

Dates for the Diary

World Religion Day

Sunday 19th January 2025

Year 10 AP1 Assessments

Monday 20th - Friday 31st January 2025

Year 11 & Year 13 Progress Review (Online)

Wednesday 22nd January 2025

Holocaust Memorial Day

Monday 27th January 2025

Year 12 AP1 Assessments

Monday 3rd - Friday 7th February 2025

Student Value of the Term

**KINDNESS IS
EVERYTHING**

House Points - Week Ending 10th January



23,499
AUSTEN



22,200
ALI



16,270
HAWKING



14,733
SEACOLE

Leadership Message

This half term, Year 10 and 12 students will be sitting the first assessment point for their Key Stage. Assessments enable us to measure the progress students have made since starting their new courses and will identify areas of strength, as well as gaps in understanding. These assessments are set and marked internally. Result data will be used to support learning, set targets and continue to monitor progress.

Year 10 AP1: Monday 20th - Friday 31st January 2025

Year 12 AP1: Monday 3rd - Friday 7th February 2025.

All students will receive a personalised timetable with the details for assessments; including date, venue, time and seat number. Timetables should be kept safe to refer to during the week.

Year 11 and 13 students sat their mocks during the last half term, the students showed great determination and maturity during this time. Results of these assessments will be shared with students on Thursday. Parents and carers will have the opportunity to speak to teachers about next steps at the upcoming Progress Review Event on Wednesday 22nd January.

As a part of our commitment to 'We asked, you said, we did', supported by our Parent Voice, all appointments will be held online via video call through the Parent Booking system. Welcome emails have been sent with details of how to log in and make appointments, along with a guide on how to join the video call on the night. If you have any questions regarding this, please email parentbooking@basildonacademies.org.uk

We look forward to seeing the progress of Year 10 and 12 students and sharing the successes of Year 11 and 13 students with you.



S. Szuskiewicz
Deputy Headteacher



S. Bellenie
Raising Standards Leader

Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded Student of the Week for week commencing 6th January 2025.

★ Year 10 - Billy.H (R10EPAM)

★ Year 11 - Summer.S (R11MI)

★ Sixth Form - Elliot.K (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 Sociology



Do you have an interest in other people's lives, attitudes and behaviour, and are open to having your own ideas challenged, or challenging the ideas of others? Then this course could be for you. Sociology is a wide-ranging subject involving many areas of social life, including: families and households, education, mass media and crime and deviance research methods. To enjoy sociology you need to be interested in the world around you and have an open, enquiring mind.

You will learn basic theories or ways of looking at society and develop the skills to assess different views and reach conclusions. You will expand and use knowledge to analyse modern society, critically assess different views on the way society works, explore the core themes of socialisation, culture and identity, social differentiation, and power and stratification.

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

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.

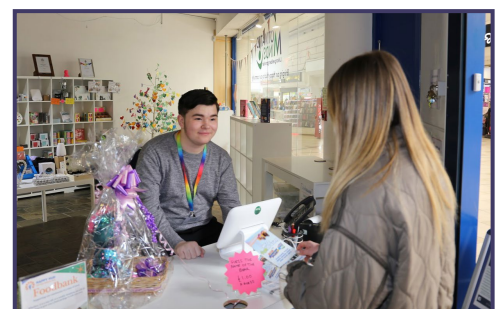
Kooth is a well-established, award winning online counselling agency and is accredited by The British Association of Psychotherapy and Counselling (BACP).

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

Year 10 Work Experience Own Placement Forms Deadline

The deadline to return own placement work experience forms to Reception is Friday 17th January.

Parents/Carers; please note that Work Experience is for 1 week only. All Group 1 students e.g. E1, X1, Y1 will go from 28th April to 2nd May and all Group 2 students e.g. E2, X2, Y2 will go from 4th May to 9th May.



Thriving as an External Student: My Story at the Basildon Upper Academy Sixth Form

Enrolling in the right Sixth Form is a crucial decision in preparing for your future. Whilst many students choose to attend their Secondary School's sixth form, many others – myself included – decided to make a fresh start in a brand-new school. Certainly, a daunting decision, but what does the life of an external student look like?

Having no previous connection with Basildon Upper Academy and with no enrolled acquaintances, I had no idea what to expect, what the staff were like or if I would even form friendships. As a special educational needs (SEN) student, my experiences within education settings haven't always been positive. Fears of ostracisation will always be present when you're different and starting in a new environment. Basildon Upper Academy was my first time in a mainstream education setting since primary school, so I was not only faced with the inevitable changes that come with being an external student but also changes to how I've grown to know education entirely.



The staff have offered a warm welcome to myself and the amazing people I get to call my friends. Whenever support is required, I have faced no issues in receiving it, whether this be class related or personal. Students are swiftly notified of opportunities which will assist them once they leave sixth form, such as UCAS events, apprenticeships or workshops.

Life at Basildon Upper Academy has a unique take on traditional school timetables. We sit all timetabled hours for a subject in one day, leading most students to only have 3 days in school on their timetables. The exclusive timetable structure allows for a fantastic school/personal life balance, efficiently learning whilst enjoying our youth simultaneously. Personally, this timetable structure was a contributing factor to my application for Basildon Upper Academy. My friends at the school and I often use these free days to spend time with each other, revising together and strengthening the school community in doing so!

Amongst all else, Basildon Upper Academy offers equal opportunities to all students, no matter your educational or personal background. Here, I felt I was truly able to prove myself for my abilities, rather than being held back by my past, the latter being an issue I faced when looking into other sixth forms. My future and aspirations are clear and achievable since I enrolled in Basildon Upper Academy.

Georgia.S – Year 13



Basildon Academies Achieves Healthy Schools Workplace Wellbeing Award

We are proud to announce that The Basildon Academies Trust has been awarded the prestigious Healthy Schools Workplace Wellbeing Award in recognition of our commitment to fostering a supportive and healthy environment for all staff.

This accolade reflects the steps that we have taken to prioritise staff wellbeing and promote a culture of health and inclusion across our academies. Key initiatives contributing to this achievement include:

- **The Trust Wellbeing Strategy:** Where wellbeing is a key driver in our Trust Strategic Development Plan.
- **Comprehensive Wellbeing Policies:** We have implemented a range of policies supporting flexible working, mental health, equality, diversity, and anti-bullying that have all had a positive impact on staff wellbeing.
- **Effective Communication:** Regular updates through emails, newsletters, and dedicated wellbeing boards ensure staff are informed and supported with their health and wellbeing.
- **Staff Involvement:** We conducted workplace needs assessments and trained Workplace Health Champions to lead wellbeing initiatives.
- **Engaging Wellbeing Activities and support:** The Trust provide access to senior health leads within school and the Employee Assistance Program. In addition, initiatives such as 'Seated to 5K' program and access to on-site state of the art Fitness Suites and have been popular. Staff participation reflects the positive impact on both physical and mental health.
- **Recognition for Inclusion:** Our efforts have also been recognised with additional awards, including:
 - o UNICEF Right Respecting School Gold Award
 - o Wellbeing Award for Schools
 - o Healthy School Award

These efforts demonstrate our commitment to ensuring our academies are not just places of learning but thriving communities for both staff and students.

N.Moore, our Healthy Schools Coordinator, has been instrumental in coordinating these initiatives, ensuring every member of our team feels valued and supported.

"We are delighted that our schools have received recognition in terms of the workplace ethos we have created. The award demonstrates our continued commitment to supporting the health and wellbeing of our staff, students and stakeholders in the best ways possible." Gary Smith - Chief Executive Officer, The Basildon Academies Trust.

We would like to thank all staff members for their enthusiasm and participation in this journey.



Online Safety Hub Recommended Resource of the Week: Review of Snapchat

Snapchat is a popular social media platform that allows users to send disappearing photos and videos, known as 'snaps', to friends. The platform offers a range of creative tools, including filters, lenses, and augmented reality features to alter appearances. Users can share their daily lives through Stories, which disappear after 24 hours, and connect with friends through instant messaging, voice, and video calls. [Click here](#) to access information and support relating to the social media platform Snapchat.



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>



VEGANUARY
MONTH

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

BASILDON ACADEMIES

WORD OF THE DAY

13th - 17th January 2025
 Energy Saving Week
 RSPB School Garden Watch (16th-30th Jan)

| | |
|------------|---|
| Monday: | <p>Sustainability (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> The ability to be maintained at a certain rate or level, especially without depleting resources or causing severe damage. <i>Example:</i> Energy Saving Week emphasizes the importance of sustainability in reducing our environmental impact.</p> |
| Tuesday: | <p>Conservation (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> The action of conserving something, in this case, energy, by avoiding waste. <i>Example:</i> Effective energy conservation measures can significantly reduce household energy consumption.</p> |
| Wednesday: | <p>Efficiency (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> The state or quality of being efficient, in this case, using less energy to achieve the same result. <i>Example:</i> : Improving the efficiency of appliances can lead to substantial energy savings during Energy Saving Week.</p> |
| Thursday: | <p>Biodiversity (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> The variety of plant and animal life in a particular habitat, often regarded as important and desirable. <i>Example:</i> Monitoring biodiversity in school gardens helps students understand the importance of maintaining diverse ecosystems.</p> |
| Friday: | <p>Ecology (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> The branch of biology that deals with the relations of organisms to one another and to their physical surroundings. <i>Example:</i> The RSPB School Garden Watch provides an opportunity for students to explore basic principles of ecology.</p> |

Job of the Week: Actor

What does a Actor do?

Your day-to-day activities may include:

- researching, interpreting, and developing your role
- learning your lines and rehearsing alone or with others
- attending fittings for costumes
- preparing for and going to auditions
- contacting actors' agents and finding the next job
- working with other professional like makeup artists, camera operators, and directors

Labour Market Information

UK jobs: 342,899
 Essex Jobs: 6,251
 Growth: +.2%
 Top 5 LEAs: 1. Surrey (8,868) 2. Hackney (8,587) 3. Kent (8,466) 4. Hertfordshire (8,120) 5. Lambeth (7,261)



What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

You'll usually need to spend time on a training course at a university or drama school. You could take a diploma, foundation degree, degree or postgraduate diploma in drama, or a relevant subject like:

- performance studies
- contemporary theatre and performance
- acting
- musical theatre

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median: £24,249



Pupils in key stage 4 are well prepared for their next steps. They learn about a range of careers and, like students in the sixth form, they can study a range of vocational courses. Pupils with social, emotional and mental health needs (SEMH) who attend the school's own provision also receive highly effective support that improves their behaviour and well-being.

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

Did you know? **90%** of young people with attendance **BELOW** **85%** fail to get good grades.

MISSING **1** DAY A WEEK



LOSING **ONE YEAR** OF SCHOOL LIFE.

Target **97%+**

Good attendance means:

Being in school at least **97%** of the time, that's at least **184** days a year.

175 days are **NOT** spent in school each year.*

* Plenty of time for shopping, holidays & appointments.



SERIOUSLY WORRIED

Very poor attendance has a serious impact & reduces life chances.

VERY CONCERNED

Poor attendance gives less chance of success.

WELL DONE

Good attendance gives the best chance of success.