

## Dates for the Diary

### Year 10 AP1 Assessments

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025

### Year 11 & Year 13 Progress Review (Online)

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025

### Holocaust Memorial Day

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2025

### Year 12 AP1 Assessments

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> - Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025

### Children's Mental Health Week

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> - Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2025

### Half Term

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025

## Student Value of the Term

**KINDNESS IS  
EVERYTHING**

## House Points - Week Ending 17<sup>th</sup> January



24,593  
AUSTEN



23,492  
ALI



16,863  
HAWKING



15,178  
SEACOLE

## Leadership Message - Why Literacy is Vital for Your Future

Literacy is the ability to **read, write, and understand information, enabling communication, learning, and problem-solving**. In the UK, strong literacy skills boost confidence, expand career opportunities, and support personal goals, while poor literacy limits job prospects and career advancement.

**Good literacy skills boost confidence**, helping 83.2% of adults pursue aspirations and 76.7% achieve dream careers, according to the National Literacy Trust. Economically, individuals with strong literacy skills **earn significantly more**, even in less affluent careers poor literacy can cost you around £1,500 annually and £33,000 over a lifetime.

**Poor literacy limits career progression**, with 63% of men and 75% of women with very low literacy **never receiving a promotion**. It also increases unemployment risks, as individuals with low literacy are over twice as likely to be unemployed. Workers with strong literacy earn over 60% higher median hourly wages compared to those with low literacy.

**Youth unemployment** in the UK has risen sharply, with over 870,000 young people aged 16-24 not in education, employment, or training—a 25% increase since 2022. Contributing factors include a post-pandemic mental health crisis and a lack of skills, including literacy, which hinder employment opportunities.

**Good literacy skills are vital for success and progression in any endeavour you choose**. They enable you to read, write, and understand information effectively, which is essential across various activities.

KS4 students can **improve literacy** by **reading** regularly, choosing interesting materials like books and articles. Write daily in a journal or create stories to boost creativity. **Expand vocabulary** by learning new words and using them in sentences. **Practice comprehension** by summarising texts and answering questions. **Improve grammar and spelling** with online tools and by proofreading. Join **discussions** or book clubs to express ideas confidently. Watch **documentaries** or use subtitles to learn new language styles. **Seek feedback** on writing from teachers or peers. Use apps and games to build skills. Set achievable goals, such as reading a chapter daily, to stay motivated.



## Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded Student of the Week for week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

★ Year 10 - Elizabeth.H (R10X1)

★ Year 11 - Callum.F (R11X2)

★ Sixth Form - Faiza.H (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](http://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](http://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.

## Spotlight on: A Level Criminology



Not all types of crime are alike. Are you interested in what different types of crime take place in our society and what kinds of crime exist, about which we know very little? How do we decide what behaviour is criminal? What are the roles of personnel involved when a crime is detected? Perhaps you are interested to know more about this exciting subject?

This course is designed to offer you a chance to learn about crime in the real world by exploring case studies of different types of crime and criminals. You will cover a range of exciting topics where you will gain the required understanding and skills relevant for your chosen career path.

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

# Aspire - Believe - Achieve

## 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.

# YOUNG MINDS

## Parent Drop In - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January

This week's Parent Drop In will be on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January 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.



What the schools stand for and promote is highly visible and consistent on each site from the values agreed with students to the diversity represented by the key figures the school's houses are named after.



Excellence in Pupil  
Development Award

2023-2026



## Sixth Formers Gain Insight into Careers with PHS Hygiene Services

Recently, our Sixth Form students had the opportunity to visit PHS, the UK's largest hygiene services provider, during a careers visit to their premises in Wickford. The visit offered an invaluable look at the various roles and operations within the company, both locally and nationally.

The day began with a guided tour of the facility, including the stockroom, warehouse, and offices. Students were able to engage directly with staff, asking questions and gaining a deeper understanding of how the different departments work together. Representatives shared insights about PHS' impressive client base, which includes prestigious locations such as the Emirates Stadium, Buckingham Palace, Bluewater Shopping Centre, and the Houses of Parliament, as well as numerous local businesses.

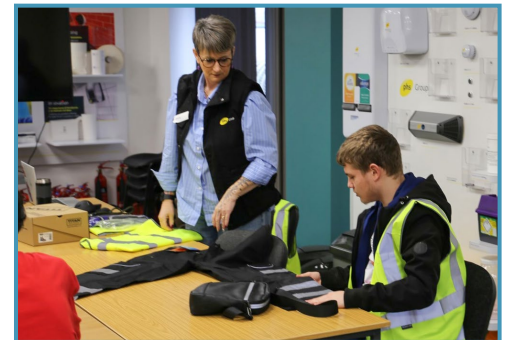
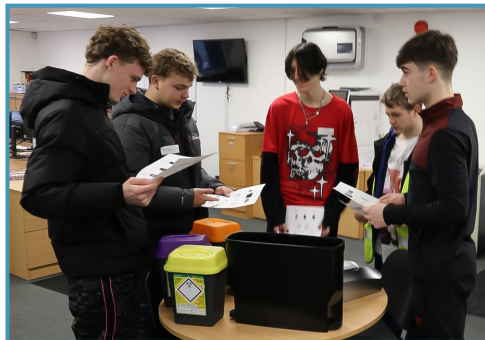
A highlight of the visit was an interactive workshop that focused on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and health and safety procedures, such as handling hazardous waste. Students also participated in a fun challenge to identify hidden hygiene equipment and products around the office, demonstrating their understanding of the products use once discovered.

In addition to exploring the day-to-day operations of the company, students learned about PHS' commitment to sustainability, including how products brought in for disposal are recycled into new materials. The visit also featured a Q&A session, where students asked thoughtful questions about career opportunities within the hygiene services field, including apprenticeships and pathways into the industry.

"I found the visit fascinating because it highlighted the variety of career options available in the workplace, from hands-on roles to office-based positions. It was an amazing experience that I would highly recommend to others." Rhys G - Year 12

"This experience was valuable for many reasons. It helped me understand the different career paths available and how to stay focused on achieving career goals." Kai.M - Year 13

We would like to thank the Essex Greater Careers Hub for funding and organising this fantastic visit. It was a valuable experience that provided our students with inspiration and knowledge about potential career opportunities in the hygiene services sector.



## Online Safety Hub Recommended Resource of the Week: How to Spot Fake Online Accounts

Rapid tech expansion has brought exciting opportunities to broaden our social networks by enabling us to connect readily with others online. However, the digital landscape also comes with its share of challenges, including fake accounts that aim to exploit and harm unsuspecting and vulnerable individuals, especially children.

[Click here](#) to access information and support relating to the dangers of fake accounts.

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](#)



## Parent/Carer Updating Contact Information

Please ensure we have current contact information on file for you, including home address, mobile phone number, and email address. If any of your details have changed, email us at [admin@basildonacademies.org.uk](mailto:admin@basildonacademies.org.uk) with the updated information.

### Year 12 AP1, commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2025

	8.30 start		1pm start	
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Maths AS Paper 1	2 hours	Chemistry	1 hour 30 mins
	Maths GCSE Paper 1	1 hour 30 mins	Psychology Paper 1	
	Food Science and Nutrition	1 hour 45 mins	Maths Functional Skills P1	
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	English Literature Paper 1	1 hour	Engineering	1 hours 30 mins
	English Language GCSE Paper 1	1 hr 45 mins	Sociology Paper 1	
	Geography	2 hour 30 mins		
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	English Literature Paper 2	1 hour 30 mins		
	Accounting	1 hour 30 mins	Maths GCSE Paper 2	1 hour 30 mins
	Physics	1 hour 30 mins	IT Part 1	2 hours
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Maths AS Paper 2	1 hour 30 mins	Maths Functional Skills P2	
	English Language GCSE Paper 2	1 hr 45 mins	Biology	1 hour 30 mins
	IT Part 1	3 hours		
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	3D Design	All Day	3D Design	All day
	Maths GCSE Paper 3	1 hour 30 mins		
	Computing	2 hours		



Year 10 AP1, commencing 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2025				
	AM (8:30am start)		PM (1:00pm start)	
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> January	Biology	1 hr 15	English Language P1	1 hr 45
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	ICT	1 hr 20	Maths P1	1 hr 30
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Chemistry	1 hr 15	Geography P1	1 hr 30
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	English Literature	2 hr 15	Maths P2	1 hr 30
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	Geography P2	1 hr 30	French Listening	35 mins
	History	2 hrs	French Reading	45 mins
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Physics	1 hr 15	Maths P3	1 hr 30
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January	French Writing	1 hr 10	English Language P2	1 hr 45
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Catering	1 hr 20	Engineering	1 hr 30
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Music Listening	45 min	Statistics	1 hr 45
	Psychology	1 hr 30		
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	GCSE PE	1hr	GCSE Business	1hr 30
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Music practical	All day		

## New Essex Sexual Health Service Webpages Dedicated to Secondary Parents & Carers

The Essex Sexual Health Service has a website dedicated to parents and carers. Parents can find a wealth of resources, including FAQs, insights into RSE, and advice on how to have those important conversations.

[www.essexsexualhealthservice.org.uk/parents-and-carers/](http://www.essexsexualhealthservice.org.uk/parents-and-carers/)



 The background of the poster is a top-down view of various fresh vegetables and herbs on a dark wooden surface. Visible items include red onions, potatoes, cucumbers, lettuce, carrots, broccoli, and jars of spices.
 

# VEGANUARY MONTH

Throughout January the Dining Hall will be serving a Vegan Dish of the Day

## 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](http://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!





# BASILDON ACADEMIES

## WORD OF THE DAY

20<sup>th</sup>- 24<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Monday:  
**Martin Luther King Day**

### Oratory (Noun)

*Definition:* The art of public speaking, especially in a formal and eloquent manner.  
*Example:* Martin Luther King Jr.'s powerful oratory continues to inspire movements for social justice.

Tuesday:  
**World Religion Day**

### Oratory (Noun)

*Definition:* The art of public speaking, especially in a formal and eloquent manner.  
*Example:* Martin Luther King Jr.'s powerful oratory continues to inspire movements for social justice.

Wednesday:

### Interfaith (Adjective)

*Definition:* Relating to or involving people of different religions or beliefs.  
*Example:* Interfaith dialogues during World Religion Day help bridge gaps between various religious communities.

Thursday:

### Ecumenical (Adjective)

*Definition:* Promoting or relating to unity among the world's Christian churches.  
*Example:* The ecumenical services on World Religion Day aim to foster unity and cooperation among different Christian denominations.

Friday:  
**International Day of Education**

### Curriculum (Noun)

*Definition:* The subjects comprising a course of study in a school or college.  
*Example:* A well-designed curriculum is essential for providing a comprehensive education and fostering a love for learning.

## Job of the Week: Biomedical engineer

### What does a Biomedical engineer do?

Your day-to-day activities may include:

- Installing, maintaining, and repairing biomedical equipment.
- Developing applications for energy sources in biomedical implants.
- Diagnosing bioelectric data with signal processing.
- Advising on instrumentation in clinical settings.
- Managing engineering teams, schedules, budgets, and contracts.
- Analysing medical procedures to predict outcomes

### Labour Market Information

UK jobs: 383,043

Essex Jobs: 8,415

Growth: +41.4%

Top 5 LEAs: 1. Hampshire (11,941) 2. Lancashire (9,111) 3. Essex (8,415) 4. Surrey (8,334) 5. Hertfordshire (8,186)

### What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

You need a degree to become a biomedical engineer. Relevant subjects include:

- biomedical science or engineering
- electrical or electronic engineering
- mechanical engineering
- physics.

Many employers require at least a 2:1.

### Let's Talk Money

UK annual median: £42,940

**Ofsted**  
Good  
Provider

The school is determined that all pupils can access the curriculum. All pupils in key stage 4 now study French. The school offers pupils a wide range of vocational courses as well as GCSE and A-level qualifications. Pupils are prepared well for the next stage of their education or employment.

Follow The Basildon Upper Academy on our social media channels

