



Pride

Respect

Success

AN EXTRAORDINARY EDUCATION



PROSPECTUS 2023/24



Pride

Respect

Success

Welcome

Welcome to Penrice Academy - a kind and caring community of pupils, parents, teachers, support staff and governors, all working together to provide our young people with an extraordinary education.

Our Core Values

The Penrice Community is built on the core values of being proud, respectful and successful. By joining this community, your child will not only develop academically, but will also be nurtured into becoming a kind-hearted and unpretentious young adult who will be ready to make a positive impact on the wider world.

An Education that Lasts for a Lifetime

In applying to join Penrice Academy, your child will be taking the first step on what appears to be a 5-year journey; but it is so much more than that. A Penrice education is an education for a lifetime, an education where your child will develop character traits essential for future success, for forging positive relationships with others, and a school journey where they will discover healthy new passions that will define them as individuals.

We look forward to warmly welcoming you and your family to the Penrice Community and we hope to see you at future open events.



Contents

- 2:** Our Aims & Ethos
- 3:** Welcome Messages
- 4-5:** Academic Excellence
- 6-7:** Extraordinary Opportunities
- 8-9:** Extraordinary Care
- 10-11:** Find Your Passion
- 12-13:** Sporting Penrice Pride
- 14-15:** Igniting Imaginations
- 16-17:** Extraordinary Young Adults
- 18-19:** A Love of Reading
- 20:** Gold Standard Grades
- 21:** Penrice in Numbers
- 22:** A Smooth Transition
- 23:** Education for a Lifetime

Welcome from the Headteacher



Ms Lucy Gambier
Headteacher of
Penrice Academy

Penrice Academy is a happy, safe and welcoming school community with highly effective support, care and guidance to allow all students to flourish and excel.

Alongside the support we provide we are relentless in our expectations and ambitions for each and every one of our students, because your child is incredible and deserves the very best life has to offer.

Our students enjoy a fantastic range of educational experiences and were highly successful at securing well deserved places in

further education. Our priority is to give students the best possible chance of success and happiness when they move onto their next stages in education and beyond.

Our enriched curriculum allows students to learn broadly and widely, both inside and outside the classroom throughout their 5-year journey with us. We offer a plethora of enrichment opportunities through our Penrice Plus curriculum, including over 40 choices from coding to crochet. Our students look forward to a huge number of trips, visits and experiences planned every year including the annual Curriculum Enrichment Week, where we see students kayaking down the Ardeche, climbing the Eiffel tower, descending Poldark mine and learning to surf on Fistral beach, amongst so many other things.

We hope this prospectus will give you an idea of what Penrice has to offer. I now hand over to Owen and Bethany, our Head Students for the academic year ahead.

Head Students' Welcome

On behalf of everyone who is part of the Penrice Academy community, we would like to welcome you to our school. Being selected as Head Students is a real honour and we both strive to showcase Penrice's core values of pride, respect and success.

We really hope to see you at future Open Events where you can talk to teachers and students (like ourselves!), watch things get blown up in Science, dance with miniature robots in Computing and get the chance to meet the furry friends on our school farm!



Our Penrice Reflections

Owen: For me, the highlight of my Penrice journey so far has to be the Plymouth Geography Trip in Year 8 doing our field work. It was a really great day to experience what Geography field work is like while also having a fun day out.

Bethany: As for me, one of my personal highlights at Penrice so far has probably been the large range of clubs I was able to enjoy further down in the school with my Penrice Plus. I've done Bake Off, Sign Language Club and Badminton just to name a few.

We have so many more stories and experiences to share, so we really do hope to chat to you at an Open Event in the near future!

Academic Excellence

Helping Your Child Become Extraordinary

Whilst Penrice supports children of all abilities, we also make it our mission to provide huge opportunities that inspire and open doors for the most academically able.

In 2019, a report from the Sutton Trust identified that whilst just 7% of Britons are privately educated, they make up 39% of the leading professions. Here in St Austell, we are playing our part to change these national statistics by striving to offer Penrice students the best opportunities and experiences of any school.



Did You Know?

Penrice was crowned the top-performing Cornish state secondary school for Progress and Attainment in 2022.* See page 20 for more information.



The Scholarship Programme

Penrice offers a prestigious Scholarship Programme for academically high-performing students, running from Years 8 to 10. Your child could be one of currently 150 enrolled on this programme across the three year groups, providing a range of additional opportunities to inspire pupils.



YEAR 8

The 'Big Question Society'

Year 8 Scholars attend a series of group talks based on the Oxbridge questioning tool, sparking academic discussion and nurturing curiosity.



YEAR 9

Scholarship Lecture Series

In Year 9, scholars enjoy a lecture series run by staff across the school, creating a university-style experience to help students discover their passion and possible future aspirations.



YEAR 10

The Higher Project Qualification (HPQ)

The HPQ is an independent study project. It is an additional Level 2 Qualification, highly coveted by colleges and sixth forms, and is equivalent to a full GCSE.

The Mandarin Excellence Programme

Penrice Academy is the only school in Cornwall to offer the Mandarin Excellence Programme (MEP), an intensive curriculum offering in which settings must be rated Ofsted 'Outstanding' with strong performance in Modern Foreign Languages to be eligible to deliver.

This is an ambitious course designed to push the most academically able, starting in Year 7 and running right through until Year 11.

Being the only school in Cornwall to offer the Mandarin Excellence Programme is a fantastic opportunity for your child to stand out from the crowd, allowing them to learn the second-most spoken language in the world and opening doors to future opportunities.



Learn more and how to apply:
penriceacademy.org/MEP

Additional Scholarship Events from 2022/23



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

University of
Cambridge
Seminar



STEM Careers
Lecture



University
of Exeter

University of
Exeter Visit



Scholars
Visit
Cornwall
Spaceport
(April 2023)

Extraordinary Opportunities

Your child was convinced they couldn't do it; but they are almost there and about to prove themselves wrong! They gingerly take a few more steps along the tight rope, trying not to look down into the abyss that is the quarry water below! One more step and, yes! They gleefully step onto land to the sound of rapturous applause from their classmates who cheered them all the way!

Not what you would expect your child to learn in school? - This is just part of an afternoon in Curriculum Enrichment Week where our Action & Adventure students take on the High Rope Assault Course! It is experiences like these that define Penrice students, building character and extraordinary memories.



More information
penriceacademy.org/cew

Curriculum Enrichment Week

Taking place at the end of each academic year, Curriculum Enrichment Week (CEW) is all about friends, fun, and finishing the academic year in style! When your child enters Years 8 and 9, they will also be able to choose residential trips to locations such as the Isles of Scilly, London and Barcelona, or a pick from a fantastic range of local and in-school activities.



Barcelona

Inside the Sagrada Família!



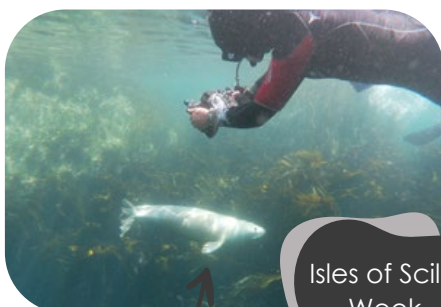
Equestrian Week



Action & Adventure Week



Kernow Week



Isles of Scilly Week

Swimming with seals!!!



Arts Trip to London

Ghana Trip 2023

In July 2023, Penrice took a group of Year 10 and 11 students to Ghana on an aid mission. Our incredible students supported a Ghanaian school by teaching lessons and helping with building work!



Ms Penrose
Outdoor Education Coordinator

"Do it. It will change you."

Outdoor Education

Blisters, sweat, aches and pains, but an unrivalled sense of pride as your child crosses the finish line following their expedition, clapped home by family and friends. These are the magical moments that you and your child will remember forever – the moments that define them, teaching them key character traits such as self-sufficiency, resilience and determination.

It will give you skills that you didn't know you could learn. It will stand out on your CV, and it will give you the confidence that you can do anything you want to do if you set your mind to it."



Extraordinary Care



More information
[penriceacademy.org/
pastoral-care](https://penriceacademy.org/pastoral-care)

Dedicated Pastoral Staff

It is totally normal for children to face emotional challenges as they grow up. Some challenges may occur during school, whilst others happen outside of school. Some challenges may be short-term issues whilst others might be longstanding struggles. And some challenges may be within your child's control to fix (with guidance and support), whilst others may be completely out of your child's control – such as a family bereavement.

No matter what life throws at them, Penrice's vast support network will be there for your child throughout their 5-year journey, teaching them crucial life skills in compassion, courage, resilience, self-confidence, and so much more.

Crucially, we understand that there is no blueprint for a 'normal student'. Together, we celebrate the fact that every child is unique and this is what makes Penrice such a vibrant and inclusive community.



Available Support

As a Penrice student, there are a whole host of 'safety nets' in place to catch your child in times in need, helping them to get back on their feet in no time! These 'safety nets' are not just limited to problems faced in school, but also support for issues that may arise at home too.



Tutors



Student
Family Centre



Breakfast
Club

Further Support Available:

- Young Carers Support
- One-to-One Support
- Emotional First Aid/Mental Health Support
- Signposting to Outside Agencies

- Gender Support
- Behaviour Management Support
- Attendance Support
- Social and Emotional Support
- Access to School Counsellor

- Group Work
- School Support Pets

Gizmo
SFC Therapy Cat



“

LACEY

Class of 2023, Interviewed on
GCSE Results Day

Heading to Callywith College
to Study A-Levels

"I really struggled at times in school – I didn't know where I fitted in, particularly in Year 9. But I reached out and asked for support in the school's Student Family Centre (SFC) in Year 9 and I managed to get a hold of things.

It was in the SFC that I was introduced to Mrs Sutcliffe [Pastoral Support Manager] and she has been there for me ever since, no matter what. She has genuinely been incredible! I don't think I would've made it to where I am today without Mrs Sutcliffe's help – she's amazing!"

”



SEND – A Highly Inclusive Provision

At Penrice, we are truly inclusive, our provision ensures that all young people, including those pupils identified with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), can enjoy and benefit from a rich educational experience.

We pride ourselves on every student having access to an ambitious curriculum, so they may achieve their full potential, as well as participating in the wider enriched curriculum.

We offer a range of strategies, programmes and activities to support students who may find aspects of learning more challenging. The views of parents and carers are very important to us and we are keen to continue to develop home school partnerships to support our young people with SEND at Penrice Academy. By working together, we aim to make your child's experience of school a positive one, where they will flourish both pastorally and through exam success.



Further SEND Information
penriceacademy.org/SEND



Mr Mike Merelie

SENDCo at Penrice Academy

Find Your Passion

Every child is unique. It is for this reason that we offer a gigantic array of opportunities in all aspects of school life to ensure that every student can discover their talents and interests!

With an enormous range of classroom subjects and Penrice Plus activities, not to forget a whole host of careers, college and university experiences each year, your child will soon carve out their own identity.



**BIG
OPPORTUNITIES**



Incredible Subject Choices

When it comes to classroom learning, students can choose from a whopping 26 different course options during the course of the Penrice journey! Our wide selection of options will help your child open as many doors as possible to future careers.

26
Subject
Options



More information
[penriceacademy.org/
curriculum](https://penriceacademy.org/curriculum)



Animal Care



Business
Enterprise



Photography



Child
Development

Penrice ^{PLUS}

Find Your Extra

Penrice Plus (Penrice+) gives all students the opportunity to take part in inclusive extra-curricular clubs and activities throughout the week.

Your child's next Penrice Plus Club could inspire them to pursue a healthy hobby for the rest of their life!

ON THE FARM
Penrice Plus Option (Year 8)



Arts Clubs

Examples include:
School Production
Penrice Band
Printmaking



Wellbeing Clubs

Examples include:
British Sign Language
On the Farm
Green Team



Academic Clubs

Examples include:
Fiction Addiction
Penrice Quiz League
History Mystery



Sports Clubs

Examples include:
Badminton
Archery
Girls' Fitness Club

Over

40

Activities Per Term



Full interactive activities brochure
penriceacademy.org/penrice-plus

Over

25,000

Sessions Attended*

Shadow



MOLLY | YEAR 10 | ANIMAL CARE STUDENT

"I've found my passion. It has been so fun working with animals, learning about their behaviours and how to look after them properly. I'm thinking of a career in Zoology at the moment and I have asked a local seal sanctuary to be my Work Experience placement later in the year."



Sporting Penrice Pride

At Penrice our goal is to make sure that every child establishes a deep-rooted love of exercise. To achieve this, we will make sure your child constantly feels included in PE and is pushed to succeed, regardless of their sporting ability. We promote inclusivity when it comes to PE, offering A, B and C teams in as many sports as possible whilst regularly rotating players.

Whilst inclusivity is a key focus, there is also elite-level training provision and high-profile opportunities. If your child has big sporting aspirations, they can proudly represent the school in county, regional and national competitions in which Penrice has a consistent, strong track-record of performance.



Over
200

Competitive Fixtures in 2022/23

Sports Facilities



The Zone Gym
x5 Grass Sports Pitches
x1 Large Astro Pitch
x3 Outdoor Courts
x1 Indoor Sports Hall.



Representation & Inclusivity

We aim to provide A, B and C team fixtures in the following sports:



Football



Netball



Hockey



Rugby

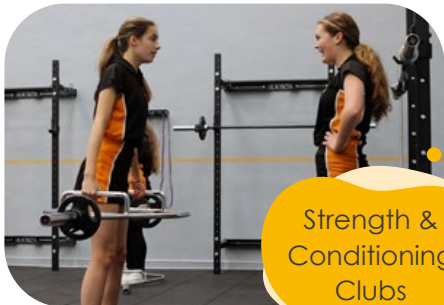


Cornwall Boccia Tournament 2022 (for SEND Students)

Our two Penrice teams finished 4th and 5th out of a total of 20 teams!

Great effort all!

Elite Sports and Training



Strength & Conditioning Clubs



Professional Athletics Club Partnership



Inspirational Visitors

Ben Hammersley from the Exeter Chiefs! (2022)



Sports Day
2023

Available Sports*

5-a-side Football | Archery | Athletics
Badminton | Cricket | Boys' Gym
Cross Country | Dance
Football (for Boys and Girls) | Girls' Fitness Club
Girls' Strength and Conditioning Club
Hockey | Long Distance Running | Netball
Roulers | Rugby

*Available as either sporting teams or clubs via Penrice Plus. Many sporting activities are seasonal.

Igniting Imaginations

Opportunities for All

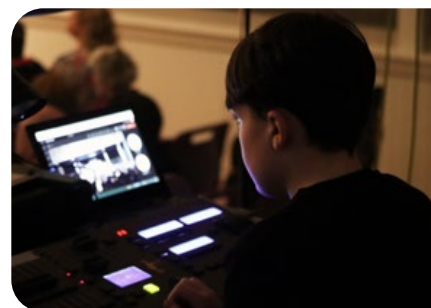
Think your child is too shy to get involved in the Creative Arts? – Think again!

Being part of our Creative Arts team doesn't mean they have to step into the spotlight and perform solo on centre stage. There are a whole host of other ways students get involved, whether it be our skilled set & prop designers, our stage and lighting crew, or our various bands and choirs, it is all part of one big Team Penrice effort!

And, of course, for those who do like to take centre-stage, performing in our annual School Production is a must!!



School
Production of
Mary Poppins Jr.
(2022)



School Production
of Matilda Jr. (2023)

ANNUAL PENRICE WINTER CONCERT

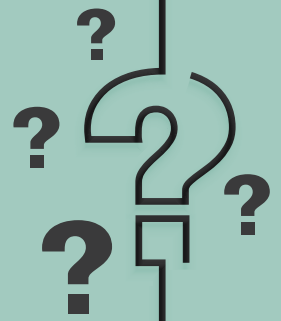


Carol Singing
at Par Market
(2022)

Did You Know?

We offer tuition on the following instruments:

Piano, Keyboard, Violin, Viola, Cello, Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Tuba, Guitar (Electric and Acoustic), Bass Guitar, Ukulele, Drumkit, Orchestral Percussion and Voice.



Year 11 Art
Exhibition 2023

Extraordinary Young Adults



From the moment they start Year 7, your child will be encouraged to join the Team Penrice effort, raising awareness and funds for local, national and international causes.

Over the course of their five-year journey, your child will be shaped into an empathetic and grateful young adult who appreciates what they have, cares for others and is ready to be a positive global citizen upon leaving Penrice.

Penrice selects a new 'featured charity' to support each academic year, resulting in a concentrated school effort and one large fundraising pot that really makes a difference to the chosen, worthy cause.*

As for making the all-important decision of choosing the charity that should benefit each year, this is all down to the student representatives on our Academy Council who are empowered to research, shortlist, discuss and vote for proposed causes.

*Other charities can still be supported throughout the year, particularly if students have benefitted from specific causes whom they wish to raise funds for.

PICTURED ON YEAR 11 LEAVERS' DAY

VARA | CLASS OF 2023

"I was really scared to go to school when I first arrived here in Year 10. I thought people might make fun of me because I couldn't speak the language, however I have actually made some amazing friends at Penrice. The school were so helpful at helping me improve my English knowledge"





Year 11's 24-Hour Charity
Challenge (April 2023)

£2,150
Raised for the RNLI

EXCEPTIONAL YOUNG ADULTS



Further Information:
penriceacademy.org/charity-work



Class of 2023 Penrice Prom



Over

£40,000+

Total raised in the last five
academic years

PROUDLY SUPPORTING UKRAINE

Over the past 18 months we have been privileged to be able to welcome Ukrainian students into the Penrice Community.

For existing students, the benefits of welcoming Ukrainian pupils have been clear to see with visible character development. Students demonstrate incredible compassion and

neighbourliness each time they welcome a new Ukrainian refugee to the Penrice community and they do so with open hearts.

We continue to open our doors to Ukrainian families and we currently have approximately 10 Ukrainian students studying at the school.

“



EMMA | YEAR 9

“Welcoming Ukrainian pupils has made me feel like our school is really supportive to other students. It's been a nice experience to see the Ukrainian students making friends again and learning what we are learning – it's giving them a fresh start.”

A Love of Reading



Further Information:
[penriceacademy.org/
literacy-and-reading](https://penriceacademy.org/literacy-and-reading)

Developing a Love for Reading

Reading is part of the bedrock to a successful education; it is the foundation upon which all other learning can be built upon. It is for this reason that we take reading so seriously at Penrice, ensuring that your child develops a passion for books, storytelling and creative writing.

We are proud to read in tutor periods three times a week, with students following the story in their own books as it is narrated by a teacher.

Each book is carefully selected based on age-appropriate themes and moral teachings.

Not only does this increase the linguistic knowledge and cultural capital of our students, but it also teaches a love of reading, encourages new insights into other worlds, and helps to foster the respect we need to have for other people and the living world around us.

Mrs Alison Hague

Reading Champion &
Former English Teacher
with 30 Years of
Experience



Inspiring Author Visits

As part of enriching our curriculum, we periodically welcome noteworthy authors into school to lead assemblies and workshops with students. Penrice turns into a hive of excitement and inspiration during such events!

The buzz amongst students as they sit, listen, and ask questions to famous, published authors is tangible! Don't be too surprised if your child bursts home through the door one afternoon to share their excitement about books... yes, books!!



Ben Davis Author Visit
(February 2023)



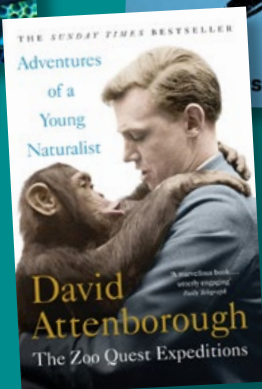
Year 7 Reading

A Kind of Spark – by Ellie McNicoll

Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief – by Rick Riordan

Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry – by Mildred Taylor

Chinese Cinderella – by Adeline Yen Mah



Year 8 Reading

Girl, Boy, Sea. – by Chris Vik

Stone Cold – by Robert Swindells

Adventures of a Young Naturalist – by David Attenborough

Lark – by Anthony McGowan

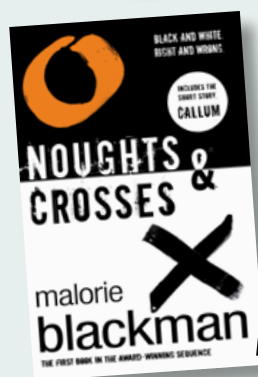
The Gifted the Talented and Me – by William Sutcliffe

Year 9 Reading

Noughts and Crosses – by Malorie Blackman

Lord of the Flies – by William Golding

The Poet X – by Elizabeth Acevedo



Gold Standard Grades

We believe that there is so much more to a successful education than grades, but we equally recognise that grades are the 'currency' that open doors to higher education courses and future job prospects.

You will share our pride in knowing that Penrice students continue to excel. The Class of 2023's outcomes matched the exceptional success of the Class of 2022 which placed our students as the number one state school in Cornwall for Progress and Attainment.



Further Information
penriceacademy.org/gcse-results

#1

Penrice was the top-performing Cornish state school in 2022 for Progress and Attainment*

**2023 data released towards the end of the year.*

**OVER 80%
GRADE 4+**

In English, Maths
and Science



**15% higher than
national average**

**OVER 70%
GRADE 7+**

in Biology, Chemistry
and Physics



**30% higher than
national average**

**100%
PASS RATE**

In 9 Different Vocational
Subjects



**20% higher than
national average**

2023 RESULTS HIGHLIGHTS



200
Sports
Fixtures



3
Sold-Out Nights
(Matilda)



22
Duke of Edinburgh
Walks



3000
Mini Medics
Milestone
Reached



1
Giant Robot
Visitor



12
Scholarship
Lectures



1
African
Adventure



14
Tutor Books
Read



1
Night to
Remember



112
Student
Leaders



32
Begin Learning
Mandarin

Penrice In Numbers

Data from the 2022-23 Academic Year

A Smooth Transition

It is totally normal for your child to feel nervous about joining 'big school' in Year 7. Please rest assured that we are here to make the transition process as smooth as possible.

We have plenty of transition events in place to help your child take small steps towards this change of scenery. By the time they reach their first day in September, your child can be confidently walking through the school gates, full of excitement and ready to meet their new classmates again following the various welcome events!



Further Information:
penriceacademy.org/transition-hub

Transition Timeline

All dates provided are a predicted schedule and are subject to change. Please always check the Penrice website for the latest information.

Transition Event/Activity	Approximate Date
Guided Tours	25th September - 6th October
Open Event 2023	3rd October 2023
School Application Window*	Runs until End of October 2023
School Places Announced*	January/February 2024
Welcome Email/Communication	February/March 2024
Parents/Carers begin receiving penrice newsletters	April 2024 onwards
Primary School Visits from Penrice Staff	May/June 2024
SEND Transition Days	June 2024
Welcome Day and Evening: July 2024	July 2024
Additional Private Welcome Meetings/Discussions	July 2024
Summer School (for invited pupils only)	August 2024
First Day of Year 7	September 2024



A 5-year journey that never ends...

Whilst your child's Penrice journey will end after five years, the lessons they learn and character traits they develop will set them up for a successful life.



KATIE MUNDAY

Class of 2013

Seasons Delivery Specialist at Network Rail

"I always told the teachers I wanted to be a train driver and they always encouraged me. Penrice gave me the confidence and grades to go to Truro College which taught me independence and the opportunity to go to University."



STUART ANSELL

Class of 2012

IT Systems Engineer at Monmouthshire Building Society

"I was inspired by my IT and Business Studies teachers to develop, including opportunities to start studying my BTEC in IT early."



HANNAH KNIGHT

Class of 2017

Legal Secretary at Coodes Solicitors following a Business Administration Apprenticeship

"Penrice did a lot of Careers Fairs which helped me identify that A-Levels were not the only option for me. Learning about diplomas which were coursework based helped me on my journey. My key piece of advice would be to do what feels right for you, not just what everyone else is doing "





Mary Poppins Jr.
Annual School Production 2022

Visit Us

See for yourself why Penrice is extraordinary at an Open Event. To see the latest opportunities to visit Penrice Academy, please visit:
penriceacademy.org/open-events



Penrice Academy
Charlestown Road
St. Austell
Cornwall
PL25 3NR