

Dates for the Diary

Year 7 AP1 Assessments

Monday 13th - Friday 17th January 2025

Year 9 Options Process Event (Venue: Upper Academy)

Monday 13th January 2025 - 4pm-5pm

World Religion Day

Sunday 19th January 2025

Year 8 & 9 Parents Evening (Online)

Wednesday 22nd January 2025

Holocaust Memorial Day

Monday 27th January 2025

Student Value of the Term

**KINDNESS IS
EVERYTHING**

House Points - Week Beginning 6th January



39,652
ALI



37,055
SEACOLE



32,575
AUSTEN



27,594
HAWKING

Leadership Message

As we welcome the start of a new term, I hope everyone is feeling refreshed and ready to enter spring term. Every half term, we will be rewarding students for their positive attendance, so what better time than now to target 100% attendance. We have recently introduced additional support by providing students with dedicated attendance mentors to support students with any barriers that may be affecting their attendance, this is an additional layer of support alongside the normal process of contact through the dedicated team.



We are very excited to welcome all students back. With upcoming assessments for some year groups and reflection of assessments that took place before Christmas, it is important to ensure that we are present, after all, success is all about being in the right place at the right time, and being present is the first step towards achieving this.

We would like to thank students for their efforts with attending every day and being part of our school community.

S. Killick
Assistant Headteacher & Attendance Champion

SEND Department Coffee Afternoons - Every Wednesday 3pm - 4pm

We are delighted to offer our parents/carers the opportunity to meet with members of our SEND Department to discuss their child's progress. Coffee afternoons are held at the Lower Academy from 3pm – 4pm 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.

The schools approaches to SEND provision and managing behaviour have been adapted to be consistent with the underlying principles of supporting wellbeing first. This is reflected in the schools' policies and the practice seen across both sites.



Wellbeing Award
for Schools

2022-2025

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).



Aspire - Believe - Achieve

Online Safety Hub Recommended Resource of the Week: Review of Instagram

Instagram is an incredibly popular photo & video sharing platform. Users set up a profile and post content for their followers to see. Cyber bullying is common on Instagram, as well as Influencers posting the 'perfect' pictures of themselves, which isn't always helpful for young people's self-esteem. [Click here](#) to access information and support relating to the social media platform Instagram.

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](#)



Certificate of Achievement Award Winners Recognised

One student from each Year group has been honoured with the prestigious Certificate of Achievement for the first half of the academic year. This award celebrates their exceptional academic accomplishments and their exemplary demonstration of the school's values.



Emily.C - Year 7



Nicole.M - Year 8



Ellie.A - Year 9



"I am absolutely thrilled to extend my congratulations and reward each of you for your academic accomplishments and role modelling of our student values! Your hard work, dedication, and perseverance have truly paid off, and your achievements are a testament to your commitment to excellence. You have not only excelled in your studies, but you have also shown independence, resilience, and a commitment to the BA Way.

"Keep up the incredible work, and never stop striving for success. We are all incredibly proud of you and can't wait to see all the amazing things you will accomplish in the future."

E.Cahill - Deputy Headteacher

Winter Wonderland Fayre Raises £625 for Charity

On Monday, 16th December, the Lower Academy hosted its annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Fayre, delighting students, families, and staff with a festive and joyful atmosphere.

The quad area at the Lower Academy was magically transformed into a Christmas wonderland, where guests enjoyed delicious hot food and drinks while exploring a variety of Christmas-themed stalls. These stalls, thoughtfully created by students during their Enrichment time, featured fun games and a fundraising raffle.

Adding to the festive cheer, the School Choir entertained the crowd with a beautiful medley of well-known Christmas songs, creating the perfect seasonal soundtrack for the event.

The festive event raised an amazing £625 for our chosen charity 'Save the Children'. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported this wonderful event—your participation helped make this year's Winter Wonderland Christmas Fayre one to remember!

"It was so much fun! There was a variety of games and even Christmas carols. Everyone had a great time, including the teachers and visitors. There were stalls where you could decorate gingerbread men and games with sweets as prizes. I think everyone really enjoyed themselves, and I'm sure next year's event will be even better." Khaleesi.A – Year 8



French Christmas Card Competition

Well done to all our entrants who took part in our French Christmas card competition.

The Modern Foreign Languages department found a unique way to promote French culture while showcasing the creative talents of our students. Combining French and the arts, the idea of a French Christmas card competition was met with enthusiasm and excitement across the Lower Academy. Students embraced the challenge, producing beautifully designed cards that captured the spirit of Christmas with a French twist.

Congratulations to all our entrants for their amazing efforts and helping to make this competition such a success.



1st Place: Agata.O



2nd Place: Hollie.R



3rd Place: Asher.T



Students Enjoy French Reward Afternoon

Year 7 students were recently recognised for their outstanding engagement, effort, and progress in French last term. Nominated by their French teacher, students enjoyed a well-deserved reward in the form of a special movie afternoon.

Gathering in the main hall, the students watched the famous French film *Boule et Bill*. The event was a wonderful way to acknowledge their hard work and enthusiasm for learning French, while also immersing them in French cinema.

Congratulations to all the students who earned this recognition.

"The film was really good and very relatable to most people, plus it shows a story of someone who wants to be loved like everyone else." Leshay.S

"The film was fantastique! I loved it so much that I recommended it to my family." Lexi.B



9U1 Tackle Pollution with Creative Newspaper Reports

During their Personal Development lessons, students from 9U1 took on the important topic of pollution by creating their own newspaper reports. This creative and educational project allowed the students to raise awareness about the impact of pollution on the environment, while showcasing their writing and artistic talents.

Well done to 9U1 for combining creativity and awareness to address such a vital issue.

"It was an amazing opportunity creating a news report about pollution, and it made me realise how much damage pollution causes to our earth." Suzie-Lou.G

"While completing the task, I learnt more about pollution and I also enjoyed drawing." Keyzi.D

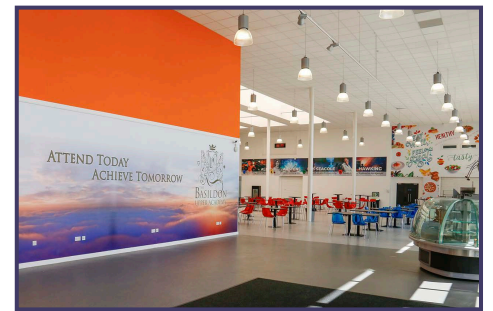


Year 9 Options Process Event

On Monday 13th January, we would like to invite all Year 9 students and their parents/carers to The Basildon Upper Academy from 4pm to 5pm.

This event marks the launch of the Year 9 Options process. We will explain the timeline and provide guidance on the next steps. Additionally, you'll have the opportunity to discuss subjects with Upper Academy teaching staff.

R.Earley, the new Year Leader for Year 9, will also be in attendance and looks forward to meeting you all.



Uniform Price Increase

We have been advised by our school uniform suppliers, SWI Schoolwear, that from **February 1st 2025**, there will be an increase in price across uniform of 3.4%, in line with Retail Price Index (RPI).

Should you require any additional uniform for your child, please order before the end of January to benefit from the current price.

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.
- 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.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/attendance



TA's are deployed according to the needs of the children and TA's are encouraged to use their own interests and strengths. Support in the classroom is effective and pupils spoke about this very positively, "they help explain things better", another pupil articulated, "I feel confident in the classroom, TA's help me to get through school".



Best Practice with
Teaching Assistants Award

2023-2026

Christmas Decoration Competition

Combining our Lower Academy's students' love of art and Christmas, we received some beautiful submissions in our Christmas decoration creation competition.

As we love Christmas, and we have so many incredible young artists at the Lower Academy, I decided to put on a competition to create a Christmas decoration.



1st Prize: Scarlett.J



2nd Prize: Macey.H



3rd Prize: Kiran.T

Artist of the Year

In addition to our Christmas competition, we also ran our annual 'Artist of the Year'. This year's winner 2024 was Year 8 student Loki.M.

Loki is a totally devoted Art student who not only attends all the Art clubs, but also attends the Art department most days. Loki is an extremely talented student who will no doubt continue to amaze me with his talent.

Congratulations to all.

L.Chapman
Teacher of Art



VEGANUARY MONTH

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

BASILDON ACADEMIES

WORD OF THE DAY

7th - 10th January 2025

Tuesday:	<p>Epistemology (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> The theory of knowledge, especially with regard to its methods, validity, and scope. <i>Example:</i> Epistemology plays a crucial role in understanding the foundational principles of learning and knowledge acquisition.</p>
Wednesday:	<p>Metacognition (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> Awareness and understanding of one's own thought processes. <i>Example:</i> Developing metacognition can greatly enhance students' ability to learn effectively by reflecting on their own learning strategies.</p>
Thursday:	<p>Pedagogy (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> The method and practice of teaching, especially as an academic subject or theoretical concept. <i>Example:</i> Innovative pedagogy methods can transform the learning experience, making it more engaging and effective.</p>
Friday:	<p>Didactic (Adjective) <i>Definition:</i> Intended to teach, particularly in having moral instruction as an ulterior motive. <i>Example:</i> The didactic nature of the lecture aimed to not only impart knowledge but also instill ethical values in the students.</p>

Job of the Week: Zoo Veterinarian

What does a Zoo Veterinarian do?

They mostly work in zoos, museums, aquariums or research facilities to care for and treat the illnesses and injuries of captive animals.

- sedating, diagnosing and treating sick and injured animals
- performing operations
- carrying out tests such as blood analysis, X-rays and scans
- carrying out regular health checks and giving vaccinations
- keeping records of treatments

Labour Market Information

- 1,751 jobs in the local area of Essex
- National jobs 170,982
- Growth +19.3% in East of England, an increase of 18,750 jobs

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

Study at least two science subjects, ideally including biology, at Level 3 (for example, Scottish Highers or A levels), and achieve very high grades as places can be limited pass entry exams (in Europe, these are usually in chemistry and biology) or an interview complete work experience in a veterinary practice study an approved veterinary degree be registered with an accredited veterinary organisation in your country, like the RCVS (UK) or EAEVE (Europe)

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median:
£40,730

What the schools stand for and promote is highly visible and consistent on each site from the values agreed with students to the diversity represented by the key figures the school's houses are named after.



Excellence in Pupil Development Award

2023-2026

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels

