

Dates for the Diary

Half Term

Monday 27th - Friday 31st May 2024

Parent Forum Meeting

Monday 10th June 2024 - 4pm-5pm

Year 9 AP2 Assessments

Monday 24th - Friday 28th June 2024

Sports Presentation Event

Wednesday 3rd July 2024 - 4pm-5.15pm

Work Celebration Event

Thursday 4th July 2024 - 4pm-6pm

Student Value of the Term

**CLIMATE CHANGE
IS REAL**

House Points - Week Ending 17th May



40,491
HAWKING



39,563
ALI



34,206
SEACOLE



30,234
AUSTEN

Leadership Message - Online Safety

Safeguarding children has become harder for parents and guardians in more recent years, especially when looking at their online activity and digital footprint. As a school, we strive to create a safeguarding culture where every child can feel safe and supported and, we want our students to be equipped with a skillset that will enable them to safeguard themselves online. Students express they feel safe in our school and we need to ensure they also feel safe online.

Free Parental Control and Digital Wellbeing App

As a school we use filtering and monitoring systems to ensure that students access to online content in school is filtered and monitored, and that inappropriate content is blocked. We know that parents are not always aware of their child's online activity and therefore we are pleased to share a free 30-day trial parental control and digital wellbeing app, created by Qustodio. This allows parents to monitor their child's devices and the content they are accessing, as well as monitoring their child's digital wellbeing. After the free trial, protection of a chosen device will remain; however, additional features are only available with a subscription. To access the Qustodio app please visit: www.qustodio.com

Safeguarding Skill Builder

This week, students will be accessing a Safeguarding Skill Builder session around online safety, which includes a range of topics such as their digital footprint, online gaming and Sextortion. Sextortion has become prevalent in national news in recent weeks and this is something we feel that, as parents, it is important that you understand the concerns. Sextortion, otherwise known as Financial Motivated Sexual Extortion, is a form online blackmail that both adults and children are at risk of. Victims are forced to pay (money, gift cards, vouchers etc.) after the offender threatens to share explicit images or semi-explicit images of the victim. Part of this week's skill builder will help students to identify behaviours online that may be a concern, or putting them at risk and, how to get support for this.



We are also excited to share an opportunity for parents and families to be part of a free online workshop to educate around the online risks and how to best support your child's online activity. To take part in the free NSPCC Online Safety Workshop please visit: [Free Online Safety Virtual Workshop | NSPCC](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/online-safety-workshop)

If you have any concerns regarding online safety, or any safeguarding concerns, please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for Safeguarding.

S.Peake

Senior Student Development Leader & Designated Safeguarding Lead

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

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

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 Tuesday & Thursday Breaktime

Location:

The Wellbeing Centre



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.

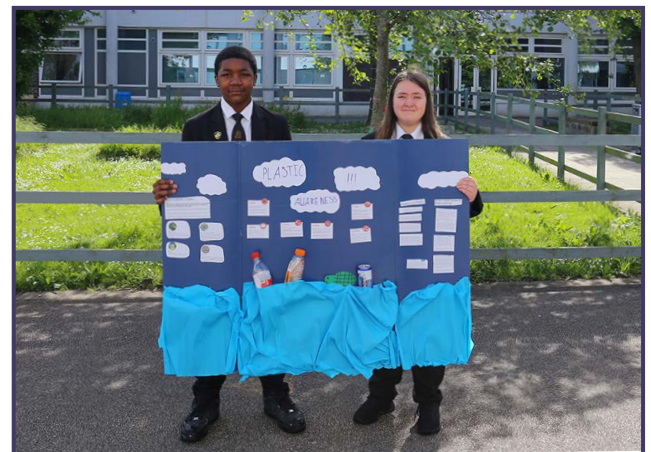
Kooth is a well-established, award winning online counselling agency and is accredited by The British Association of Psychotherapy and Counselling (BACP).

Eco Committee Launches Plastic Clever Initiative to Reduce Waste

Our Lower Academy Eco Committee students are taking significant steps towards reducing plastic waste by participating in the national Plastic Clever Schools programme. This initiative aims to help the school become Plastic Clever, with a strong focus on waste reduction.

A key aspect of the programme is to minimise the amount of plastic and litter on school grounds. To lead this effort, the Lower Academy is forming a Plastic Clever Crew, which will collaborate with the Eco Committee to drive the initiative forward.

The school will engage students, staff, parents, and carers in discussions about reducing plastic use. We look forward to sharing updates and progress with the community as they work towards a more sustainable future.



"It is important to preserve wildlife in the oceans. Recycling allows us to create better plastic we can use all the time and not single use." Alfie.B – Year 9

"Recycling plastic helps the environment." Keila.E – Year 9

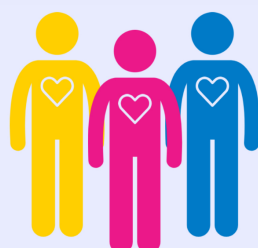
For more information about the Plastic Clever Schools programme please visit: <https://plasticcleverschools.co.uk/>

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.

Free Fruit at Breaktime



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

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

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.

143

Days of education

75%

47 days absent

152

Days of education

80%

38 days absent

162

Days of education

85%

28 days absent

171

Days of education

90%

19 days absent

184

Days of education

97%

6 days absent

190

Days of education

100%

0 days absent

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

20th May - 24th May 2024
National Conversation Week

Monday:	Communicate: to impart knowledge of; make known. Suhelda in Estonian
Tuesday:	Disseminate: to scatter or spread widely; broadcast; disperse. Menyebarkan in Indonesian
Wednesday:	Disclose: to make known; reveal or uncover. उगडास in Konkani
Thursday:	Impart: to make known; tell; relate. တင်သွင်းခြင်း in Burmese
Friday:	Proclaim: to announce or declare in an open or ostentatious way. Razglašajo in Slovenian

Job of the Week: Aerospace Engineer

What does an Aerospace Engineer do?

You'll research, develop, build, and maintain aircraft or their systems. Your day-to-day duties will depend on your role but may include:

- developing navigation, communications, or weapons systems
- researching ways to make fuel-efficient parts, such as wings, fuselage and engines
- using CAD software for design
- testing prototypes
- collecting and analysing test data
- planning and supervising the fitting of aircraft and components
- signing off projects under strict industry regulations
- scheduling and supervising maintenance

Labour Market Information

UK jobs: 383,043

Essex Jobs: 8,415

Growth: +41.4%

Top 5 LEAs: Hampshire (11,941), Lancashire (9,111), Essex (8,415), Surrey (8,334), Hertfordshire (8,186)

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

You'll usually need an HNC, HND, foundation degree, or degree in aerospace engineering, avionics, or a related subject, like:
 electrical or electronic engineering
 mechanical engineering
 manufacturing or product engineering
 physics or applied physics
 software engineering or mathematics
 The Association of Aerospace Universities has more information about courses.

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median: £46,419

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

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels





National DOUGHNUT WEEK

Monday 20th - Friday 24th May

To celebrate National Doughnut Week the Dining Hall will be serving a selection of Jam and Ring Doughnuts.


All Doughnuts are 50p each and will be available throughout the week at break & lunchtime.

50p
Each





BOOK ONTO A HALF TERM ACTIVITY CLUB WITH ESSEX ACTIVATE!



Children and young people are invited to book onto fun-filled half term holiday clubs and enjoy free activities run by locally trusted club organisations across Essex, brought to you by Active Essex on behalf of Essex County Council!

IS MY CHILD ELIGIBLE?

Essex ActivAte offer free, club spaces to primary and secondary school aged children who are eligible or receive pupil premium, benefit based free school meals or income-related benefits, also children who may be vulnerable to inactivity or social isolation. Clubs may offer discretionary paid places and paid for places, so there is something for everyone at an Essex ActivAte club!


WHERE WILL THE CLUBS BE RUN?

Clubs will run in Braintree, Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point, Chelmsford, Colchester, Epping, Harlow, Maldon, Rochford, Tendring and Uttlesford! Due to half term programmes being solely funded by Essex County Council, unfortunately there will not be any clubs running in Thurrock.

WHAT DO THE CLUBS PROVIDE?

Clubs offer different engaging activities such as sports and games, crafts, colouring, dance, baking and more! They also provide nutritious meals and snacks, as well as food education, helping to engage young people and support parents during the half term holidays. Specialist SEND, mental wellbeing and youth clubs will also be available to book onto, offering further support for children.

HOW DO I BOOK ONTO A CLUB?



You will not receive or book on with your HolidayActivities voucher code for half term holiday clubs. To book onto a local club, head over to the Essex ActivAte website, find the area that you live in and book on with the link, email or contact number provided by the club organisation directly.



[Find out more about May half term holiday clubs and book on here.](#)