

Dates for the Diary

LGBT+ History Month
February 2024

Children's Mental Health Week
Monday 5th - Sunday 11th February

National Apprenticeship Week
Monday 5th - Sunday 11th February 2024

Parent Forum Meeting
Monday 12th February 2024 - 4pm-5pm

Half Term
Monday 19th - Friday 23rd February 2024

Student Value of the Term

**KINDNESS IS
EVERYTHING**

House Points - Week Ending 2nd February



14,045
ALI



13,310
HAWKING



12,750
SEACOLE



12,749
AUSTEN

Leadership Message

At the Basildon Academies we believe that regular school attendance is a cornerstone of academic success. Research consistently shows a positive correlation between attendance and academic achievement. Students who attend school regularly are more likely to perform well in assessments, develop a strong work ethic, and build a foundation for lifelong learning. Regular attendance not only contributes to academic success but also fosters social and emotional growth, helping students build essential life skills.

We understand that unforeseen circumstances may arise, leading to occasional absences. In such cases, we encourage you to communicate with us by email lowerattendance@basildonacademies.org.uk

Our dedicated team are here to support your child's educational journey, and open lines of communication between home and school are essential to ensuring a collaborative and nurturing environment.

How You Can Help:

- Please make every effort to ensure your child attends school regularly and arrives on time.
- If your child is unable to attend school, please inform us as soon as possible by emailing lowerattendance@basildonacademies.org.uk
- Keep yourself informed about school events, announcements, and your child's progress by regularly checking our school website, newsletters and Satchel accounts.

As we continue to work together to provide the best possible education for your child, I want to express my gratitude for your ongoing support.

V.Oddy
Director of Standards



National Apprenticeships Week 2024

This week is National Apprenticeships Week. For more information, including 'The Parents' Guide to Apprenticeships' please visit: www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/ncw2024



There are 32 external agencies that the school have been successful in engaging to deliver provision through their wellbeing centres in addition to their own programmes and this is all carefully mapped and evaluated.



Excellence in Pupil
Development Award

Eco Committee Successful in Bid for Eco Project Funding

Congratulations to our Eco Committee who have been successful in securing funding for the first stage of an exciting environmental project at the Lower Academy. The committee presented a detailed proposal to Gary Smith, CEO of the Basildon Academies Trust, who was impressed with their ideas and shared his own thoughts on the environment.

The project aims to create a sustainable and eco-friendly environment within the school; This includes the establishment of a wildflower garden, an allotment, an orchard and a sensory garden. Additionally within this area, water butts, composters, mini insect hotels and hedgehog houses will be installed. These initiatives will not only enhance the aesthetics of the academy but also provide valuable learning opportunities for students.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the Eco Committee, the project has been given the green light and the first stage will soon be implemented. Once the success of this initial phase is demonstrated, funding for the next phase of the project will be granted. This phase will involve transforming an area near the courts into a wildlife garden, where students can actively engage in fieldwork and contribute to the creation of a mini ecosystem.

"We are very thankful that the school has given us funding to enhance our school's natural environment. We must make sure we do a good job on the first stage of the project so we can continue to progress up the ladder of success. All our thanks to Mr Smith." Nate.H – Year 7

"This is a great opportunity to help protect wildlife within our school community." Maddison.A – Year 7

"I joined the committee because I want to help make our school eco-friendlier. I am looking forward to starting on our first project which will be developing the quad area." Michelle.C – Year 7

"We were really excited when we were told that we will receive funds for our project. We persuaded Mr Smith to give us a reasonable amount of money to develop our schools eco community. We hope this will be a shining path for more years to come." Luke.Z – Year 7

"My role in the committee is to help everyone be happy and healthy, so me and the gardening team are doing a crossover and are making a special sensory garden." Alice.A – Year 7



"It was a pleasure to listen to the bids and talk through the proposals from the Eco Committee, and as a result they were successful in securing funding for their projects. These projects will support both sustainability and welfare, and I cannot wait to see them come to fruition." Gary Smith - Chief Executive Officer, The Basildon Academies Trust

We look forward to sharing the progress of our dedicated students and staff over the coming months.

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.

YOUNGMINDS

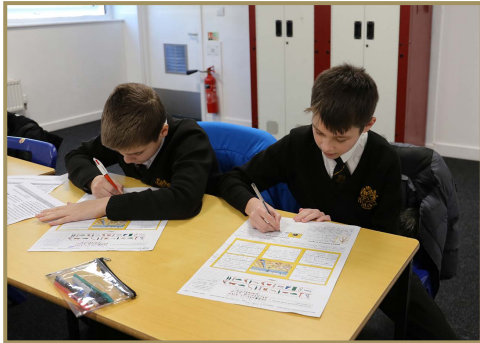
History Drop Down Day

On Friday 26th January, Lower Academy students experienced a truly immersive day dedicated entirely to the subject of History. Students from all year groups enthusiastically engaged in various activities throughout the day. From the 'mummy challenge' to the creation of their own Greek mythology creatures and, even debating the leadership qualities of Julius Caesar, the students wholeheartedly embraced the sessions they were involved in.

"History day was a lot of fun. We learned about Cleopatra, King Tut and Rameses the Great. We wrote about the Egyptian trade, wealth, religion and how the river Nile benefited the entire country." Khaleesi.A – Year 7

"I learned a lot about ancient Egypt, including how they have influenced modern writing, maths and medicine." Michelle.C – Year 7

"The History Drop Down Day was amazing! I learned about Egyptians and Greek Mythology. I hope we have more days like this!" Luke.Z – Year 7



Essex Activate - Half Term Activities

Essex County Council are funding holiday activity clubs for young people who are eligible for benefits based free school meals and, low-income working

For more information, to check eligibility and, to register your child into a club for the upcoming half term, please visit: [Essex Activate](#) | [Active Essex](#)



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

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

Celebrating Inclusivity: Basildon Academies Pursues SENDIA Recognition

Exciting news from the Basildon Academies! We're on the path to achieving the SEND Inclusion Award (SENDIA); showcasing our commitment to an inclusive and supportive educational environment for all students.

Diversity is Our Strength:

The Basildon Academies values the uniqueness of every student. Pursuing the SENDIA Award reflects our dedication to creating an environment where each child feels valued and included.

Equal Opportunities for All:

Inclusion at the Basildon Academies means providing equal opportunities for every student. The SENDIA journey involves identifying and removing barriers hindering the progress of students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Collaboration and Partnership:

We believe in a strong partnership between school and home. Your insights and support are crucial in achieving inclusive excellence as we pursue the SENDIA Award.

Empowering Every Learner:

Our mission is to empower every learner to achieve their potential. Pursuing the SENDIA Award demonstrates our commitment to providing necessary resources, support, and adaptations for students with SEND.

Celebrating Differences:

Inclusion at the Basildon Academies is about celebrating differences. The SENDIA process refines our practices to better cater to individual needs, fostering an atmosphere of acceptance and diversity celebration.

Thank you for your ongoing support in creating an inclusive Basildon Academies community. We look forward to updating you on our progress and sharing the successes that come with our commitment to inclusion.



THE BASILDON ACADEMIES WORD OF THE DAY

5th February - 9th February 2024

EAL VERSION

Monday:	Devotion: Dedication to a cause, person etc.	Преданост (predanost) = Bulgarian
Tuesday: (Safer Internet Day)	Warmth: The quality of being intimate and attached.	căldură = Romanian
Wednesday:	Affection: Fond attachment, devotion, or love.	Любовь (lyubov) = Russian
Thursday:	Admiration: The act of looking on or contemplating with pleasure.	bewunderung = German
Friday:	Fondness: Excessively tender or overindulgent; doting.	pagkagusto = Filipino

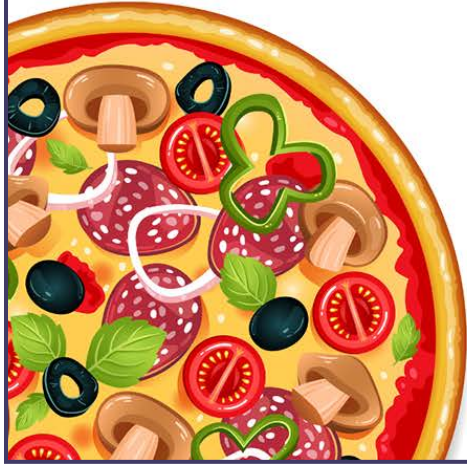


NATIONAL PIZZA DAY



FEBRUARY 9TH

To celebrate National Pizza Day on Friday 9th February the Dining Hall will be serving pizza during morning breaktime for just 50p per slice



Pizza toppings available:
Cheese & Tomato
Vegetable
Pepperoni



HAPPY
LUNAR
NEW YEAR
2024



TO CELEBRATE LUNAR NEW
YEAR & CHINESE NEW YEAR
THERE WILL BE CHINESE
THEMED LUNCHES AVAILABLE
IN THE DINING HALL ON
MONDAY 12TH FEBRUARY



There has been a heavy emphasis on the training and development of staff to support them in supporting students. Examples of this include extensive whole staff training in Trauma Perceptive Practice (TPP) and ensuring all key pastoral staff are mental health first aid trained to enable them to triage student need effectively.



Wellbeing Award
for Schools

2022-2025

PANCAKE DAY TUESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY



To celebrate Pancake Day on Tuesday 13th February The Dining Hall will be serving pancakes in addition to the regular dessert menu options.

Job of the Week: Kitchen Assistant

What does a Kitchen Assistant do?

Your day-to-day duties could include:

- supporting chefs in a specific work section
- washing, peeling and preparing food items
- using a variety of kitchen equipment such as mixers, special knives and cutters
- unloading deliveries
- organising the storeroom
- washing kitchen appliances, work surfaces, floors and walls

Labour Market Information

UK jobs: 684,866

Essex jobs: 14,709 (3rd of 214 UK LEAs)

Top 5 LEAs: Kent (16,465), Hampshire (14,927), Essex (14,709), Lancashire (13,593), Birmingham (12,688)

UK growth: -16.5% from 2020 to 2025, losing 515,452 jobs



What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

There are no set requirements, but it may help if you:

- have some basic kitchen skills, like food safety practices and the ability to prepare simple dishes
- have gained some work experience, like volunteering with the food service at a charity event or as a kitchen porter washing up
- have taken a short culinary course or workshop, to show your passion and build your skills

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median:
£18,193



Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels

