

## 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.



## Important Announcement Regarding Social Media

Following the Basildon Academies Trust move to separate The Upper and Lower Academy websites, we are delighted to announce our new social media platforms for the Lower Academy.

 Facebook: [www.facebook.com/basildonloweracademy/](https://www.facebook.com/basildonloweracademy/)

 Instagram: [www.instagram.com/the\\_basildon\\_lower\\_academy/](https://www.instagram.com/the_basildon_lower_academy/)

 Twitter: [https://twitter.com/Basildon\\_LA](https://twitter.com/Basildon_LA)

This change has been made to further enhance communication and visibility for all stakeholders. Please note our existing Basildon Academies Facebook, Instagram and Twitter platforms will cease to operate 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023.

## Dates for the Diary

**Year 9 AP Assessments**  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**Holocaust Memorial Day**  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**LGBT+ History Month**  
February 2023

**Year 7 & 8 Progress Review Virtual Event**  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023 - 3:30-6:30pm

**Children's Mental Health Week**  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2023

**Half Term**  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023

**Fairtrade Fortnight**  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February - Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2023

## Student Value of the Term

**KINDNESS IS  
EVERYTHING**

## House Points - Week Ending 20<sup>th</sup> January



18,762  
AUSTEN



18,646  
ALI



18,197  
HAWKING



16,757  
SEACOLE

**WHY NOT TRY  
VEGAN THIS MONTH**



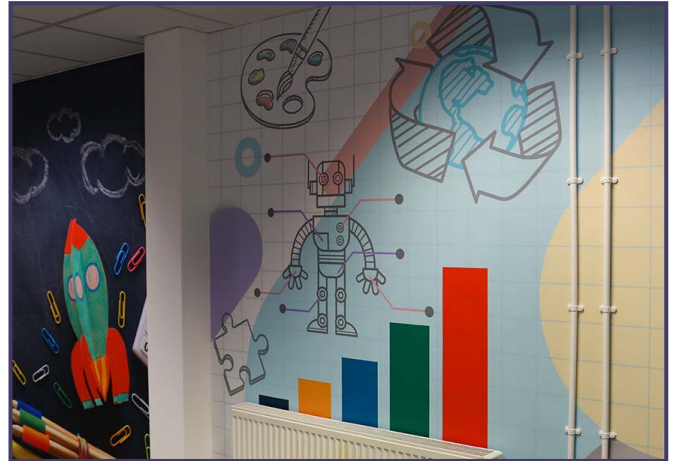
For more information about Veganuary visit: [www.veganuary.com](https://www.veganuary.com)

## Wall Art

To further improve and enhance our learning environment, we have recently added more colourful wall art throughout the Lower Academy.



Wellbeing Centre



Wellbeing Centre



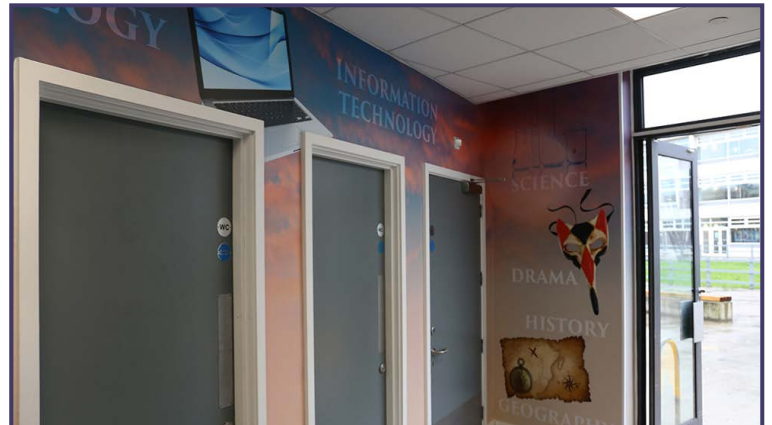
Wellbeing Centre



SEND Department



SEND Department



Atrium leading to Quad



Quad leading to Atrium



Quad leading to Atrium

## Cost of Living Information

The Cost of Living Parent Factsheet recently sent to our parents & carers is available to download on our website:

[www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/cost-of-living-information](http://www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/cost-of-living-information)

The factsheet details information of what support is available to help parents/carers & their families get through the cost-of-living crisis.

## Year 9 Options Process & Transition to the Upper Academy

Over the course of term 1, Year 9 have been working hard beginning their first foundation GCSE content whilst getting ready for the options selection process. The information below is intended to provide an overview timeline of the activities which students will engage in to support their transition to the Upper Academy.

February 2023	Options Information Sessions delivered by subject teachers during lessons
March 2023	Options Selection
May 2023	Parent/Student 1:1 Meetings
June & July 2023	Year 9 End of Year Assessments
w/c 10th July 2023	Year 9 Transition to Upper Academy - Options Tasters

The Government has an ambition for all students to complete the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) as research shows that this suite of subjects provides support for English & Maths achievement, creates greater opportunities post-18 and supports routes into higher education. Year 9 students will be selecting a Humanities subject and 2 further options to complement their compulsory suite of English Language, English Literature, Maths, Combined Science, French, Core PE, PSHE & Enrichment.

Please do continue to encourage students to complete tasks at home using online platforms on a regular basis. Our remote learning team continue to provide support via [remotelearning@basildonacademies.org.uk](mailto:remotelearning@basildonacademies.org.uk) Please do not hesitate to contact them if you need any advice, guidance or support in accessing out of hours learning.

We will be in touch in the coming months regarding the Options Selection process, which will include an opportunity for you to meet with a member of the leadership team 1:1 to discuss your child's options selection and link to post-18 ambitions.

## Multiply in Essex

As you may be aware, this month a new campaign has been launched to promote [Multiply in Essex](#). This is a programme managed by the DfE to increase adult numeracy skills, providing learning opportunities for adults aged 19+ who do not already have a GCSE at grade C (or equivalent) in maths. The programme will offer free and flexible courses, which can be used in everyday life, such as managing finances, helping children with their schoolwork, accessing employment and progressing at work.

If you are a Parent or carer and wish to find out more and sign up to a course, please visit [www.essexopportunities.co.uk/multiply/](http://www.essexopportunities.co.uk/multiply/)



## 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)

## 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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.

## 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



## Afterschool Teatime Club - Years 7 & 8

Following the launch of the afterschool teatime club, we are pleased to announce that the bookings process has been moved to ParentPay. Each week, you will be able to log into your ParentPay account and book the days you require your child to access the club for the following week.

Spaces are limited and the club will only be able to accommodate students who are pre-booked. This allows us to staff accordingly, and to provide enough hot meals for each student.

Booking for each week is required before midnight Thursday.

If you wish to utilise this club for the week ahead, please log into your ParentPay account and follow the steps listed below.

1. Log into [ParentPay](#)
2. Click on 'pay for other items'
3. Click 'view' next to the Teatime Club payment item (this is a free club, no payment is actually required)
4. Tick the consent box and click on 'Book Meals and Places'
5. Select the drop down 'After School' and the date of the week you wish to book for
6. Scroll down the page and click on 'Book a session' for each date you wish to book and it will turn green. You will need to scroll right to reveal the whole week.
7. Scroll down and click 'Confirm bookings'
8. Your bookings have been confirmed.

If you need to cancel a session please go back to step 6 and click on 'clear day' on the dates that you wish to cancel and save your changes.



## Lower Academy sports clubs timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
After School: 3.30 - 4.30pm Archery (sign up required) Year 7 Football Boys Girls Football (all years) Trampolining (all years)	Before School: 7.30 - 8.15am Trampolining (all years)  After School: 3.30 - 4.30pm Boys Basketball (all years)	After School: 3.30 - 4.30pm Badminton (all years)	After School: 3.30 - 4.30pm Netball (all years) Year 8 and 9 Football

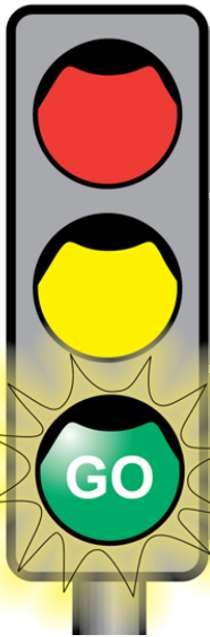
## Attendance Expectations

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!*



**89% & below**

*Drastic effect on academic achievement*

**95-90%**

*Less chance of success. Harder to make progress*

**100-96%**

*Good chance of success and progress*

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

Leaders across the academies and across both sites are on board with and recognise the importance of a strong focus on mental health and wellbeing for students, staff, and families.



Wellbeing Award  
for Schools

2022-2025



GOLD - RIGHTS RESPECTING

In addition to strong internal advocacy, students take action locally and globally. Charities such as Children in Need, the Basildon Hospital NICU and the local hospice, are among the beneficiaries of the Academies' charitable fundraising.

Unicef RRS Accreditation Report Gold: Rights Aware - July 2022

## Year 7 Students of the Week

Mathematician of the Week	Simon P
English Scholar of the Week	Ellis H
Musician of the Week	Reece N
Sporting Legend of the Week	Yazeed P
Historian of the Week	Martin J
Geography Genius of the Week	Jenson Y
RE Expert of the Week	Emerita K
Engineer of the Week	Edric E

## Year 8 Students of the Week

Mathematician of the Week	Baylee W
English Scholar of the Week	Porcha P
Scientist of the Week	Olasunkanmi S
Sporting Legend of the Week	Porcha P
Historian of the Week	Yusuf M
Geography Genius of the Week	Chanel H
RE Expert of the Week	Annie R
Performer of the Week	Lee M
Engineer of the Week	Mason C
RSHE Champion of the Week	Luca M

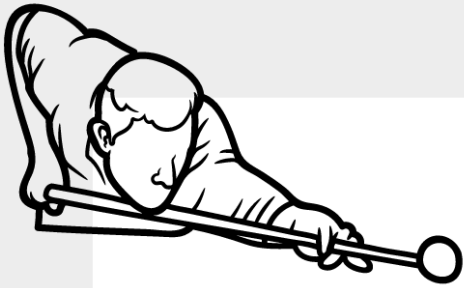
## Year 9 Students of the Week

Mathematician of the Week	Simon P
English Scholar of the Week	Ellis H
Musician of the Week	Reece N
Sporting Legend of the Week	Yazeed P
Historian of the Week	Martin J
Geography Genius of the Week	Jenson Y
RE Expert of the Week	Emerita K
Engineer of the Week	Edric E

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels



# TIMBERLOG YOUTH CLUB



## WHAT

Free weekly youth session get involved! Warm space, food and fun. 12 - 17 year olds

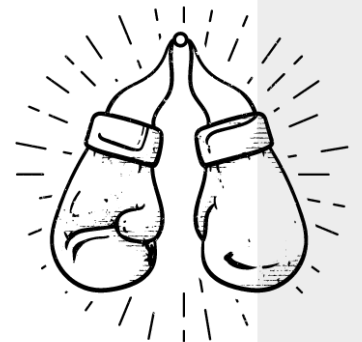
## WHERE

Timberlog Close, Timberlog Lane, Basildon, Essex, SS14 1UX (Stacey's Corner)



## WHEN

Monday's (term-time)  
3:30 - 5:00 pm



Achieve Thrive Flourish

**Join us & try vegan food this January**



**VEGANUARY**

**Throughout January the Dining Hall will be serving a vegan dish everyday.**

## **Free school lunch for all students**

**We are delighted to announce that a free lunch  
will be available to all students every Monday & Friday  
between now & February Half Term 2023**

**A free school lunch is a hot meal or sandwich/bagette/roll and a dessert**

**Aspire - Believe - Achieve**



# HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR

YEAR OF THE RABBIT

To celebrate Chinese New Year there will be Chinese themed lunches available in The Dining Hall on Monday 23rd January



## NATIONAL CROISSANT DAY

JANUARY 30TH ◀

To celebrate National Croissant Day a **free** plain croissant with jam is available during breakfast time on Monday 30th January

The Dining Hall will be serving the following items at Break time for 50p each;

- Plain Croissant
- Pain au Chocolat
- Savoury Croissant (Ham or Cheese)

Aspire - Believe - Achieve