

Paddington Academy

The best in everyone™

A member of United Learning Trust

Prospectus 2010-2011





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 'good learning'. Every decision is made in the best interests of the students, or to improve their learning.

We are very lucky because we have a beautiful new building and excellent facilities. The facilities for our four specialisms of Performing Arts, Media, Business and Social Enterprise are the best in the area. We have highly successful Maths, English and Science departments in addition to which the students receive a fantastic range of subjects, for example, hairdressing, plumbing and engineering are just some of the latest additions.

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 proud of our academy and its achievements and always welcome visitors. We look forward to meeting you.

Oli 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

The values that the students and staff abide by at Paddington Academy are:

- Always do the right thing
- Always look for a 'win win' situation
- Always try our best
- Always look smart

Through these values we will:

- Be honest and respectful
- Have the celebration of good learning at the heart of all we do
- Develop attributes that make us better learners and better people
- Listen to the views of others and be good leaders and role models to each other



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

Our learning culture

The teaching and support staff at Paddington Academy are dedicated and committed to ensuring that our students get the very best in terms of learning and achievement. In summer 2009 Ofsted made the following comment: 'Teachers have strong subject knowledge and provide structured work that enables students to make good progress'. We were also praised for some outstanding lessons.

We strive to ensure that every lesson is fun and engaging; that students enjoy their learning and make good progress. This takes place in a positive and safe environment.

During 2009 Paddington Academy was awarded by the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust 'Most Improved Academy of the Year' and in 2009 and 2010 were a school in the top 10 nationally for adding value to student results. We are very proud of the staff and students that worked so hard to achieve this.

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 high expectations for uniform, behaviour, attendance and punctuality. If a student gets all these things right, they will learn better and get good 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 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, encouraging and monitoring their children's progress.

Efficient communication is central to effective partnership. The academy produces a Newsletter which contains, amongst other things, items of topical interest, commendations, sports reports and important information about forthcoming events. We also have a parent forum once a term where parents are welcome to give us feedback on how we can be better. There are Principal drop in sessions once a month when parents are welcome to drop in to see the Principal about any school related issues.

Parents are also welcome to visit the Academy by appointment at any time. 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. 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, Information Technology (through Science), PE, Modern Foreign Languages (Spanish and French), Media, Learning Guidance, Careers and Personal Development and Well being.

Key Stage 4 curriculum

The full range of subjects on the curriculum include:

English, Maths, Science, Additional Science, Applied Science, Arabic, Art, Business Studies, Catering, Dance, Drama, Fashion, Geography, Graphics, History, ICT, Media Studies, PE, Performing Arts, Photography, RE, Sociology, Spanish, Hair and Beauty, Sports Science, Travel and Tourism and 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 vocational 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 Media, Economics, Psychology, Photography and Law have been introduced alongside more established courses. Present subjects available include English, Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, History, Geography, French, Spanish, Sociology, Economics, 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 Centre

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

Learning and inclusion

In response to the DCSF 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.

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

Every student deserves the best

We believe that every student has an entitlement to experience learning outside of the classroom at Paddington Academy. The Academy has much to offer its students in terms of activities beyond timetabled lessons. There is a whole range of clubs, performance groups and sports teams that students can get involved with, as well as extra coursework sessions, master classes and revision sessions for those students approaching examinations or whom would like extra support.

Students may find themselves involved in performances, learning instruments, taking part in tournaments and competitions that take place all over London, and the Academy has established links with many of the Capitals leading arts organisations such as, The Serpentine Gallery, Art on the Underground, The Tate Gallery, the Royal Albert Hall, the BBC, the Royal Opera House and the National Youth Music Theatre. Our students have so very many skills and talents and we want to let them develop them to the full.

Transition for Year 7

Changing schools can be a nerve racking time for both children and their parents/carers. At Paddington Academy we aim to make your child's start with us as happy and stress free as possible. Our dedicated transition worker visits each primary school to meet the students and their teachers to help to begin to get to know our new intake and their individual needs and talents. Each child and parent is then interviewed by a member of the school leadership team. This enables us to start to build a relationship between home and school, discuss any concerns you may have and ensure that your child has the best possible start to their secondary education. Our fun transition evening followed by a full day of activities allows our new students to experience a day in the life of the academy, to start to find their way around the building, make some friends and grow in confidence.

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 will 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.

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 inter-school competitions. We also have a multi-gym, climbing wall and newly installed Trim Trail!



How will we care for you at Paddington Academy?

Primary/secondary academy liaison

We have an ever increasing primary liaison programme. When students are in Year 6, we have a series of visits to meet the students by the relevant Key Stage Team. In July, all the students take part in an induction day to meet their teachers and experience Paddington Academy. In addition to this, there are opportunities throughout the year to experience the sporting and dramatic aspects of the academy and establish links between the primary and secondary schools.

Before entry into Paddington Academy, all Year 6 students with their parents are invited for a short interview with a senior member of staff. These interviews enable us to establish a partnership with parents at a very early stage and have proved to be invaluable in gathering information about the students and allaying any fears that students or parents may have before the start of term in September. The pastoral system is organised into Key Stages; Year 7, 8 and 9 are cared for by Miss Wallis and Year 10 and 11 are cared for by Mr Darwish.

Our pastoral system

Each year group also has a student support mentor and administrator to help support the students and parents. The Year team will make contact with home if necessary and track and monitor attendance and punctuality.

Each student also has a tutor whom they meet each day for Learning Guidance and Personal Development and Well being. Academic guidance and support is provided through tutors, Careers and Guidance Co-ordinators and by the Success Unit at Key Stage 4.

Paddington Academy is an inclusive academy. Everyone is made to feel welcome and valued.

Learning Support Unit

Our learning support unit which includes trained counsellors

supports students who are finding the transition to secondary school difficult, or who is in need of support with learning or behaviour.

Code of conduct

We need your support if we are to be successful in setting high standards of work, behaviour and dress. Students are encouraged at all times to respect others and the environment in which they work. It is our aim to develop in all our children a sense of genuine purpose, a healthy spirit of competition combined with an understanding of the need for co-operation and tolerance.

The Academy Blue Book outlines all our expectations in detail, and is sent to parents each year. Please read it carefully. Specific Academy rules are regularly brought to the attention of students in assembly and by their tutors. The code of conduct for students can be found in their planners. Minor infringements of academy discipline are dealt with by teachers as and when the need arises. Cases of serious misconduct will be dealt with by a member of the school leadership team. Parents will be involved in such cases and positive collaboration between home and the Academy is almost always effective.

We have a clear discipline policy and encourage parental support in this matter. Where students misbehave, detentions may be given. Students may be kept behind after Academy hours for twenty minutes without giving parents prior notice. If students in Years 7, 8 and 9 are to be given longer detentions the teacher will write the information in the child's diary and give parents twenty four hours notice. We reserve the right to give students in Years 10 and 11 detentions without twenty four hours notice for serious misdemeanours and extra course work support.

Students are expected to behave well outside Paddington Academy, particularly when they are representing the Academy at various functions, events or visits. Parents will be contacted and students given consequences if they show poor behaviour outside of school.

Achievement/under achievement

We track student progress every six weeks and grades are formally given for attainment, effort and progress. We assess student learning in lessons in a wide variety of continuous methods each lesson to ensure that maximum progress is being made. This progress is monitored and achievement and success are celebrated regularly with rewards, commendations, awards in assemblies and awards evenings. Under achievement is addressed through mentoring and intervention.

Anti-bullying

Every student has a right to learn and to feel safe, happy and secure in their learning environment. Any action by another student to impede this, results in immediate intervention by the year team and contact made with home. We have zero tolerance to bullying and expect parents / carers and students to notify us immediately if there is a problem.

We have a team of trained student peer mentors who support students who have experienced any difficulties.

Paddington Academy is committed to promoting a caring and safe environment in which we can all learn. Bullying stops this, so bullying will not be tolerated. We define bullying as the continual attempt to make someone's life a misery. Persistent bullies run the risk of permanent exclusion.

Attendance

We are proud to report that attendance last year was 94%, well above the national academy average, however our target for all is always 100% for attendance and punctuality. In the spirit of good learning please do not take students on holiday during term time, it does affect their learning. We have rigorous tracking systems and will make lots of contact with home to celebrate success and improve standards.



What do students wear at Paddington Academy?

The Academy uniform has been designed to be neat, hard wearing and as economical as possible. All children are expected to take pride in themselves and their academy.

Girls uniform

Plain navy blue blazer
Plain pale blue rever collared blouse
Plain navy blue knee length school skirt or
Plain navy blue tailored school trousers
White socks or plain tights in navy blue or black
sensible polishable black shoes (not trainers or boots)
Laces/soles should be black
Hair bands – navy blue or black
Hijabs must be plain navy blue or black
Outdoor coats should be appropriate in style for school use
No caps or hooded sweatshirt style jackets are permitted
Girls are not required to wear a tie

Girls PE kit

Light blue sports polo shirt or light blue tracksuit top
Plain navy blue games skirt or plain navy blue shorts or
plain navy blue tracksuit bottoms
Non marking trainers

Boys uniform

Plain navy blue blazer
Paddington academy tie (clip on)
Plain pale blue shirt
Plain navy blue tailored school trousers (not combat or
jean style)
Sensible polishable plain black leather shoes with plain
laces and black soles
Outdoor coats should be appropriate in style for school use

Boys PE kit

Light blue sports polo shirt or light blue tracksuit top
Plain navy blue shorts or plain navy blue tracksuit bottoms
Non marking trainers

Sixth form

Students in the Sixth form are expected to behave in a professional way and are expected to wear smart business like dress as defined below:

Formal jacket
Formal trousers or skirt
Shirt and tie, or blouse
Smart jumper/cardigan/top
Smart leather shoes



The academy day

Monday – Thursday

Lesson 1	8.30 – 10.10
Break	10.10 – 10.35
Lesson 2	10.40 – 12.20
Tutor time	12.20 – 12.55
Lunch	12.55 – 13.40
Lesson 3	13.45 – 15.25

Friday

8.30 – 10.10
10.10 – 10.35
10.40 – 12.20
12.20 – 13.05
13.10 – 14.50



Admissions criteria year 7

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 Councils 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 residing in Westminster is 31st October 2010. The closing dates for other authorities needs to be checked with that authority. Applications should be returned to the address on the Common Application Form by the time stated.

Admissions

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 for September 2011 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 from Paddington Academy. Our Admissions officer is Natalie Riordan.

Access for the disabled

Paddington Academy is fully DDA compliant. There are two easily accessed lifts (which are Health and Safety controlled so that no student is alone in the 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

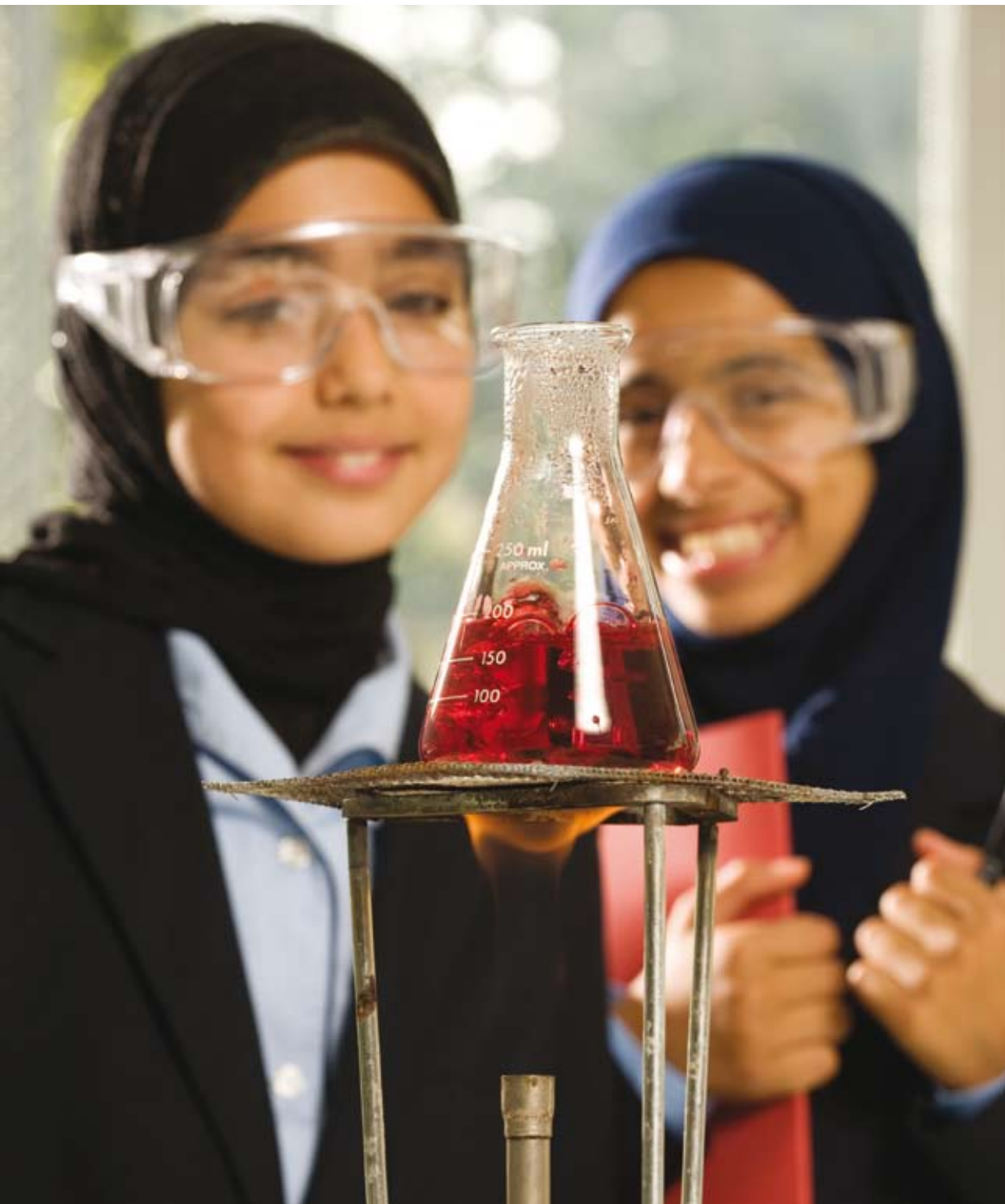
Sex Education is introduced into the curriculum as part of Science and other courses. Topics and teaching materials are carefully chosen to ensure that they are appropriate to the needs and ages of our students. Again, parents retain the right to request that their child be withdrawn from sex education.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

Local Governing Body

Chair of Governors Jenny Richards
Mike Dyer, Graham Harvey Brown, Melvyn Caplan,
Barrie Taylor, Michelle Hakim.

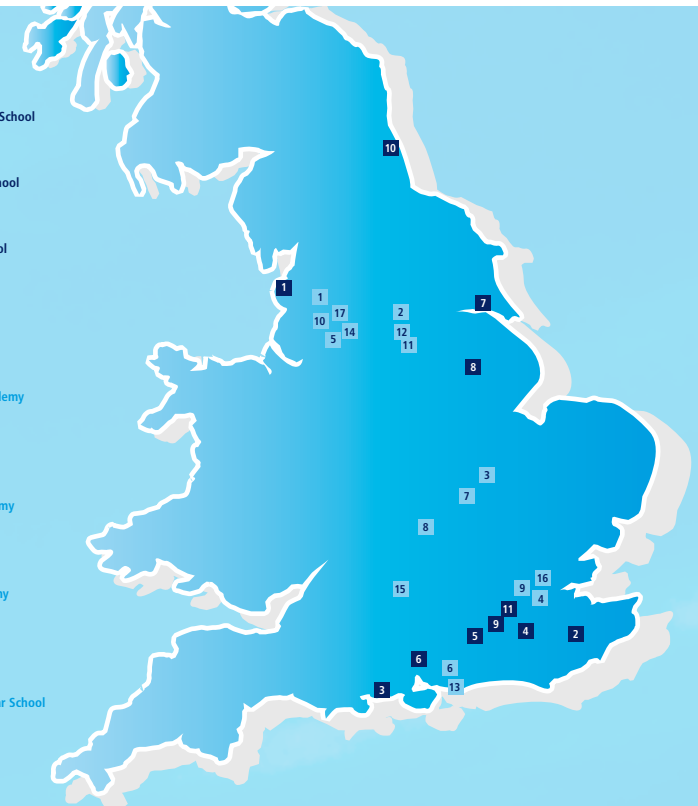
Principal Oli Tomlinson
Teacher Governor Rachel Weekes
Support staff Governor Patric Oleh
Parent Governor Elina Bruce

The Chair of the LGB and all members may be contacted via Paddington Academy.



- 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 Kettering Buccleuch Academy
 - 4 Lambeth Academy
 - 5 Manchester Academy
 - 6 Midhurst Rother College
 - 7 Northampton Academy
 - 8 North Oxfordshire Academy
 - 9 Paddington Academy
 - 10 Salford City Academy
 - 11 Sheffield Park Academy
 - 12 Sheffield Springs Academy
 - 13 Shoreham Academy
 - 14 Stockport Academy
 - 15 Swindon Academy
 - 16 Walthamstow Academy
 - 17 William Hulme's Grammar School



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.



Paddington Academy

The best in everyone™

A member of United Learning Trust

Principal Mrs Tomlinson **Vice Principals** Mrs Billins, Mr Jones
Assistant Vice Principals Miss Darley, Mr Darwish, Miss Demetriou, Mr Hussain, Miss Gillam, Miss Wallis

Paddington Academy, 50 Marylands Road, London W9 2DR

t 020 7479 3900 **e** office@paddington-academy.org **w** www.paddington-academy.org

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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.