

## Dates for the Diary

### Year 7 AP Assessments

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024

### Bank Holiday

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024

### Year 8 AP Assessments

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024

### Parent Forum Meeting

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - 3.30pm-4.30pm

### Year 9 Options Evening - Parent Consultation

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - 4pm-5.30pm

Venue: Basildon Upper Academy

## Student Value of the Term

**CLIMATE CHANGE  
IS REAL**

## House Points - Week Ending 26<sup>th</sup> April



36,323  
HAWKING



35,785  
ALI



31,403  
SEACOLE



27,607  
AUSTEN

## Leadership Message

This term, our students have been emphasising the importance of our student values and have been identifying the ones that mean the most to them. The Lower Academy challenges parents and carers to work with their children to complete a social action project, choosing a value that resonates the most with you and your child.

Below are a few ideas that some of our students have completed this term.

- Climate Change is Real - Planting wildflower seeds to attract bees
- Black Lives Matter - Creating posters about the history and importance of the Windrush
- Love is Love - Sharing things with the people we love and talking about why they are important to us
- Kindness is Everything - Washing up after dinner. Challenging unkind behaviours whilst watching television and social media content

Please send in any images or a small paragraph, with your completed values to: [homelearning@basildonacademies.org.uk](mailto:homelearning@basildonacademies.org.uk)



**R. Joseph - Senior Student Development Leader & Respect Champion**

**KINDNESS IS  
EVERYTHING**

**LOVE IS  
LOVE**

**BLACK LIVES  
MATTER**

**WOMEN'S  
RIGHTS  
ARE HUMAN  
RIGHTS**

**NO HUMAN  
IS ILLEGAL**

**CLIMATE CHANGE  
IS REAL**

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

## Eco-Committee Launches Recycling Awareness Campaign

Our Eco-Committee have been busy working on a campaign to promote recycling within the school community. Committee members have designed a series of colourful and informative posters aimed at raising awareness about the benefits of recycling. The largest of the posters will be displayed in a prominent location, ensuring maximum visibility to all members of the school community.

The initiative not only underscores the school's dedication to environmental issues and sustainability, but it also contributes towards the committee's pursuit of three prestigious national awards; Eco-Schools Award, Plastic Clever Schools Award and the Woodland Trust Green Tree School, Silver Award.

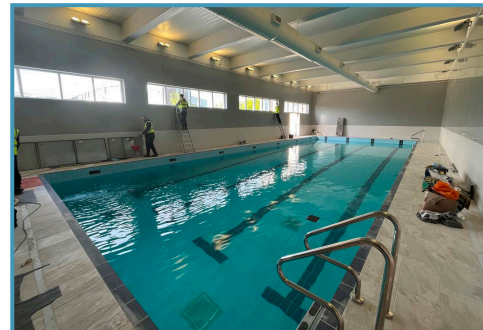
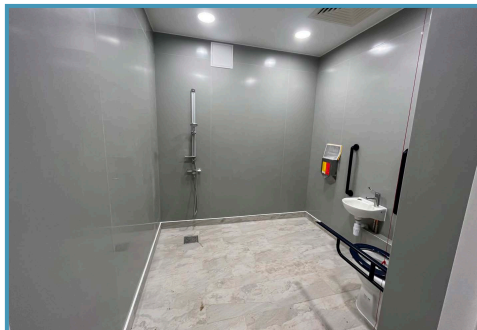
"Plastic is a huge problem for pollution, and we should try our best to recycle and stop using it." – Nisha.B

"We should recycle as it helps us live more eco-friendly lives and it helps the environment stay healthy and thrive." – Nate. H



## Swimming Pool Update

The refurbishment of the Lower Academy Swimming Pool remains on track. We look forward to sharing the progress with you and know it will benefit so many students and the local community once the new facilities are ready for use.



## Volunteers for Educational Visit Chaperones

In order to support our ambition to get every learner onto an offsite visit, we are looking to create a team of parent and carer volunteers to be chaperones for our trips.

Each volunteer would be subject to Disclosure and Barring Service checks (DBS) completed through the school and, would undergo onsite safeguarding training with a view to being called upon when we need additional support with ratios of parents to students for school trips.

If you would be interested in registering for this support service and have availability during school time, please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for General Enquiries.

Both schools have a range of suitable rooms available for meetings with parents on a 1:1 or group basis, for coffee mornings and training events and make use of well-presented communal areas for community events and information sessions for large groups of parents.



Leading Parent  
Partnership Award

2023-2026

## 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.

## Free Online Counselling Service

[www.kooth.com](http://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).



## 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.

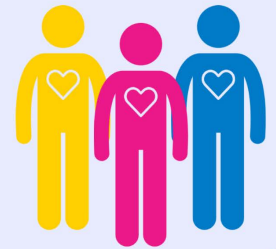
[www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/safeguarding](http://www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/safeguarding)

## Young Carers Club

Tuesdays

3:30pm-5pm

Venue: Learning Support Centre



Various activities each week including board games, cooking, photography, arts & crafts.

Refreshments provided. Talk to others, relax & have fun.

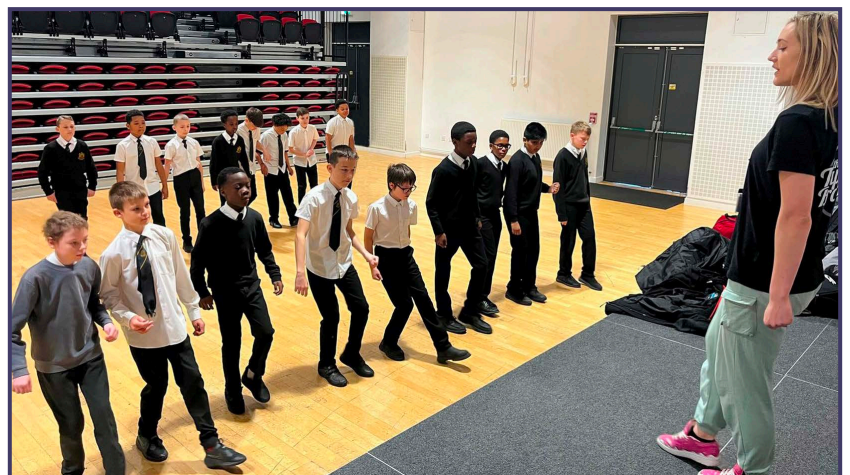
## Year 7 Students Learn Irish Dancing

On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April, the Lower Academy welcomed dance instructor Kate from The Education Group, who delivered a series of Irish Dancing sessions to groups of Year 7 students.

Students fully engaged in the high energy activity, learning several different dance routines.

"The dance instructor was nice and very supportive. I learned a lot of dance moves, including the cut." Agata.O

"Taking part in the Irish Dancing was a wonderful experience and a lot of fun." Chinedu.N



# 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](http://www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/attendance)

**Did you know?** **90%** of young people with attendance **BELOW** **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.

**Target**  
**97%+**

**175**  
days are **NOT**  
spent in school  
each year.\*

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



### **SERIOUSLY WORRIED**

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

### **VERY CONCERNED**

Poor attendance gives less chance of success.

### **WELL DONE**

Good attendance gives the best chance of success.

# THE BASILDON ACADEMIES WORD OF THE DAY

29<sup>th</sup> April - 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024  
Maternal Mental Health Awareness Week

Monday:	<b>Disposition:</b> a person's inherent qualities of mind and character. <b>Disposició</b> in Catalan
Tuesday:	<b>Mentality:</b> mental capacity or endowment. <b>मनोवृत्ति</b> in Hindi
Wednesday: (Maternal Mental Health Day)	<b>Psychology:</b> the science of the mind or of mental states and processes. <b>Психология</b> in Russian
Thursday:	<b>Mindset:</b> a fixed attitude, disposition, or mood. <b>Tankesett</b> in Norwegian
Friday:	<b>Rationality:</b> agreeableness to reason; reasonableness. <b>ใจดี</b> in Thai

## Job of the Week: UX Researcher

### What does a UX Researcher do?

Design, organize and implement user research projects, including A/B tests, field studies, user surveys, user interviews and usability tests.  
Analyse and synthesize qualitative and quantitative research to create and report findings.  
Present findings to designers, developers, leadership and stakeholders.  
Collaborate with product and design teams and provide actionable feedback.

### Labour Market Information

UK jobs: 408,627  
Essex Jobs: 8,322  
Growth: +24.2%  
Top 5 LEAs: Hampshire (8,798), Kent (8,648), Lancashire (8,334), Essex (8,322), Birmingham (7,776)

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

There are a variety of entry routes into a career as a UX researcher. Entry via a degree is common, though it's possible to enter with equivalent on-the-job experience. Entry can be achieved with a range of degrees, including:  
computing science, design, human-centred, interaction, psychology, research methods, web design and development.

### Let's Talk Money

UK annual median: £54,493

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

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels

