



Paddington Academy

The best in everyone™

A member of United Learning Trust

Prospectus 2011-2012





Welcome from the Principal



Thank you for taking the time to find out about Paddington Academy. Choosing the right school for your child is the most important decision. The right education is key in providing them with the skills and qualifications for a happy and successful life.

Paddington Academy is a vibrant and thriving 11-18 academy where everyone, both staff and students strive to be the best that they can be. Our motto as part of the ULT family of academies is 'the best in everyone'. We are proud to be a

multi-cultural, multi faith learning community where the language we all speak is outstanding learning and outstanding achievement. Every decision is made in the best interests of students.

We have fantastic facilities at Paddington Academy, which is a relatively new building and an extremely positive environment in which to learn. Every direction you look in you will see a celebration of student success.

Students receive a very personalised curriculum, there is a huge breadth of subjects and if we don't offer what you would like to study we will try and offer it, more recently this has included animal husbandry, landscape gardening and astronomy!

It is our aim that all students leave us with the skills and attributes required to be lifelong learners and positive role models both in their community, and globally. Every student at Paddington Academy is special and each an individual with unique needs. As a result, each deserves and gets an individual learning plan and pastoral care that suits them best. We are constantly improving and listen to student voice and parent voice. When we can do more, the students and parents let us know and we address the issues.

The staff and students are very proud of our academy and its achievements and always welcome visitors. We look forward to meeting you.

Mrs O. Tomlinson, Principal

Welcome from ULT



Paddington Academy lies at the heart of its community and the United Learning Trust takes great pride in its role as sponsor amongst its growing family of academies.

The United Learning Trust's vision is to inspire and ensure the development of the 'Best in Everyone' with individual students aspiring to goals never before within their reach. With high expectations, education can transform the lives of students and through them strengthen the wider community.

The outstanding building and facilities at Paddington Academy and the strong leadership of the Principal and her leadership team, allied to the enthusiastic and professional support of all staff, have led to a rapid and impressive improvement in all results in the broadest sense. With this underpinning future progress, the Academy provides excellent opportunities for parents, teachers and the local community to come together

to enable the young to acquire the skills, knowledge and understanding which will lead to them fulfilling their dreams.

May the opportunities be seized and the vision fulfilled.

Edward Gould
Chairman, United Learning Trust



Why choose Paddington Academy?

Our mission

We will provide a safe, positive, stimulating and supportive environment at Paddington Academy where students want to come to learn. For each student we will develop the skills, attributes and knowledge that ensure that they achieve their very best in all that they do and make a positive contribution to society.

Aims

Paddington Academy will:

- Provide an environment which boosts student self-esteem
- Nurture students, providing opportunities for everyone to reach their full potential
- Empower students to become independent and responsible learners
- Recognise and celebrate achievement and success
- Encourage high standards of leadership, behaviour and attainment from all students
- Instil respect among students for themselves and others
- Develop the creative and artistic potential of students especially through the specialisms of Performing Arts, Media, Business and Enterprise

Values

We ask that all our students belong to Paddington Academy by following the Paddington Ten:

1. I am a resilient learner – I always try my hardest and learn to the best of my ability
2. I do as I am asked, the first time I am asked
3. I am always in the right place at the right time doing the right thing
4. I am a reflective learner - when someone is speaking, I always listen and give my full attention
5. I always have the right equipment for my lesson (pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, books, PE/dance kit)
6. I always look smart and am ready to learn (correct uniform, no chewing, no swinging on chairs, no mobile phones, headphones or iPods)
7. I am responsible for my learning and the learning of others – this means I work well independently and with others
8. I respect others
9. I take pride in my work including the presentation of my work and exercise book
10. I keep my hands, objects and inappropriate comments to myself



How does Paddington Academy bring out 'the best in everyone'?

Our learning and achievement

The staff at Paddington Academy are exceptional. They are completely and utterly dedicated to meeting student needs and ensuring that our students receive outstanding learning and achieve outstanding results.

Our students receive fun, engaging lessons in a positive, safe and friendly learning environment

We receive many visits from national and international organisations and are known as a 'best practice' school for student achievement and progress. We have been in the top 10 schools in the country in 2009, 2010 and 2011 for the progress that our students make and have received six awards for achievement.

Our students are community ambassadors

We develop excellent links with the community. Students get opportunities to work with many people inside and outside the academy, our students establish good networks and relationships with them. It is our aim that Paddington Academy students make a positive difference to their community.

Our students have high standards

At Paddington Academy standards are high. We have extremely high expectations for uniform, behaviour, attendance and punctuality. If a student gets all these things right, they will learn better and get great results.

- Students are expected to have perfect uniform at all times
- Students are expected to have excellent attendance and punctuality
- Students will be taught and cared for well and will achieve their very best

Our students are leaders

We expect our students to be leaders. We have an active student council in each year group and they work hard to ensure that student voice is heard and makes a difference. Student voice is active in most academy decisions and highly valued by all of us.

Positive partnership with parents

A positive and supportive relationship between parents and the Paddington Academy staff is vital for the well being and achievement of students.

We rely on our parents to support us in establishing and maintaining high standards of behaviour, attendance, punctuality and dress. Furthermore, past evidence has strengthened our belief that the academic performance of students is significantly improved when parents actively support the Academy in stimulating and encouraging their child and monitoring their children's progress.

Communication

We have 'every day' communication with parents through 'drop in', text messages, emails and by phone. There is a monthly newsletter that keeps the community up to date with all our news, opportunities, successes and forthcoming successes.

We have a parent forum once every half term in which parents can let us know their views, along with the Paddington Parents Association (PPA) where parents can meet an ambassador who speaks the same language.

Parents are also welcome to visit the Academy at any time by contacting the year team and making an appointment. We have six parents afternoons and mornings when parents can come into school and discuss student progress. These are at the end of each term and a long evening in July. During these meetings, teachers and parents

discuss individual student progress and set achievable but demanding targets. Full subject reports are issued annually. Parents are invited to make comments on these grades and reports if there is a particular matter you would like to raise. Parent/carers are encouraged to write comments in the student planners for further discussion.



What will you learn at Paddington Academy?

Key Stage 3 Curriculum

Subjects offered at Key Stage 3 include: English, Maths, Science, History, Geography, RE, Art, Music, Drama, Technology, ICT, PE, Modern Foreign Languages (Spanish and French), Media, Learning Guidance, PSHE.

Key Stage 4 Curriculum

The full range of subjects on the curriculum includes: English, English Literature, Maths, Science, Additional Science, Applied Science, Arabic, Art, Astronomy, Business Studies, Catering, Dance, Drama, Economics, Fashion, Geography, Graphics, Health & Social Care, Home Cooking Skills, History, Hospitality, ICT, Media Studies, PE, Performing Arts, Photography, RE, Resistant Materials, Sociology, Spanish, PE, Travel and Tourism and Social Enterprise.

Key Stage 5 Curriculum

At post-16 we recognise that students have different desires or designs. Some have clear ideas on careers they wish to follow at 17 or 18 whilst others have plans to move onto Higher Education. In order to meet these different demands we offer different pathways which lead to Advanced Levels, Applied 'A' Levels or BTEC qualifications. All students are expected to take advantage of the optional enrichment courses available.

AS and A2 Courses

A Level courses are now available in all major subject areas. Additional subjects such as, Dance, Economics, Law, Media, Photography, Psychology, Philosophy and Ethics have been introduced alongside more established courses. Present subjects available include English Literature, Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, History, Geography, French, Spanish, Sociology, Economics, Law, Media and Drama. A Sixth Form student can achieve additional qualifications through GCSE subjects.

Learning Support

The academy has the additional benefits of a Learning Support department which provides individual help and classroom support for children with learning difficulties. It is important to recognise that children who experience education, social and/or behavioural difficulties require individual help. Wherever and whenever it is appropriate, children with learning difficulties are integrated into mainstream lessons. Their progress is carefully monitored.

We welcome applications from students with physical disabilities, access for the disabled was an important consideration in the design of the new premises.

English as a Second Language Centre

This outstanding centre supports students who have English as an additional language. Again, following the Academy's philosophy of inclusion and integration, the majority of support is provided in classes but intensive programmes are provided for beginners. The centre also provides a secure and understanding base for these vulnerable students to address their anxieties and to flourish.

Success Unit

In addition to the support offered by teaching staff, two Success Units provide outstanding tailored support for students at Key Stage 3 and 4. Student Support Mentors are able to offer tailored support to meet the needs of individual students and help with homework, coursework and preparation for exams.

Learning and Inclusion

In response to the DFE drive towards Social Inclusion and national concerns regarding the exclusion of students from Academies, this is the centre that supports students in Key Stages 3&4 who experience emotional and behavioural difficulties that disrupt their own and others' education. The students remain in the Academy and, for a fixed period, are taught in a quiet, controlled setting. The students follow the mainstream curriculum, receive counselling and are helped to develop strategies that enable them to manage their own behaviour. At the end of this 'Internal Support Period' the students return to their mainstream classes and are closely monitored by the centre's staff to ensure continued success.

The Best in Everyone

At Paddington Academy, we believe that all of our students are talented and we aim to bring out the best in everyone. All students will become an 'expert' in the area of their choice; we know that every student has a gift, and we are determined to help them to discover it, and make it flourish. This belief underpins the curriculum our students follow, the manner in which they learn in lessons, as well as our after school clubs, trips, performances and wider experiences. Our most talented students have opportunities to demonstrate their high calibre skills within the local community and at a National level.

Target Setting

A fundamental objective of Paddington Academy is that each child achieves the highest standards possible. We believe that target setting plays a crucial role in ensuring that students set themselves short and medium term targets which will stretch them and encourage them to go further. Consequently, each student's progress is closely monitored throughout his/her Academy career. In so doing, under-achievement can quickly be addressed and proven success can be applauded. It is our policy during Years 10 and 11 to keep parents and students fully informed of syllabus content, assessment requirements and assignment deadlines. We are confident that a close working relationship between Home and Paddington Academy during these two vitally important years is an effective means of enabling students to achieve.

Homework

Regular home learning has been proven to increase the success of our students. All students receive a range of homework tasks every day from at least 2 different subject areas. KS3 students should spend approximately 30-40 minutes per subject each night, and KS4 and 5 students should spend approximately 1 hour per subject each night. KS4 and 5 students will also have coursework to complete. There is a daily homework club in school to support students with all subject areas, and all homework is posted on our website.

Careers and Guidance

Students of all ages are given the opportunity to learn about the world of work, to learn from experiences of work and to learn skills for work. Opportunities to learn are developed through the curriculum and through a varied programme of enrichment activities. Specific guidance is given to students at Key Stages 3, 4 and 5 about how to progress into further education, training or employment.

Paddington Academy works in partnership with employers to give students at Key Stage 4 a work experience programme which matches their skills and aspirations. In addition, opportunities are developed to link vocational programmes of study to local employers. A wide-ranging careers programme, together with links to external organisations such as Connexions, means that all students have access to high-quality guidance and are able to make a successful transition to higher education, training or employment.





Other opportunities for learning at Paddington Academy

Holiday Academy

During half terms and the Easter break the Academy organises a comprehensive programme of exam revision and intervention classes aimed at ensuring students fulfil their true potential in the public examinations.

In the summer holiday the Academy organises a whole range of activities and trips that students can sign up for. These have included day trips on Eurostar to Paris, visits to see football matches at the Emirates Stadium, visits to museums and horse riding. After the hard work of the Academic year, the summer is firmly based on fun and exciting new experiences giving students a chance to sample a whole range of cultural and sporting activities during the long summer break.

At Paddington Academy we are dedicated to the promotion of global awareness among our students, this is with a view to broadening their horizons, encouraging tolerance and preparing them for the social, economic and environmental challenges of the future. Staff and students alike have opportunities to become involved with international education projects. This is to enrich our educational experiences by sharing our knowledge and understanding at a global scale.

Work Related Learning

During Year 10 students can benefit considerably from participation in work experience programmes. Apart from the time actually spent in work, a considerable amount of time goes into preparation and evaluation. Strong links have been developed with a variety of local industries and businesses as a direct result of these programmes. There are also good links between the curriculum and work related learning opportunities.

Sport

Our facilities provide ample opportunity for activities at lunchtime and after lessons. Sports include football, badminton, basketball, hockey, athletics, cricket, tennis, netball, dance and rounders. The Academy enjoys a good deal of success in a wide range of interschool competitions. We also have a multi-purpose sports hall, and a Trim Trail in the playground.



How will we care for you at Paddington Academy?

Starting at the Academy

We know that many of your children will have already visited the academy for dance and drama workshops or because you have other family members already attending. Some may have been involved in sports activities or come to see our very popular school pantomime.

However, although moving from primary to secondary school is very exciting, it can also be a stressful time for students (and parents!). We aim to make this a happy time by doing all we can to make our new students feel secure and comfortable and to ensure that you have all the information you need to make a smooth start.

In Y6 students can expect some visits from us to say hello, see how you are progressing and to plan for your child's start at the academy. You will then be invited to an interview with a member of the senior leadership team. This helps us get to know you and your child, to start building the all important relationship between home and discuss any concerns you may have to ensure that your child makes the best possible start.

In June, our fun transition evening led by student ambassadors from the current year 7 is followed by a full day of activities which allows our students to experience a full day in the life of the academy, start to find their way around the building, make some friends and try out the all important school lunch!

Our Pastoral System

The Pastoral system is organized into Key Stages as follows:

KS3 – Years 7,8, and 9 – cared for by Assistant Principal Ms Sheel
KS4 – Y10 and 11 – cared for by Assistant Principal Ms Wells

Each year has a Head of Year. The students in each year are divided into tutor groups of about 25 students which meet together every day with their tutor. The tutor will work with students on extra literacy and numeracy and will monitor progress and attendance. Once a week the year group will meet together for an assembly.

Each year group also has a Student Support Mentor who looks after day to day issues of student wellbeing.

Code of Conduct

Our expectations of student behavior are very clearly laid out in the Paddington 10. These are on the wall in every classroom, in the student planners and part of the everyday language of the academy. We need your support if we are to be successful in maintaining the highest standards of work, behavior and appearance. The academy Blue Book outlines all our procedures and expectations in detail and is sent to parents each year. Please read it carefully. Our behaviour policy is clear and applied consistently around the academy by all members of staff. It also applies on school trips, and as students are travelling to and from the academy.

Anti Bullying

Every student has the right to learn and to feel safe, happy and secure in their learning environment. Therefore, we have a zero tolerance policy towards bullying. All incidents of bullying will result in immediate action and contact with home. Persistent bullies run the risk of permanent exclusion. Please let us know immediately if you have any reason to suspect your child has been the victim of bullying. Please also be aware that bullying may take place through text messages and social networking sites. Make sure you know who your child is making contact with in this way.

Attendance

We are proud that our attendance is consistently above the national average. However, our target for attendance is always 100%. Particularly at KS4, anything less than this will impact negatively on GCSE results at the end of Y11. Student learning is our absolute priority, so leave for students in term time is never granted except in cases of real and evidenced emergencies. We monitor attendance very carefully and will make lots of contact with home to improve standards and to celebrate success.

Learning Support Unit

The Learning Support Unit continues the education of students who are experiencing difficulties which mean they would otherwise be failing to learn. It helps student develop strategies to help them in the classroom and around the school and acts as a supportive base for the reintegration of students who are experiencing medical or personal and emotional difficulties.

Student with Medical Needs

Paddington Academy is an inclusive academy and has full accessibility for students with illnesses and disabilities. In order for us to take the best possible care of your child, parents of students with medical conditions are asked complete a Health Plan outlining the condition and any precautions which need to be taken in school. Medication that needs to be administered in school is stored in the school medical room and only given by a qualified first aider. We do not administer any medication which has not been prescribed by a doctor. Our school nurse Maeve Nolan is in school several times a week and is available to students who have questions or concerns.



What do students wear at Paddington Academy?

We expect Paddington Academy students to be smart, proud and confident. This means that they should be dressed in the correct uniform, worn in the correct way. Uniform checks are conducted every morning at reception and in lesson 1 by student support mentors.

Boys

- Plain navy trousers pulled up, under garments must not show
- Plain light blue shirts, short or long sleeved (polo type shirts are not permitted)
- Students may not wear visible t-shirts underneath their shirts
- Shirts must be buttoned up to the collar and tucked into trousers
- Shirt collars must be worn turned down
- Paddington Academy jumper (optional)
- Clip on Paddington Academy tie worn properly
- Plain navy or black belt

Girls

- Plain navy blue skirt worn no shorter than knee length
- Plain navy blue trousers
- Plain light blue open neck shirt with reversed collar, short or long sleeved
- No visible t-shirts may be worn underneath
- Paddington Academy jumper (optional)
- No ties
- Ankle or below the knee white or navy socks
- Plain navy tights
- Hijabs must be plain navy or black with no other colour or decoration

All Students

- Plain navy blue blazer
- Plain black or navy waterproof outdoor coats without any large emblems and with no 'hoodie' style inserts
- Plain and black leather polishable shoes, lace up or slip on with black soles

PE and Dance Kit

- Paddington Academy or plain navy blue track suit
- Plain white shorts
- Light blue t shirt
- Trainers

This kit should be

- Brought to school on days when PE and Dance take place
- Students will be given kit from PE supplies to borrow if they do not bring kit
- Sanctions will be imposed by the PE/Dance departments for students who persistently fail to bring kit to school
- Students who are unable to participate in PE or Dance for medical reasons must bring a note

All uniform items can be purchased from Rumbles uniform shop 598 High Rd Wembley, HA0 2AF or at major supermarkets e.g. Asda & Tesco, and department stores.





The academy day

	Monday – Thursday	Friday
Lesson 1	8.30 – 10.10	8.30 – 10.10
Break	10.10 – 10.35	10.10 – 10.35
Lesson 2	10.40 – 12.20	10.40 – 12.20
Tutor time	12.20 – 12.55	
Lunch	12.55 – 13.40	12.20 – 13.05
Lesson 3	13.45 – 15.25	13.10 – 14.50

Admissions criteria year 7

All admissions are administered by Westminster Local Authority and must be made directly to them and not to the academy itself.

The admission limit is 180 places. Where the number of applications for admissions is greater than the published admissions number, applications will be considered against the criteria set out below.

The criteria will be applied in the order in which they are set out below:

1. Children who are 'looked after' under the provision of the Children Act 1989
2. Children with significant specific medical or social needs supported by written specific professional advice
3. Siblings at the Academy (siblings would include half, step, adoptive and foster siblings provided they also live at the same address as the applicant)
4. Nearest walking distance to the Academy – children who live the nearest distance from the Academy as measured by Westminster City Council's method

The admission of students with a statement of special educational needs will be admitted as priority over any other admissions.

If you would like to apply for a place at Paddington Academy, parents must complete the Common Application Form published by the Local Authority in which the applicant resides. The form can be obtained from the offices of the Council. The closing date for applicants need to be checked with your Local Authority. Applications should be returned to the address on the Common Application Form by the time stated.

Admissions for Year 12 & 13

Selection for courses at the Sixth Form will be based on the judgement of staff within the Sixth Form team and will represent the pathway most likely to ensure student success. The following entry requirements do not represent an entitlement to study a particular course, but a minimum starting point for consideration:

- For all Level 3 courses (A Level and BTEC National) – a minimum of five GCSE grades A*-C including a grade in the subject(s) which is to be studied, or similar subject, as appropriate
- For BTEC First Diplomas – a minimum of four GCSE grades E

Over-subscription Criteria

Priority will be given in the following order:

- Students who are 'looked after' under provision of the Children Act 1989
- Students who, at the time of admission, have a sibling at the academy (siblings would include half, step, adoptive and foster siblings provided they also live at the same address as the applicant)
- Students for whom places on appropriate courses are available. Remaining places are offered on a geographical basis measured using the same criteria applied by Westminster City Council in their school admissions.

Waiting Lists & Appeals Process

If you are unsuccessful in being allocated a place at Paddington Academy you will be placed on our waiting list. This list is ranked according to the same criteria as those used for Admissions. You will be asked to notify us that you wish to be held on this list and will be contacted directly once a place is available. You may appeal against our decision not to offer you a place and must do so in writing to the Admissions Officer within 14 days of being notified that you have not been offered a place at Paddington Academy. An independent appeal panel will hear your appeal. A copy of the appeals procedure is available directly from The Admissions Officer at Paddington Academy.

Access for the Disabled

Paddington Academy is fully DDA compliant. There are two easily accessed lifts. There are wide doors on all classrooms and other rooms to allow full access. Every support is offered to make sure that each student is treated equally and no student suffers less favourable treatment. No student is denied admission to the Academy on account of their disabilities and/or personal restrictions be they physical or sensory.

Religious Education and Assemblies

Religious Education takes place in the Academy in accordance with the 1988 Education Act. Students are introduced to the teaching and practices of world religions, to moral and philosophical issues and to all aspects of human development. These opportunities occur through the taught curriculum and through themed days. We ensure that our Religious Education provision allows for the celebration of religion as a uniting force amongst people of differing beliefs. Paddington Academy views assemblies as a valuable method of developing a corporate identity for the Academy.

Sex Education

Sex Education is introduced into the curriculum as part of Science and other courses. Topics and teaching materials are carefully chosen to ensure that they are appropriate to the needs and ages of our students. Again, parents retain the right to request that their child be withdrawn from sex education. Such requests should be made in writing to the Principal.



The ULT family

Paddington Academy is sponsored by the United Learning Trust (ULT).

ULT was established to create a family of academies that provide outstanding education. It was formed in 2002 as a subsidiary of the United Church Schools Trust which has been running high-quality schools in the UK for 125 years. ULT offers the stability of an organisation with a long term commitment to education in this country and the experience to run successful schools.

ULT is the largest provider of academies across the UK. Its academies are inclusive and welcoming schools where students of all faiths, backgrounds and abilities are valued and respected. As a member of the ULT family, Paddington Academy shares the objective of developing every student into a balanced and articulate individual with the intellectual freedom to be creative, the confidence to initiate, the resilience to cope with adversity, the strength to lead, the compassion to serve others and the motivation to achieve a lifelong love of learning.

UCST Schools

- 1 Arnold School
- 2 Ashford School
- 3 Bournemouth Collegiate School
- 4 Caterham School
- 5 Guildford High School
- 6 Hampshire Collegiate School
- 7 Hull Collegiate School
- 8 Lincoln Minster School
- 9 Rowan Preparatory School
- 10 Sunderland High School
- 11 Surbiton High School

ULT Academies

- 1 Accrington Academy
 - 2 Barnsley Academy
 - 3 Bede Academy
 - 4 Kettering Buccleuch Academy
 - 5 The King's Academy
 - 6 Lambeth Academy
 - 7 Manchester Academy
 - 8 Midhurst Rother College
 - 9 Northampton Academy
 - 10 North Oxfordshire Academy
 - 11 Paddington Academy
 - 12 Salford City Academy
 - 13 Sheffield Park Academy
 - 14 Sheffield Springs Academy
 - 15 Shoreham Academy
 - 16 Stockport Academy
 - 17 Swindon Academy
 - 18 Trinity Academy
 - 19 Walthamstow Academy
 - 20 William Hulme's Grammar School
- ULT City Technology College
1 Emmanuel College



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Prospective parents and others interested are welcome to visit the academy at any time, we are very proud of our school and every day is open day. Please telephone for an appointment.