

Dates for the Diary

Year 8 AP1 Assessments

Monday 9th - Friday 13th December 2024

Winter Wonderland Christmas Fayre

Monday 16th December 2024 - 3:30pm-5pm

Christmas Dinner (Free for all students)

Year 7 - Tuesday 17th December 2024

Year 8 - Wednesday 18th December 2024

Year 9 - Thursday 19th December 2024

Last Day of Autumn Term - Students finish at 12:30pm

Friday 20th December 2024

First Day of Spring Term

Tuesday 7th January 2025

Student Value of the Term

**NO HUMAN
IS ILLEGAL**

House Points - Week Ending 6th December



36,567
ALI



33,792
SEACOLE



30,322
AUSTEN



25,902
HAWKING

Leadership Message

December can be a time for joy and for families connecting, it can also be a time for additional stress and pressure that creates anxiety, and conflict between families. We are aware that these pressures can leave you feeling isolated and not knowing where to turn.

Finding the right support can be overwhelming; even just knowing where to start looking can be stressful in itself. We have tried to take some of this stress away by providing links and information for you on our website.

Under the 'Parents' tab on our school website, you can find a number of useful organisations:

www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/wellbeing-advice-for-parents-carers



Wellbeing Award
for Schools

2022-2025

Talking about what is causing us stress is important but can also be difficult; getting a teenager or young adult to talk can be even harder.

Sometimes you do need to think outside of the box!

- Try talking while doing another activity such as playing a game or going for a walk.
- Don't expect immediate responses, say you are there to listen when they are ready to talk.
- Let them know it is okay if they want to talk to someone else; as long as they are talking to someone.
- Would they prefer to write down what is on their mind, or text it to you?
- And if they do share what is troubling them, let them know you are there to help them through whatever it is.

We are here to support you. You can contact us via our [Contact Us](#) page or through: safeguardingupper@basildonacademies.org.uk

To support us in identifying what areas of support are needed, please complete this short survey by clicking the link below or scanning the QR code.

[Student Welfare - Parent Survey](#)

S.Peake

Senior Student Development Leader & Designated Safeguarding Lead



Recognising Excellence: EBacc Awards Celebrate Student Achievement

Last half term, EBacc teachers nominated students for their consistent effort and positive attitudes towards learning. These nominations led to the presentation of the EBacc Award, which included 30 credits and a certificate in recognition of students' dedication across various EBacc subjects.

We are incredibly proud of our remarkable young students who have aspired and achieved excellence. Nominations were made across a range of departments, including English, Mathematics, Science, French, History, and Geography.

"I feel proud to have this award because it shows I am a dedicated member of the Basildon Academies. I am happy to represent the school in a way that earns awards and recognition." Saffa.B – Year 7

"I am extremely happy to receive an EBacc award and to have my hard work recognised. I feel this will motivate me to keep trying my hardest next term to earn this award again. I really enjoy these subjects, and I am simply elated to be recognised." Amirah.A – Year 8

"I am proud to have received this award, especially since it is my first year at the Lower Academy." Albi.C – Year 7



Further winners will be selected for this prestigious award during the current half term.

Ms Mallinder
KS3 Head of Faculty: EBacc

Online Safety Hub Recommended Resource of the Week: The Power of Internet Filtering for Online Safety

In today's digital world, the internet has become a vast playground of information and entertainment. However, it's also a place where young, curious minds can stumble upon content unsuitable for their age or maturity level. This is where internet filtering – AKA web filtering, content filtering, firewall filtering, or content control – comes into play. [Click here](#) to access information and support relating to the benefits of using internet filtering.

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](#)



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

Young Minds

[Young Minds](#) is the UK's leading charity committed to improving the emotional wellbeing and mental health of children and young people. Just as people's bodies can become unwell, people's minds can become unwell too.

Young Minds offer information to young people and children about mental health and emotional wellbeing. If you need to talk, they can let you know about organisations that listen, plus they offer online support and info.

The logo for Young Minds, with 'YOUNG' in yellow and 'MINDS' in grey, all in a bold, sans-serif font.

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

Winter Wonderland Christmas Fayre Monday 16th December - 3:30pm-5pm

We are delighted to announce that we are holding our annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Fayre at the Lower Academy on Monday 16th December 2024. The event is open to all parents, carers, families and students and will take place from 3:30pm – 5pm.

Preparations for the fayre are in full swing. Students are busy designing exciting games and stalls, all in friendly competition to raise the most funds. Every penny will go to support our chosen charity, Save the Children.

The Lower Academy Choir have also been busy rehearsing for their live performanceS during the event. Hot food and drink will be available to purchase throughout the event and superb raffles prizes to be won. We look forward to families joining us and getting into the festive spirit.



Non-uniform/Christmas Jumper Day 20th December

All students are invited to take part in this year's Christmas Jumper Day on the last day of term, Friday 20th December.

The Basildon Academies 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.



Important Notice: Smoke and Vape-Free Policy

The Basildon Academies is a smoke and vape free organisation. This prohibits the use of all tobacco products and e-cigarettes on, or in, any Basildon Academy property. This is in place to protect staff, students, and visitors from the effects of second-hand smoke in its buildings and grounds.

Please be reminded that parents and visitors are not permitted to use any smoking products on the grounds of the academies, this includes in our car parks.



Eco Committee Earns National Recognition for Plastic Waste Reduction

Our Lower Academy Eco Committee students are making a real difference in the fight against plastic waste as part of the national Plastic Clever Schools programme. This initiative focuses on reducing waste and helping schools become Plastic Clever, with students taking the lead.

To earn the prestigious Plastic Clever Schools Outstanding Student Voice Award, our students completed a range of impactful activities, including:

- Conducting litter picks on the school grounds.
- Using Geography fieldwork to identify the biggest litter problems in the school.
- Creating an eye-catching display to raise awareness about plastic waste.
- Producing videos for social media to inspire the school community to reduce plastic use.

"It is very important that people are aware of plastic dangers, our school can help, even if it's little by little." Nathaniel.H – Year 8



Congratulations to the Eco Committee for their outstanding achievements and dedication to creating a cleaner, greener school!



The creation of Christmas Bob the...

Bob is an integral part of the Art department and is excited about Christmas!

Join the fun...

Christmas competition time in Art
Create a Christmas tree ornament for the tree,

Prizes
for 1st,
2nd and
3rd place
😊

The rules are:

Bob must be able to sit on the tree unaided

Bob must have your name attached and your form group

Bob must be made by you and you alone (no decorations from your tree at home)

HAND TO MS CHAPMAN BY MONDAY 16th DEC in Room 03



BASILDON ACADEMIES

WORD OF THE DAY

9th - 13th December 2024

Monday: Genocide Prevention Day	Genocide (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> The deliberate killing of a large number of people from a particular nation or ethnic group with the aim of destroying that nation or group. <i>Example:</i> Genocide Prevention Day aims to raise awareness about the importance of preventing such atrocities.
Tuesday: International Animal Rights & Human Rights Day	Ethics (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> Moral principles that govern a person's behaviour or the conducting of an activity. <i>Example:</i> The observance of International Animal Rights & Human Rights Day emphasizes the need for strong ethical considerations in our treatment of animals and people.
Wednesday: UNICEF Birthday	Altruism (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> The belief in or practice of disinterested and selfless concern for the well-being of others. <i>Example:</i> Altruism is often celebrated on International Volunteer Day, recognizing those who dedicate their time to helping others.
Thursday:	Endowment (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> A financial donation or gift made to support an organization or cause. <i>Example:</i> UNICEF's birthday events often highlight the importance of endowments in supporting their global initiatives.
Friday: St Lucia Day	Celebration (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> The action of marking one's pleasure at an important event or occasion by engaging in enjoyable, typically social, activity. <i>Example:</i> St. Lucia Day is marked by a festive celebration of light and tradition.

Job of the Week: Writer

What does a Writer do?

- You could write either fiction or non-fiction, in genres such as novels, short stories, plays or poetry. You could choose a writing specialism, like writing children's books, travel or technical writing.
- You could also write features for newspapers, magazines, radio, film or television, or hold a blog or other social media.

Day-to-day duties might include:

- choosing a subject based on personal interest, or on a commission given by agents or publishers
- coming up with themes, ideas, or plots
- researching information using the internet, libraries, and personal interviews
- submitting your draft to a publisher, either speculatively or through an agent
- pursuing publishing opportunities

Labour Market Information

- 6,251 jobs in the local area of Essex
- National jobs 342,899
- Growth +0.2% in East of England, a decrease of 4,201 jobs

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

There are no set requirements.

You'll need to:

- be able to come up with ideas that will sell
- have good research skills
- be able to express ideas in a style suited to your intended audience
- You'll also need to have confidence in your writing, be able to accept criticism and remain positive.

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median:
£33,780

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



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



GOOD TIMEKEEPING



What to do the night before:

Get everything you need for school ready



Set your alarm allowing plenty of time

Make your lunch and drink if you bring a packed lunch to school



Turn off devices half an hour before bedtime

Have a good night's sleep - a minimum of eight hours!





Christmas Dinner

Year 7 - Tuesday 17th December

Year 8 - Wednesday 18th December

Year 9 - Thursday 19th December

Main Meal Options

Roast Turkey & Pigs in Blankets
Vegan Wellington

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

Dessert Options

Christmas Pudding
Mince Pies
Chocolate Yule Log
Mini Blackforest Gateau
Jelly

Christmas Dinner comes with
Fruit Juice & a Christmas Cracker

Christmas Dinner is free to all of our students

Better Housing Better Health

The Warmth & Wellbeing Service

HOME ENERGY ADVICE

Better Housing Better Health (BHBH) is a service working locally to improve your domestic warmth & wellbeing. In a preventative approach, our free helpline provides you with a single point of contact for advice and support in order to help improve the energy efficiency of your property and lower your bills.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Our team of experts can work with households to apply for grants and funding to help with your home energy. Schemes like the Warm Home Discount can take £150 off your bills and ECO Funding can replace heating systems as well as install insulation. Call us to see if you're eligible and start the process.



WE ARE HERE.

GET IN TOUCH

0800 107 0044

WWW.BHBH.ORG.UK

FREE WINTER TEEN HOLIDAY CLUBS IN BASILDON!

Essex ActivAte helps to support eligible children and families during the school holidays and half term breaks, through free engaging and fun activities. Book a space using your emailed HolidayActivities voucher code or contact one of our clubs to book a space!

[ATF - Briscoe Teen Session \(11-16 yrs, SEND Level 1\)](#)

Briscoe Primary School, Felmores End, Basildon, SS13 1PN
kherring@atfcommunity.com & 07956770446
23rd December 1-3pm | 2nd and 3rd January 1-3pm

[ATF - Vange Teen Session \(11-16 yrs, SEND Level 1\)](#)

Vange Primary School, London Road, Basildon SS16 4QA
smartin@atfcommunity.com & 07989515757
23rd December 1-3pm | 2nd and 3rd January 1-3pm

[ATF - King Edwards \(11-16 years, SEND Level 1\)](#)

King Edwards Community Centre, King Edwards Road, Laindon, Basildon, SS15 6GY
kherring@atfcommunity.com & 07701365822
3rd January 5-7pm

[ATF - Markhams Chase Saturday Session \(11-16 yrs, SEND Level 1\)](#)

Markhams Chase Park, SS15 5LU
kherring@atfcommunity.com & 07701365822
28th December 1-3pm

[Future Of Sport \(11-16 years\)](#)

Legends Experience
thefutureofsport@icloud.com & 07358612611
2nd January 6-8pm

Find out more: activeessex.org





FREE WINTER TEEN HOLIDAY CLUBS IN BASILDON!

Future Of Sport (11-16 years)

James Hornsby School, Leinster Rd, Laindon, Basildon SS15 5NX
thefutureofsport@icloud.com & 07359612611
23rd December 1pm-5pm | 2nd January 1pm-5pm

Active Essex Foundation Flex Youth (11-16 years)

3 Gibcracks, Basildon SS14 1PE
info@flexyouth.com & 07342469249
20th, 21st, 23rd December | 3rd January

Active Essex Foundation I-UP (11-16 years)

Southernhay Youth Centre, 16-20 Southernhay, Basildon, SS14 1FN
23rd December 7-9pm | 2nd January 7-9pm
louise@1upcollective.com

Active Essex Foundation Five Elements (11-16 years)

Adams Business Centre, Cranes Farm Rd, Basildon SS14 3JF
contact 01268330050 for dates/times

If you are eligible for income-based free school meals, you can book your spot by emailing us at haf@activeessex.org to receive your booking code.

SCAN
ME



Scan the QR code
to find out more!