear them, we show young people how to treat others with respect and understanding.

Over the coming weeks, students will take part in organised events where we will be sharing ideas about how we can support each other, speak kindly, and look after our mental health together.

Small changes in the words we choose can make a big difference. Let’s work together to support one another and create a caring, respectful community for all.

This is also a crucial time for our Year 11 students as the GCSE exam season begins this week. We actively encourage students and parents to reach out to use during this stressful time if support is needed and we will ensure that we provide guidance on how best to manage the pressures of exams. A selection of useful websites is provided below:

- **Info on exam stress - for 11-18 year olds | Mind**  
<https://www.mind.org.uk/for-young-people/feelings-and-experiences/exam-stress/>
- **Exam stress | Young Minds**  
<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/coping-with-life/exam-stress/>
- **Help your child beat exam stress | NHS -** <https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults/advice-for-parents/help-your-child-beat-exam-stress/>

## Educational Psychology Parent Helpline

Essex County Council are pleased to announce their new support offer for families, now available.

The EP Parent Helpline offers advice, support, and signposting for parents and carers. It is a confidential, safe, and private service, and no referral is needed — just book an appointment in advance.



**Easy to Access:** The booking is designed to provide an easier and more convenient experience.

- **Available on alternating Mondays and Tuesdays**
- **1:00pm – 5:00pm**
- **25-minute appointments bookable via MS Teams**
- **No more waiting – instant booking confirmation**

For booking details and further information, please visit: [EP-Parent-Helpline](#)

Further information is available on the Essex County Council Local Offer pages: <https://schools.essex.gov.uk/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-send/send-services-and-support/essex-local-offer-website>

# BASILDON ACADEMIES

## WORD OF THE DAY

4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Monday:	<b>Austerity (noun)</b> <i>ascesi</i> in <b>Italian</b> – strictness or severity of manner. <i>The government's austerity measures caused protest.</i>	
Tuesday:	<b>Clarity (noun)</b> <i>claridad</i> in <b>Spanish</b> – clearness in expression or understanding. <i>The clarity of the instructions helped students succeed.</i>	
Wednesday:	<b>Insatiable (adjective)</b> <i>insaciável</i> in <b>Portuguese</b> – impossible to satisfy. <i>Her insatiable curiosity led her to read daily.</i>	
Thursday:	<b>Cogent (adjective)</b> <i>convaincant</i> in <b>French</b> – clear, logical, and convincing. <i>He made a cogent argument in the debate.</i>	
Friday:	<b>Remembrance (noun)</b> <i>Erinnerung</i> in <b>German</b> – the act of remembering and honouring. <i>Services were held in remembrance of the war heroes.</i>	

## Job of the Week: Surgeon

### What does a Surgeon do?

Surgeons perform medical operations on patients.

#### Key Responsibilities

- Meeting the patient before the operation to decide on the best course of action
- Explaining the procedures and risk
- Taking tests and arrange X-rays
- Carrying out operations with a team of people
- Carrying out ward rounds
- Writing to GPs about your patients' conditions and treatments

### Labour Market Information

- +7.2% 118,954 jobs
- +11.3% in your region of East of England, an increase of 13,484 jobs

### Let's Talk Money

UK annual median:  
£55,494

### What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

#### Typical Entry Requirements:

To become a surgeon, you'll usually need an undergraduate degree in medicine, followed by general and specialist training.  
In the UK, for example, you'll need a five-year degree in medicine recognised by the General Medical Council (or a non-medicine degree followed by a graduate conversion course), a two-year foundation programme of general training, two years of core surgical training in a hospital, and up to six years of speciality training.



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

