

Dates for the Diary

LGBT+ History Month
February 2024

Parent Forum Meeting
Monday 12th February 2024 - 4pm-5pm

Half Term
Monday 19th - Friday 23rd February 2024

Literacy, Numeracy & Science Parental Event
Monday 4th March 2024 - 4pm-5pm

Year 9 Progress Review
Wednesday 13th March 2024 - 4pm-6pm

Student Value of the Term

**KINDNESS IS
EVERYTHING**

House Points - Week Ending 9th February



21,467
HAWKING



20,690
ALI



20,613
SEACOLE



19,481
AUSTEN

Leadership Message

An effective safeguarding culture should be one of vigilance, and the cornerstone of vigilance is accepting that issues can occur in our setting. At the Lower Academy we work hard with our students to ensure that every child feels safe, valued and supported within school.

We respond to local demographic safeguarding concerns and educate our children through a range of safeguarding workshops, activities, and assemblies to understand safeguarding trends and themes. Safeguarding is embedded in every aspect of our student's education and our students are confident in recognising how to get support and report a concern.

Safeguarding is about:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstance consistent with the provision of a safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcome.

As a school, we work closely with our students to create an ethos and environment that students can speak openly about their worries and concerns, and know how to get support and who from. We have a range of in school support available to students and their families should it be required. We promote safeguarding to our parents and carers by providing our Tea-Time Talks to support their understanding of specific safeguarding topics and to create a collaboration between home and school in effectively safeguarding our students.

All staff within our school are dedicated to safeguarding our students and our students recognise they can speak to any member of staff if they have a worry or concern about themselves or their peers.

Should you require support from the academies Safeguarding Team, have a concern about a child or, a students' wellbeing please contact safeguarding@basildonacademies.org.uk

S.Peake
Senior Student Development Leader & Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Leadership and management of TAs is well organised and they play a very important role within Basildon Academy. Teaching and non-teaching staff work closely together on a day-to-day basis, "It is teamwork, we do it together" a teacher commented.



Best Practice with
Teaching Assistants Award

2023-2026

Children's Mental Health Week 2024

This year's Children's Mental Health Week focused on the theme 'My Voice Matters' to emphasise the importance of supporting young people's mental health.

Students participated in various activities including creating positivity puzzles and writing down their thoughts to launch into a 'stress bucket'. In RSHE lessons, students addressed 'being kind to our mind' focusing on what makes them happy; creating their own class jars full of happiness. The initiatives highlighted the importance of providing a supportive environment for everyone.

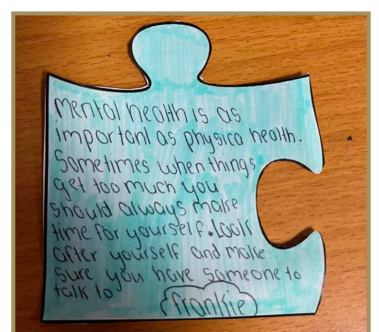
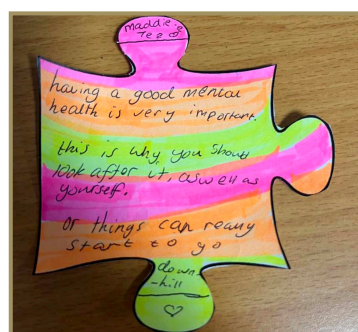
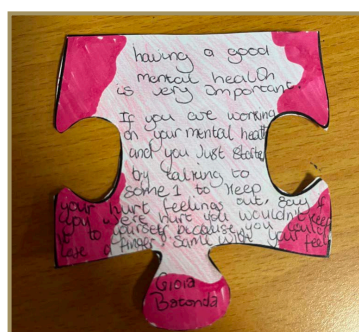
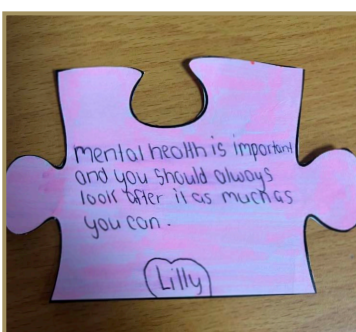
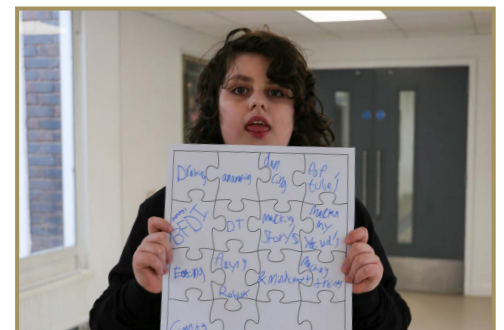
These activities, in addition to the schools' daily focus on wellbeing, underpin the ongoing efforts to prioritise the mental health of students.

"It's good to be positive, happy, and spread joy to everyone. When you are happy it can make other people experience your happiness. Being happy is good for your health." Rafiat.M – Year 7

"Mental health is important because people suffer from depression, so we need to raise awareness." Elisha.P – Year 8

"Some children may have mental health concerns but do not express their feelings, so promoting the support available is important." Advait.A – Year 8

"It is important that people realise how important other people's feelings are, and understanding the struggles other children may go through. Children should be able to express their feelings to people they feel comfortable with so they can cope with their health and manage it." Emily.B – Year 8



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 Lower Academy website and select the option for Home Learning/Homework.

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.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/safeguarding

Free Online Counselling Service

www.kooth.com is a free, confidential, safe and anonymous way for young people, aged 11-26, to ask for help from a team of highly qualified and experienced counsellors and support workers.

Kooth is a well-established, award winning online counselling agency and is accredited by The British Association of Psychotherapy and Counselling (BACP).

Student 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 can be found:

Every Tuesday

Breaktime

Location:

The Wellbeing Centre



Free Fruit at Breaktime



Students can choose an item of fruit from the till area in the Dining Hall at breaktime each day.

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

THE BASILDON ACADEMIES WORD OF THE DAY

12th February - 16th February 2024

EAL VERSION

	12 th February - 16 th February 2024	EAL VERSION
Monday:	Admission: confession of a charge, an error, or a crime; an acknowledgment.	pengakuan = Malay
Tuesday: (Shrove Tuesday)	Proclamation: a public and official announcement.	선언 = Korean
Wednesday: (Valentine's Day)	Assertion: a positive statement or declaration, often without support or reason.	aseveración = Spanish
Thursday: (International Childhood Cancer Day)	Confession: acknowledgment or disclosure of sin or sinfulness.	tilståelse = Norwegian
Friday:	Revelation: the act of revealing or disclosing; disclosure.	اظہار = Urdu

Essex Activate - Half Term Activities

Essex County Council are funding holiday activity clubs for young people who are eligible for benefits based free school meals and, low-income working families.

For more information, to check eligibility and, to register your child into a club for the upcoming half term, please visit: [Essex Activate | Active Essex](#)



Mastercard Representatives Inspire Year 7 Students in Digital Careers Workshop

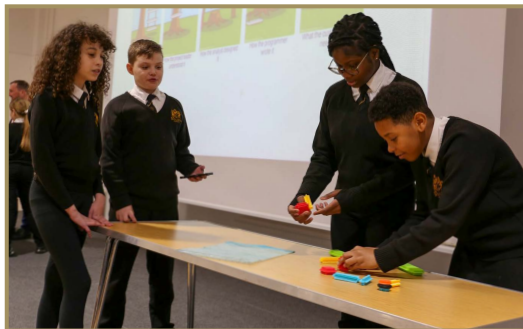
Year 7 students recently participated in a workshop centred around digital careers led by Amy and Paul, representatives from Mastercard.

The workshop focused on the vast array of careers in technology. Our guests explained the importance of cyber security in the tech industry and spoke to the students about the potential careers that have not even been thought of yet. They also explained the concept of digital disruption and how changes in technology can cause significant shifts in various industries.

To demonstrate their teambuilding skills, students participated in a project management role-play activity. One half of the team instructed the other to build something by only description, emphasising the importance of clear communication and teamwork in digital careers.

"I found it interesting because I like coding and IT. I also liked that we got to take part in group activities. Other members of our team described what we had to build, they could see an image, but we couldn't and had to follow their instructions." Oliver.B

"The workshop was informative. I learned about alternative career paths that I am interested in. Paul and Amy explained their journeys' and that sometimes people find out what they want to do along the way." Amirah.A



Job of the Week: Locksmith

What does a Locksmith do?

Your day-to-day duties could include:

- Fitting locks to doors and windows
- Selling, servicing and repairing locks and other security devices
- Cutting copies of keys and making new keys
- Repairing locks on motor vehicles
- Providing a call-out service to people locked out of their home or business or after break-ins

Labour Market Information

- UK jobs: 205,159
- Essex jobs: 5,416 (2nd of 214 UK LEAs)
- Top 5 LEAs: Kent (5,464), Essex (5,416), Lancashire (5,050), Hampshire (4,995), St Helens (4,782)



What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

You could: contact local locksmithing companies to see if they'll take you on and train you on the job, train as a locksmith by taking courses through the British Locksmiths Institute (BLI), part of the Master Locksmiths Association (MLA) or get into this job through an apprenticeship.

Some experience in carpentry or engineering might be useful but isn't essential.

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median: £30,284





HAPPY
LUNAR
NEW YEAR
2024



TO CELEBRATE LUNAR NEW
YEAR & CHINESE NEW YEAR
THERE WILL BE CHINESE
THEMED LUNCHES AVAILABLE
IN THE DINING HALL ON
MONDAY 12TH FEBRUARY

PANCAKE DAY TUESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY



To celebrate Pancake Day on Tuesday 13th February The Dining Hall will be serving pancakes in addition to the regular dessert menu options.

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels



Absence Procedures

To report a student absence please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Lower 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.
- Parents/carers must provide medical evidence to support all absences due to illness or medical appointments.
- Wherever possible parents/carers should make appointments outside of school hours but if this is unavoidable students should attend school before and after the appointment.
- If no appropriate medical evidence is provided then the Academies cannot authorise an absence. (ie. medical appointment card, prescription, doctor's letter.)



For further information and guidance regarding attendance and absence please visit our website: www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/attendance



GOOD TIMEKEEPING



What to do the night before:

Get everything you need for school ready



Set your alarm allowing plenty of time

Make your lunch and drink if you bring a packed lunch to school



Turn off devices half an hour before bedtime

Have a good night's sleep - a minimum of eight hours!



Five minutes late per day soon adds up to three days of lost school time