

Dates for the Diary

Christmas Dinner (Free for all students)

Year 7 - Tuesday 12th December

Year 8 - Wednesday 13th December

Year 9 - Thursday 14th December

Parent Forum Meeting - Venue: Upper Academy

Tuesday 12th December 2023 - 4-5pm

Winter Wonderland Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 19th December 2023 - 3:30-5pm

Last Day of Autumn Term

Wednesday 20th December 2023

Student Value of the Term

**NO HUMAN
IS ILLEGAL**

House Points - Week Ending 1st December



11,553
ALI



10,959
HAWKING



10,584
AUSTEN



10,552
SEACOLE



The Children's Commissioner for England has recently launched the 'The Big Ambition' to hear directly from children, young people, and parent across the country.

We want to hear from all children, in every part of the country and in every setting.

This is your chance to tell key policymakers what is important to you ahead of the general election. Take part now and ensure your needs are reflected in the decisions that will affect you in years to come.



[Click here](#) to take the survey or scan the QR code to complete the survey by Friday 15th December and make your voice heard.

Year 7 Coding Workshops

The Lower Academy recently welcomed Richard from Hyett Education, who delivered a series of engaging coding workshops to our Year 7 students.

With expert guidance, our students worked in groups to build and programme motorised Lego robots to successfully navigate a set path across a map of the solar system. All of our Year 7's demonstrated excellent teamwork, perseverance and the ability to problem solve.

"The programming was a little difficult because we found a few problems in the coding, however, once we programmed the correct numbers and angles it became easier. The best part was building the robot and watching it move. The sad part was disassembling the robot." Bernice.O

"The workshop was amazing; it was the first time I've done something like this. We built and programmed Lego robots and learned how space rockets take off." Joshua.W

"The software was block based and similar to the Scratch programming language. We used a trial-and-error technique to make sure we programmed the robot to follow the correct path." Alfie.E

"It was fun and challenging. The programming task was just like trying to solve a puzzle. The best part was watching the robot follow our commands." Natalie.N

"I enjoyed using an iPad to programme and calculate the angles needed to move the vehicle in the correct directions. I also had fun with building my robot and seeing what parts fitted together." Mya.L



Winter Wonderland Christmas Fayre

We are delighted to announce that we are holding our annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Fayre at the Lower Academy on Tuesday 19th December 2023. The event is open to all parents, carers, families and students and will take place from 3:30 – 5pm.

Preparations are well under way; students are creating fun games and stalls in a bid to raise the most amount of money with all donations going to our chosen charity, Save the Children.

The Lower Academy Choir and Dance Club students 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.



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).

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 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.

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 Tuesday
Breaktime

Location:
The Wellbeing Centre



Aspire - Believe - Achieve



Wellbeing is prioritised for everyone in the school. As well as extensive curriculum content, the leadership have funded Wellbeing Centres on both sites. This support was spoken of very positively by students. Some have timetabled access but "There are break and lunchtime drop ins... anyone can go for help with any problem...it's very accessible."

Unicef RRS Accreditation Report Gold: Rights Aware - July 2022

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

Categorising attendance and learning hours lost

Descriptor	Threshold attendance	Actual attendance (days)	Whole days absent	Lost learning hours	Level of concern
Excellent	100%	190	0	0	Green
	99%	188	2	10	
Good	98%	186	4	20	Green
	97%	184	6	30	
	96%	182.5	7.5	37.5	
Cause for concern	95%	180.5	9.5	47.5	Orange
	94%	179	11	55	
	93%	177	13	65	
	92%	175	15	75	
	91%	173	17	85	
Unsatisfactory	90%	171	19	95	Red
	89%	169	21	105	
	88%	167	23	115	
	87%	165	25	125	
	86%	163	27	135	
Critical	85%	161.5	28.5	142.5	Red
	84%	159.5	30.5	152.5	
	83%	158	32	160	
	82%	156	34	170	
	81%	154	36	180	
	80%	152	38	190	



Christmas Dinner

Year 7 - Tuesday 12th December

Year 8 - Wednesday 13th December

Year 9 - Thursday 14th December

Main Meal

Roast Turkey & Pigs in Blankets
or
Cauliflower Pithivier

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

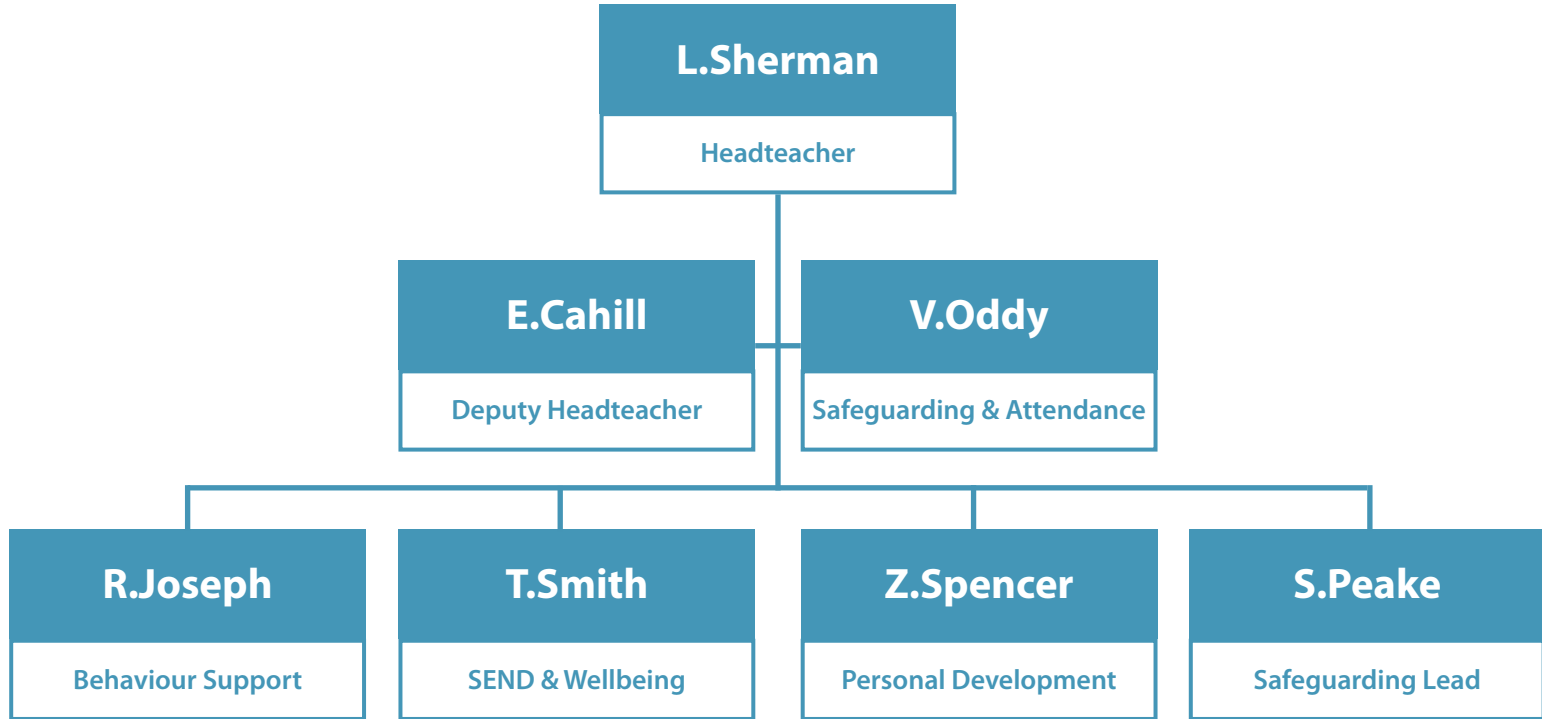
Christmas Dinner comes with fresh
fruit juice & a Christmas Cracker

Christmas Dinner is free to all of our students

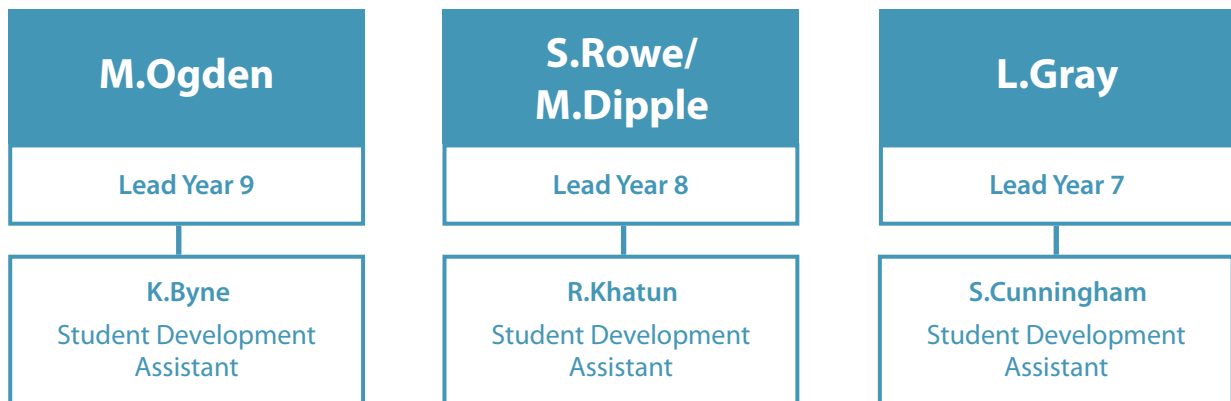
Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels



Senior Leadership Team



Year Team Leadership



If you have a Learning Support query, please email lowerlearningsupport@basildonacademies.org.uk

If you have an Out of Hours Learning query, please email remoteteaching@basildonacademies.org.uk

If you wish to submit a complaint, please do so via complaints@basildonacademies.org.uk

If you have a safeguarding concern, please email safeguarding@basildonacademies.org.uk

If you wish to report a respect issue, please email respect@basildonacademies.org.uk

THE BASILDON ACADEMIES

WORD OF THE DAY

4th December- 8th December 2023

International Human Rights Day 75th Anniversary - 10th December

Monday:	Integrity: ìṣòtítọ́ in Yoruba Adherence to moral and ethical principles; soundness of moral character; honesty.
Tuesday:	Principles: Grundsätze in German An accepted or professed rule of action or conduct.
Wednesday: (<i>St Nicholas' Day</i>)	Honesty: Eziokwu in Igbo Truthfulness, sincerity, or frankness.
Thursday:	Purity: Pureté in French Freedom from anything that debases, contaminates, pollutes, etc.
Friday:	Sincerity: Uaminifu in Swahili Freedom from deceit or duplicity.