

Dates for the Diary

Year 7 Settling Event

Monday 30th September 2024: 4pm - 5pm

Lower Academy Year 6 Open Evening

Thursday 3rd October 2024: 5pm - 7pm

Upper Academy Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 3rd October 2024: 5pm - 7pm

Academic Progress Information Event

Monday 21st October 2024: 4pm - 5pm

Half Term

Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November 2024

Student Value of the Term

**BLACK LIVES
MATTER**

House Points - Week Ending 27th September



10,389
ALI



9,221
SEACOLE



7,763
AUSTEN



6,007
HAWKING

Leadership Message - Personal Development

Key Stage 3 is an exciting stage of the educational journey. This is a time when students are discovering new interests, developing skills, and setting the foundations for future success. At Basildon Lower Academy, we value the growth of personal development to be just as important as academic learning. We have dedicated 30 minutes every day to personal development for all students.

What is Personal Development?

Personal development is all about improving the whole student; mindset, skills, and habits. It is about becoming more confident, responsible, and motivated to achieve goals. Whether learning how to manage time, improving communication skills, or developing resilience when things get tough; personal development helps growth in all areas of life.

Why Does It Matter?

In KS3, personal development plays a huge role in helping students succeed both in and outside of school. Here are some reasons why it is so important:

- **Building Confidence:** As you discover your strengths and areas for improvement, you gain the confidence to take on new challenges.
- **Setting Goals:** Personal development teaches you how to set SMART goals (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound) that give you direction and focus.
- **Handling Challenges:** Whether it is dealing with exam stress, friendship issues, or setbacks, learning how to stay resilient and bounce back is a key part of personal growth.
- **Developing Life Skills:** The habits you form now — like staying organised, managing your time, and staying motivated — will help you both now and in the future.

By focusing on personal growth alongside the academic curriculum offer, we endeavour to ensure that all of our students are well-prepared to take on new opportunities and make the most of their time in KS3.



Z.Spencer
Assistant Headteacher

Live Music Meets Safeguarding in Lower Academy's Interactive Assembly

On Thursday, 26th September, Lower Academy students participated in engaging and informative safeguarding focused assemblies. The assemblies combined both entertainment and education, providing students with a memorable experience while learning about critical safeguarding issues.

Students from all year groups were treated to an energetic live performance by Absnt Mind, an up-and-coming group of five talented boys, who delivered a fantastic set that had everyone buzzing. The band's presence brought an exciting twist to the event, keeping students entertained and engaged.

In addition to the performances, the assemblies featured impactful safeguarding talks from the band, covering crucial topics such as body image, cyberbullying, mental health, peer pressure, and drug awareness. Students eagerly engaged with the band, asking insightful questions and sparking meaningful conversations around these important issues.

At the end of the session, students received a leaflet containing important safeguarding information. They also had the opportunity to meet the members of Absnt Mind for a meet-and-greet and autograph session, which was a huge hit with the students.

"The songs were amazing, and the mental health part was great. I think a lot of people took that in because everyone was really focus and entertained." Luke. H - Year 9

"The mental health talk was so relatable because they are a similar age to us. They spoke with us in a friendly way and their performance was really good as well." Sammiat.B – Year 9



Music and Performing Arts Lead Miss Stoddard commented; "The atmosphere in the assembly hall with the visiting band 'Absnt Mind' was ELECTRIC. To see a continuous sea of happy and excited students was a joy to witness and you could really see the impact of the power of music. We have had numerous students enquire about singing and instrument lessons and experiences since this event."

Miss Stoddard has sent out a digital form for parents/carers to fill in regarding all aspects of upcoming performing opportunities.

We are excited to provide more events like this in the future, as we continue to support and educate our students on vital safeguarding topics. Safeguarding is a shared responsibility, and we are pleased to offer a link below with additional resources and guidance for parents and carers who would like more information on these important issues.

www.barnardos.org.uk/get-support/support-for-parents-and-carers

Lower Academy Year 6 Open Evening

Thursday 3rd October 2024: 5pm - 7pm

The Basildon Lower Academy will be welcoming students, parents and carers who will be transitioning to secondary education in September 2025. There will be an opportunity for visitors to tour the schools facilities, speak to key members of staff and meet our Leadership Team.

A complimentary car will be available for any of our visitors wishing to visit our Upper Academy.



Year 7 Students Celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight with Fun Activities

Year 7 students recently engaged in a variety of activities designed to teach them about the importance of Fairtrade. As part of their learning, students created fortune tellers that shared key facts about Fairtrade, helping them understand the role it plays in supporting ethical practices and fair wages for farmers and workers around the world.

Students also enjoyed playing Fairtrade-themed board games, further exploring the global impact of Fairtrade. These activities not only deepened their knowledge but also encouraged thoughtful discussions about sustainability and ethical consumerism.

"I really enjoyed the lesson because even though we were playing we were still learning. For example, I did not know that Panama grows bananas!" Ariana A

"It was nice to do some practical work and I really enjoyed it. Best lesson ever!" Ersal.T



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.



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).

Student 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 SEND
Department



Uniform Exchange Scheme

If you have uniform that your child has outgrown, please bring it in and see if there is something in the exchange shop that has been donated that you can simply swap your item for. We are still gratefully receiving donations of blazers, shirts, trousers and PE kits that are in pre-loved condition and these can be donated via the reception office on either site.

Please remember, the Uniform Exchange shop is located at the Lower Academy, is open from 8am – 3:30pm Monday – Friday and is accessible via the school office.

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

Lower Academy Celebrates European Day of Languages

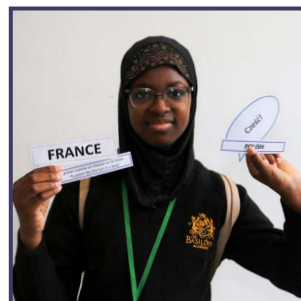
On Thursday, 26th September, students at the Lower Academy participated in the celebrations for the European Day of Languages. This Europe-wide event promotes the celebration and encouragement of all languages and cultural heritages. At lunchtime, students engaged in activities such as matching languages to their corresponding countries and deciphering famous idioms. The theme of this year's European Day of Languages, Languages for Peace, highlights how languages can unite people across the world.

"It is good to celebrate different cultures and the different languages people speak." Taylor.P – Year 9

"We celebrate European Languages Day to create harmony between different cultures and understand the way people live." Temi.N – Year 9

"Learning other languages is a great way to talk to other people and make new friends." Amelia.P – Year 9

"Its nice to know how someone is feeling by understanding what they are saying." Gracie-Mae.M – Year 9



Basildon Academies Word of the Day

30th September- 4th October 2024

National Vegetarian Week - Dyslexia Awareness Week

Monday:	Community (noun) – Yaad in Jamaican Patio <i>Definition:</i> A group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common. <i>Example:</i> The coffee morning brought together the local community for a good cause.
Tuesday:	Philanthropy (noun) - manushyasneham in Malayalam <i>Definition:</i> The desire to promote the welfare of others, expressed especially by the generous donation of money to good causes. <i>Example:</i> The philanthropy shown during the Macmillan Coffee Morning helped raise significant
Wednesday:	Ethical Consumption (noun) - Naitika upabhōga in Nepali <i>Definition:</i> Choosing products that are produced ethically, often with concern for environmental impact or animal welfare. <i>Example:</i> Ethical consumption was a major focus of discussions during National Vegetarian Week.
Thursday:	Nutritional (adjective) – تغذیه in Pashto <i>Definition:</i> Relating to the process of providing or obtaining the food necessary for health and growth. <i>Example:</i> Workshops during the week highlighted the nutritional value of vegetables and fruits.
Friday:	Fusion (noun) – فیورژن in Persian <i>Definition:</i> The process or result of joining two or more things together to form a single entity. <i>Example:</i> The fusion of African and European cooking techniques was showcased in the school's food promo.

Job of the Week: Magazine Journalist

What does a Magazine Journalist do?

Your day-to-day tasks may include:

- Going to meetings to plan the content of the magazine suggesting ideas for articles
- Interviewing and researching to collect information for articles
- Writing articles to suit the magazine's style
- Keeping up-to-date with developments and trends in the magazine's subject area

Labour Market Information

- UK jobs: 145,748
- Essex Jobs: 2,899
- Growth: +17%

Top 5 LEAs: 1. Lambeth (4,751) 2. Surrey (4,541) 3. Wandsworth (4,396) 4. Hertfordshire (4,135) 5. Hackney (4,080)

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

There are no set requirements, but most new magazine journalists have an HND, degree or equivalent qualification.

Paid or unpaid work experience is a good way to build up your skills and a portfolio of published work to show employers. You could gain this with magazines or other publications, including student papers, fanzines, charity newsletters, websites or blogs.

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median: £40,762



unicef
UNITED KINGDOM

GOLD - RIGHTS RESPECTING

Strong, supportive, and mutually respectful relationships were evident throughout the visit and young people said that the increased emphasis on rights, respect and dignity has added to this, "If you respect people's rights, you respect them as a person."

Unicef RRSA Accreditation Report Gold: Rights Aware

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!



Five minutes late per day soon adds up to three days of lost school time

Healthy

NATIONAL VEGETARIAN WEEK

Nutritious

Monday 30th September – Friday 4th October

To celebrate Vegetarian Week all vegetarian main meals will be £1



CELEBRATING

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

OCTOBER 2024

TO CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH, EACH WEDNESDAY IN OCTOBER WE WILL BE SERVING AUTHENTIC DISHES IN THE DINING HALL

DISHES FOR WEDNESDAY 2ND OCTOBER



TRINIDADIAN BEEF STEW



JOLLOF RICE & CHICKEN



SWEET POTATO BUNDT CAKE

Regular feedback is sought from parents, staff, and pupils to identify what is working well, where adjustments are needed and where there are opportunities to enhance provision further. This includes the use of confidence checkers to ensure students have taken on the learning and to identify areas where further teaching is needed.



Excellence in Pupil Development Award

2023-2026

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels

