

As we look forward to the Christmas holiday, I would like to say a big thank you for all your support throughout this term. I am very proud of our students as I have seen them demonstrate their resilience, desire to succeed and their spirit of working together each day.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

April Gurney
Headteacher



Winter Wonderland Christmas Concert

We are excited to announce that we are holding our annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Concert at the Lower Academy on Thursday 15th December, 2022. The event is open to all parents, careers, families and students and will take place from 3:30 – 5pm.

Some of our Lower Academy Students have been working hard in choir rehearsals over the last few weeks and will be performing a selection of festive songs. The event will see Christmas stalls being run by students and staff who have been working diligently during enrichment lessons to create games and items to sell for the event with donations going to our chosen charity, Save the Children.



Dates for the Diary

Christmas Dinner (Free for all students)
Thursday 15th December 2022

Winter Wonderland Christmas Concert
Thursday 15th December 2022 - 3:30-5pm

Non-uniform/Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 16th December 2022

Last Day of Autumn Term
Friday 16th December 2022 - *Students finish at 12:30pm*

First Day of Spring Term
Thursday 5th January 2023

World Religion Day
Sunday 15th January 2023

Student Value of the Term

**NO HUMAN
IS ILLEGAL**

House Points - Week Ending 9th December



16,106
ALI



16,001
AUSTEN



15,691
SEACOLE



15,428
HAWKING

Non-uniform/Christmas Jumper Day 16th December

All students are invited to take part in this year's Christmas Jumper Day on the last day of term, Friday 16th December. We 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.



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.

Assessment Point Dates

- Year 9 – w/c 23rd January 2023

These assessment points are crucial in helping us to support students in closing any learning gaps, providing stretch and challenge. Please contact our Quality of Education team if you need any advice on how to support home learning in the lead up to these assessments, via the [Contact Us](#) page found on the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for Home Learning/Homework.

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).

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 can be found:

Every Thursday Breaktime

Location: The Lower Academy Wellbeing Centre



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

Lower Academy Extra-Curricular Clubs

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p>After School: 3.30 - 4.30pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Archery (sign up required) Year 7 Football & Elite Football - Boys & Girls Year 8 & 9 Rugby Girls Football (all years) 	<p>Before School: 7.30 - 8.15am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trampolining (all years) Fitness (all years) <p>After School: 3.30 - 4.30pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basketball (Year 8 & 9 Boys) History Club (D5) (all years) Choir Club (E19) (all years) Art Club (A5) (all years) 	<p>Before School: 7.30 - 8.15am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fitness (all years) <p>After School: 3.30 - 4.30pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 7 Boys and Girls Basketball (all years) Dance Club – Dance Studio (Top Floor Year 7 Block) Dungeons & Dragons Club (See Miss Wright) Drama Club (Drama Studio) 	<p>Before School: 7.30 - 8.15am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basketball (all years) <p>After School: 3.30 - 4.30pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volleyball (all years) Netball (all years) Football (Year 8 & 9) Geography Club (Year 7) (D3) Music Club (all years) (E19)

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

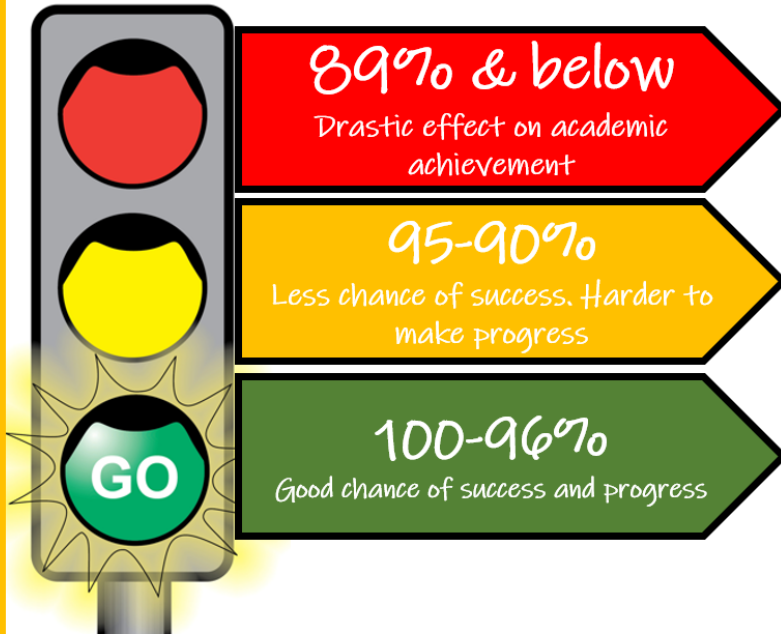
Attendance Expectations

There is a clear link between academic success and attendance and as such our expectations for attendance are that:

- Parents have a legal duty to ensure their child attends regularly.
- Students should have 100% attendance each year.
- Students with attendance below 95% are of concern.

ATTENDANCE

Every Minute Counts!



Absence from school

Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year. The government states that every child's attendance should be above 95%.

How do YOU measure up?

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 Lessons

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 should 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

The curriculum, student briefings and assemblies, the website, and the displays and messaging throughout the school all give mental health and wellbeing a high profile and promote its importance to all members of the school community as well as providing guidance to those seeking support.



Wellbeing Award
for Schools

2022-2025



GOLD - RIGHTS RESPECTING

Strong, supportive, and mutually respectful relationships were evident throughout the visit and young people said that the increased emphasis on rights, respect and dignity has added to this, "If you respect people's rights, you respect them as a person."

Unicef RRS Accreditation Report Gold: Rights Aware - July 2022



Free Christmas Dinner Thursday 15th December

Main Meal

Roast Turkey & Pigs in Blankets
or
Quorn Roast

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

Dessert Options

Christmas Pudding
Mincemeat Slice
Chocolate Crackle Pudding
Meringue Snowmen
Trifle

Christmas Dinner comes with fresh
fruit juice & a Christmas Cracker

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels



National Online Safety

The online world is posing an ever-increasing risk to children, and it is important that schools, parents and carers work together to take an active role in teaching children about online dangers. Learning how to act safely when using the internet is an incredibly important part of safeguarding our children.

We are therefore delighted to announce that we have shown our commitment to protecting students online by working with National Online Safety- providing resources for all parents and carers. The resources include Parents & Carers courses, online video resources and weekly guides covering a huge range of topics, including:

- Online Relationships
- Fake Profiles & Social Bots
- Online Bullying
- Online Grooming
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Sexual Harassment & Violence
- Sexting
- Live Streaming
- Online Identity
- Screen Addiction
- Online Challenges
- Overspending
- Social Media Platforms
- Online Gambling
- Radicalisation, Terrorism & Extremism
- Age Inappropriate Content
- Copyright & Ownership
- Hacking
- Fake News
- Online Fraud
- Online Reputation
- Personal Data
- Pornography
- Targeted Adverts & Pop-Ups
- The Dark Web
- Games & Trends



National
Online
Safety®

Download your Free Online Safety App for Parents & Carers

Be #OnlineSafetySavvy

Keep up with the latest apps games and tech your children are using, with the worlds most comprehensive online safety app for parents.

To create your account, please follow <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/basildon-academies> and complete your details. When you're set up, you'll be able to set 'Parent/Carer' as your user type.

You can access National Online Safety online via any device- including via the brand-new smartphone app.

To download the app, please go to:

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/national-online-safety/id1530342372>

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.co.nationaleducationgroup.nos>

SEND Department Coffee Afternoons Every Wednesday 2:30pm – 3:30pm

We are delighted to offer our parents/carers the opportunity to meet with members of our SEND Department to discuss your child's progress. Coffee afternoons are held at the Lower Academy from 2:30 - 3:30pm every Wednesday.

To book an appointment please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for General Enquiries.

Veganuary is coming in 2023



Friday
6th January

Shortbread Day

All shortbread will be 50p
Available in the Dining Hall



Merry
Christmas

AND HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM
ALL AT THE BASILDON ACADEMIES

