

Wednesday, 13 December 2017

Dear Parent

Attendance Matters

Thank you for your support this term and for working with us to make sure that your child is successful at Paddington. We want to work with you to do everything that we can to achieve this. Your child attends an **outstanding school** where the quality of both teaching and student learning are very high. This is the reason that the school is consistently in the top **1%** of schools in the UK.

However, your child can only achieve their potential if they have **high attendance** at school. Time in school is precious as your child only spends **10%** of their time in a year in lessons with a teacher. Nothing is proved to be more valuable to a child's success than time with a skilled teacher and any time lost is gone forever.

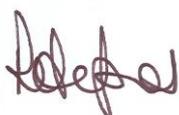
There is a clear link between **high attendance and high achievement** in exams which we have seen over the last 10 years at Paddington. You can see in this chart the difference in achievement by student attendance:

Attendance (%)	Attainment (average grade)
99-100	A
97-99	B
95-97	C
93-95	C-
90-93	D
Below 90	D-

We expect every child at Paddington to have attendance of at least **96%** which is the **school average**. You can see your own child's attendance on their report. Although 90% attendance may sound high, it is the equivalent to missing half a year of school over Years 7-11 in total. Please **do not allow your child to have time off just because they feel unwell**. Unless they are suffering significant illness, please send them to school, and we will contact you if they need to come home later. Please also try to book all **medical and dentist appointments outside of school hours**. Where this cannot be avoided, please make sure that your child attends school before and after the appointment.

High attendance is a habit that is needed for success at university and in a job. Habits formed by children now will stay with them throughout their lives, and high attendance at school gives them the resilience they need to be successful. Please continue to work with us and **aim for 100% attendance for your child**.

Yours faithfully,



Peter Jones
Principal