

Dates for the Diary

Christmas Dinner (Free for all students)

Year 10 - Wednesday 18th December 2024

Year 11 & Sixth Form - Thursday 19th December 2024

Presentation Evening

Wednesday 18th December 2024 - 4pm-5pm

Last Day of Autumn Term

Friday 20th December 2024 - *Students finish at 12:30pm*

First Day of Spring Term

Tuesday 7th January 2025

Year 10 AP1 Assessments

Monday 20th - Friday 31st January 2025

Student Value of the Term

**NO HUMAN
IS ILLEGAL**

House Points - Week Ending 6th December



19,447
AUSTEN



18,793
ALI



14,364
HAWKING



12,298
SEACOLE

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.basildonupperacademy.org.uk/wellbeing-advice-for-parents-carers



In partnership with

NATIONAL
CHILDREN'S
BUREAU

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.O'Neill

Designated Safeguarding Lead & Senior Student Development Lead



Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded Student of the Week for week commencing 2nd December 2024.

- ★ Year 10 - Ntokozo.N (R10T2)
- ★ Year 11 - Layla.W (R11Z2)
- ★ Year 11 - Leah.F (R11Z2)
- ★ Sixth Form - Kai.L (R1213)

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.basildonupperacademy.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 Upper Academy website and select the option for General Enquiries.

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 Wednesday
Breaktime

Location:
The Medical Room



Spotlight on: A Level Photography



If you are interested in the world around you and your place within it, enjoy picture taking and would like to learn how to take better photographs that translate into creative and meaningful imagery then you would be very suited to the A Level Photography course.

Studying Photography will give you a greater understanding of the world we live in, and your place within it. You will be encouraged to explore subject themes with a personal interest to ensure that you are always on a meaningful creative journey.

Full course information can be found by visiting the following link on our website: [A Level Photography](#)

Free Fruit at Breaktime



Students can choose an item of fruit from the till area in the Dining Hall at breaktime each day.

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

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.

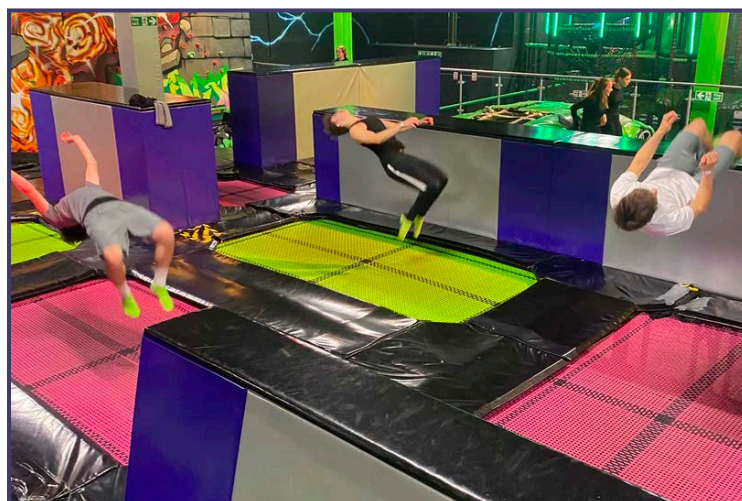
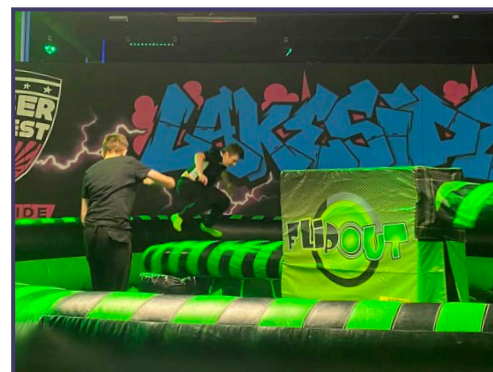
The Basildon Academies are raising money for Save the Children so we ask that a donation is made from all students participating in non-uniform. Staff will be at the front door with collection buckets to greet the students as they arrive.



Year 11 Students Celebrate Success with Flip Out Rewards Trip

A group of 100 Year 11 students recently enjoyed an exciting day out at Flip Out Lakeside as part of the Upper Academy rewards programme. The students were recognised for their hard work and achievements, spending the day bouncing on trampolines and competing in thrilling games of laser tag.

The rewards programme not only celebrates academic success but also recognises those students who have made significant improvements during the term, whether it be through improved attendance or through the positive choices that they now make. The rewards programme is designed not only to celebrate achievements but also to foster a positive and supportive learning environment.

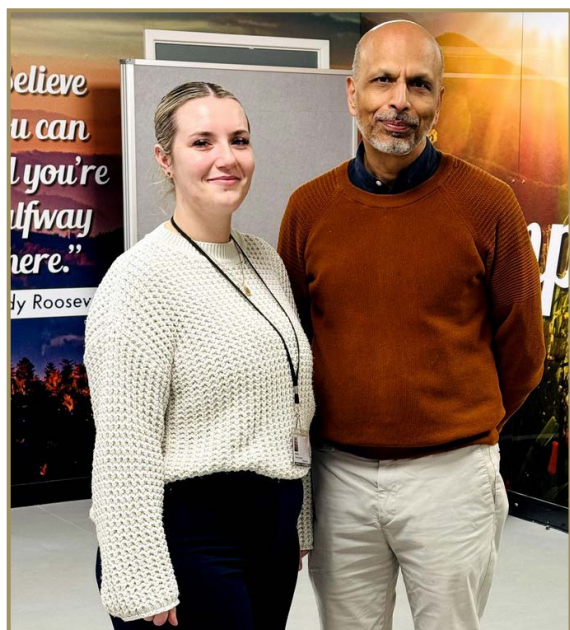


Miss Barnes Wins Human Kind Café Award for Outstanding Kindness

Student Development Champion Miss Barnes has been recognised for her incredible kindness, support, respect, and understanding, winning a competition run by the Billericay-based charity 'Human Kind Café' at the Basildon Skills Show. Miss Barnes received student nominations for her exceptional contributions to our school community.

In a wonderful surprise, Ram Goyal, founder of Human Kind Café, visited the school to personally present Miss Barnes with the award. The heartfelt recognition left Miss Barnes completely unaware until the moment of the presentation.

As part of her prize, Miss Barnes will enjoy a luxurious afternoon tea for two in London, complete with luxury transport. Congratulations, Miss Barnes, on this well-deserved recognition!



Miss Barnes alongside Ram Goyal, founder of Human Kind Café.



Miss Barnes with Year 11 students Chloe-Louise.G and Skarlet.W; two of the students who voted for her.

Parent Drop In - Friday 13th December

This week's Parent Drop In will be on Friday 13th December between 9am and 10am.

There will be no need to book an appointment, just sign in at reception and staff will be happy to show you to the venue. There is no set topic for the drop in sessions, if we are not able to answer any specific questions, we will follow up and then feedback to you.



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](#)



Tassomai – Homework Learning Platform

Tassomai is our designated homework platform for English, Maths, and Science. It provides students with daily challenges to support and reinforce their learning in these key subjects.

Parent/Carer Login:

All parents/carers should have received an email invitation sent to the primary contact address listed on our MIS system. If you have not received this email, you can easily reset your password here:

<https://app.tassomai.com/password/reset>

Student Login:

Username : school email address

Password: SmartWayToStudy

Students can change their password once they log in.

We encourage parents to support their children in regularly using Tassomai to complete these daily challenges, which are a valuable tool for academic progress. For more information about Tassomai, please visit:

<https://www.tassomai.com/blog-content>



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 carparks.



We have been asked by Basildon Borough Council to communicate the following message on their behalf. Please note we have no further information other than what has been shared below and parents are urged to contact the number provided below with any queries at all.

£360 for students with new Education Essentials Grant

The Education Essentials Grant, funded through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, provides a one-off payment of £360 to eligible students aged 16 to 19 from families receiving Universal Credit.

The grant is designed to help with essential costs, such as tuition fees, transport, and study materials, which might otherwise prevent students from continuing their education. Up to 360 young people will receive funding, with all payments to be made by 31st March 2025.

Further details, including eligibility criteria and the application form, are now available on Basildon Council's website, at www.basildon.gov.uk/EducationBursary

If any family requires additional support completing the form, we encourage them to get in touch with the council directly, via 01268 533333.

The grant is limited to the first 360 successful applicants, so please do act soon to ensure your students can benefit.

We hope this scheme will provide crucial support to families facing financial challenges and allow more students to stay in education.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Gavin Callaghan
Leader of the Council



Cllr Gavin Callaghan
Leader of the Council



Stronger Starts

The Basildon Academies - Rethink Your Drink

Support the academies to encourage students to swap
Their sugar filled drinks for a healthier option

WHY? The project with the highest number of votes across your region will receive £1,500

Pick up your tokens at local stores between 1st October – 15th January:

- Rayleigh Exp Small unit SS6 7BY
- Pitsea Extra Large unit SS13 3JU
- Silva Isl Wickfrd Exp Large unit SS12 9NR
- Wickford S/End Rd Exp Small unit SS11 8EE
- Lond Rd Sth Benfl Exp Small unit SS7 5TH
- Rayleigh Ldn Rd Exp Small unit SS6 9BN



Uniform Price Increase

We have been advised by our school uniform suppliers, SWI Schoolwear, that from **February 1st 2025**, there will be an increase in price across uniform of 3.4%, in line with Retail Price Index (RPI).

Should you require any additional uniform for your child, please order before the end of January to benefit from the current price.

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

Ofsted
Good
Provider

There are a wide range of clubs and opportunities for pupils to contribute to the school and local community, for instance as charity ambassadors. This develops pupils' self-confidence. Well-chosen visitors help pupils learn how to keep themselves safe and healthy.

Follow The Basildon Upper Academy on our social media channels



Absence Procedures

To report a student absence please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Upper 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.basildonupperacademy.org.uk/attendance



 Essex County Council
Education

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 10 - Wednesday 18th December
Year 11 & Sixth Form - 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



Essex

ACTIVate

Free holiday clubs, fun activities and food
across Essex and Thurrock!

- ✓ Specialist SEND, mental wellbeing and youth clubs
- ✓ Sports and games, arts and crafts, cooking and so much more!
- ✓ Nutritious snacks and tasty meals
- ✓ Run by qualified, local club providers
- ✓ Family support, resources and guidance
- ✓ Discretionary paid and paid for spaces

WHAT IS ESSEX ACTIVATE?

Essex ActivAte is the name for the exciting activity clubs run by Active Essex! During school holidays, local club providers across the county deliver free holiday clubs and fun activities to get eligible primary and secondary children active, as well as support young people to make friendships and learn new skills, helping to enhance their wellbeing.

Please only book your child/ren a space at an Essex ActivAte club if they will attend. If they are booked on and do not attend, other children may miss out on this beneficial opportunity across the holidays.

www.activeessex.org



@EssexActivAte



Turn this flyer over
to read more on how
to book a space!

SCAN ME



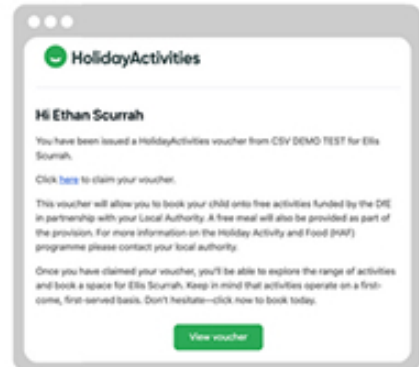
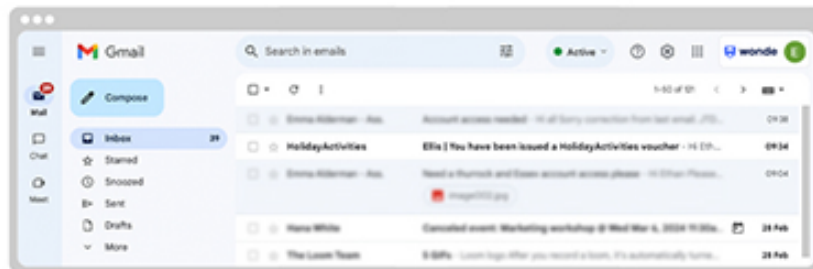


HolidayActivities

A guide on claiming your voucher and booking activities

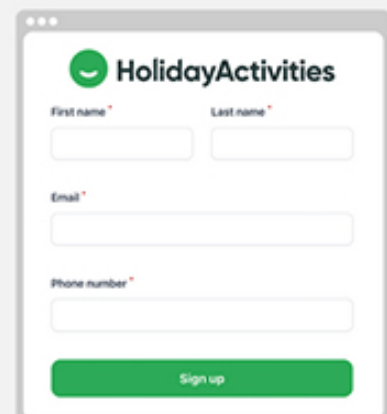
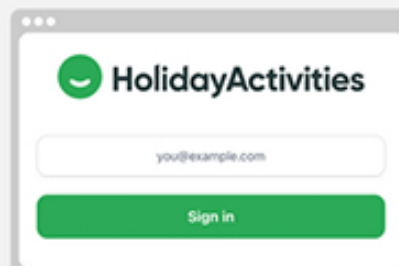
Step 1 - Open the email and click the green button

This voucher will come from hello@holidayactivities.com



Step 2 - Select *Continue with email* and log in/sign up

After selecting Continue with email, you will be asked to enter your email address. If you do not have an account, you will be asked to sign up



Step 3 - Making a booking

Clicking the green arrow on the voucher of your child will take you to a list of providers. From here, you can browse available activities and, once you find one suitable, you will be asked to complete a booking form.

