



Becoming Experts in Year 8 - Curriculum Overviews

Curriculum Area	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Pastoral (Assembly and Tutor Time)	Involvement and Opportunity Get fully involved in all that Penrice has to offer; new learning, Penrice Plus, new experiences and opportunities to challenge and inspire. Learn from past experiences both academically and pastorally. Make connections between now and the future.		Ambition Ambition - aim high, challenge yourself. Explore the pathways of others to "Unlock Your Potential". Examine the opportunities available to you, now, and for the future.	Personalisation What's ambitions for you? Discussions to make informed and personalised ambitious decisions. Explore and evaluate your opportunities through Option Evenings, Progress Evening and Taster Lessons.		Reflect Reflect on the year both academically and pastorally. Develop and discuss hopes and ambitions for the year ahead.
Penrice CLASS (RE)	Christianity The Holy Trinity and Jesus as an historical figure.	Christianity Jesus as a historical figure continued, The Bible and The Gospels	Christianity The Church, Ways of Living and Places of worship	Christianity/Islam Why are there so many denominations, Islamic views on contemporary issues - environment	Islam Islamic views on contemporary issues - animal rights and Education	Buddhism How did Buddha become the Buddha? The festival of Wesak celebrates the birth, life and death of the Buddha.
Penrice CLASS (Digital Online Safety)	Self Image and Identity Exploring what is 'identity' and why do people experiment /alter their online image. The affects caused if digital personality's are changed. The benefits of a digital identity, its use for self promotion with the understanding that photographs etc can be manipulated. Screen reader support enabled.		Online Relationships The benefits of communicating with people online and social networking features. Who is safe to talk to online and how can we spot the potential signs of grooming.	Online Relationships Reporting concerns. Understanding what is meant by healthy and unhealthy sexual behaviour. Digital footprint and the negative impact of social media, consent and GDPR.	Online Reputation Access to online information, it can be created, copied or shared, judgements and it's affects. Strategies on how to build a positive online reputation, what is appropriate to say and do in different online situations	Managing online information Understanding opinions, facts and fiction. Search and credible sources. Online market place and their benefits. Fake news and how your digital personality might be affected.
SMSC - Thought for week	Thought for the week Visiting various topics such as New Beginnings, Democracy, Peace, Symbolism, Education, Character and Sustainance	Thought for the week Visiting various topics such as Remembrance, Tolerance, Innovation, Expectations, Perception, Islam and Nativity	Thought for the week Visiting various topics such as Epiphany, Consent, Celebration, Dignity, Legacy, Discernment	Thought for the week Visiting various topics such as Diligence, Inspiration, Paradox, Personal Development, Ephemeral and Serendipity	Thought for the week Visiting various topics such as Perseverance, Belonging, Aphorism, Sleep and Juxtaposition.	Thought for the week Visiting various topics such as Environment, Zeitgeist, Genius, Leadership, Authenticity, Demography and Fulfillment.
English	Thematic unit around the concept of Heroes and Villains Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice, developing overall Literature skills and understanding of Elizabethan context through the exploration of the character Shylock.		Thematic unit around the concept of Great Writers The opportunity to engage with a wealth of literary figures before completing a spoken language presentation on a "classic" writer.	Thematic unit around the concept of Great Writers Study the novella Of Mice and Men, developing writing for purpose skills through exploration of the social and historical issues raised within the novella.	Thematic unit around the concept of Travellers' Tales - Home and Away Analyse and compare key pieces of literature and non-fiction texts which depict a perspective on war.	
Maths	Sequences Abstract concepts in maths by exploring sequences. Differences between a pattern, progression and series, exploring different arithmetic and geometric progressions and special sequences such as the Fibonacci sequence and the sequence of triangular numbers. Concluding with generalising sequences algebraically, graphing them and discovering the proportional properties of linear relationships.		Linear Graphs Arithmetic progressions, discovering why and how the terms of a linear sequence can be plotted on an xy axis to form a straight line graph. Abstract ideas such as a line being infinite in length and extending into the negative quadrants, understanding why representing linear relationships algebraically can simplify the definition of these relationships and how to define/use generalisations.	Fractions, Decimals & Percentages Fundamental concepts to develop a deep understanding of calculating with fractions, learning why effective calculation methods work and how they can be applied in different contexts to solve real-life problems. Recognising and utilising the equivalence of fractions, decimals and percentages to compare proportions and gain fluency in moving from one representation to another.	Percentages Building on the knowledge of calculating percentages attained in Year 7, students will begin to discover their broad use in the real world and gain an appreciation of the multiplicative properties of percentages.	Equations Learn how to set up and solve a range of equations to obtain solutions to a variety of problems within both concrete and abstract contexts, manipulating algebraic statements where appropriate to simplify the equation.
Science	Sports Science The science behind developing a competitive sports team. The impacts of diet and lifestyle on health and the bodies response to exercise, the physics behind designing sports equipment and getting the best performance out of athletes. Skills focus on identifying variables and constructing methods.	Sports Science The science behind developing a competitive sports team. The physics behind designing sports equipment and getting the best performance out of athletes. Skills focus on constructing graphs from data and interpreting results.	Sustainable mining and Cornwall Development and trends of the periodic table and reactions used in industry to extract materials. Skills focus on identifying variables and constructing methods.	Sustainable mining and Cornwall Content The impact of humans on the environment and atmosphere and how plants grow and develop. Skills focus on constructing graphs from data and interpreting results.	Future cities Electricity and its distribution, magnets, fuels and genetics. Skills to focus on how to collect precise data and changing investigations to improve precision.	
Computer Science	Understanding Computers Covering the basic principles of computer systems architecture. Understand that computer systems work with the fetch decode execute cycle and why we must be accurate when working with computers.	Understanding computers Covering how data, such as numbers, sound and images are physically stored on a computer system. Understand how instructions can be represented and manipulated digitally, using binary digits.	Python Programming 1 Plan a sequence of instructions for something to happen. Correctly use variables, lists and simple procedures in programs. Learn about collecting and storing data and using programming inputs.	Python Programming 2 Python programming using text-based language. Creating data structures. Understand what is meant by a computational problem. Programming techniques using IF, tab indentation, multiple values.	Creative ICT Project Creative project, re-using and re-purposing digital artefacts for a target audience across a range of applications including Photoshop.	
Geography	Danger Develop knowledge about hazardous environments and processes at work. Learn how to develop a case study through comparisons and evaluation.	Predator and Prey Knowledge about food webs and how ecosystems work before building a case study and practice the decision making element of geography using viewpoints.	Predator and Prey Learn about life in the desert and the challenges faced by people who live there.	Fieldwork An opportunity to visit The Eden Project to develop fieldwork and analysis skills.	The Rough Seas Develop an understanding and a vocabulary to explain coastal landforms and processes.	
History	WWI The causes, key events and huge impacts of The Great War. Considering the impact on ordinary soldiers and the wider world. Developing skills of cause and consequence and interpretations.	Interwar Years and Women's Rights How did another world war occur so soon? How and why did women gain the vote? Answer these questions and develop source analysis and extended writing skills.	WWII Investigate and compare key events in Britain and Nazi Germany during WWII and begin to consider how and why the Holocaust happened. Look at a range of interpretations.	The Holocaust Investigate how this horrific event happened, key events and personal stories of both tragedy and bravery. Chronology, cause and consequence and source analysis skills are developed.	World History Explore case studies of world events (e.g. Arab-Israeli conflict) considering significance and interpretations, understanding our place in the world today.	
French	My summer holidays Learn how to talk about what you did during the holidays, modes of transport, the weather and how to book a hotel. You will also explore travelling in French speaking countries.	Where I live Learn how to talk about your local area & how to give and ask for directions. Also this term we will have the opportunity to watch a French play performed by native French speakers.	Sports Learn how to talk about the sports that you do now and how this compares with what you used to do when you were younger. We will also learn about sports specific to France.	TV programmes and films Learn how to talk in detail about the programmes and films that you like describing story lines.	New technologies Learn how to talk about how we use social media and new technologies including the pros and cons.	
Spanish	My summer holidays Learn how to talk about what you did during the holidays, modes of transport, the weather and how to book a hotel. You will also explore travelling in South America, The Day of the Dead	Where I live Learn how to talk about your local area & how to give and ask for directions. Also this term we will have the opportunity to watch a Spanish play performed by native Spanish speakers.	Sports Learn how to talk about the sports that you do now and how this compares with what you used to do when you were younger. We will also learn about sports specific to Spain.	TV programmes and films Learn how to talk in detail about the programmes and films that you like describing story lines.	New technologies Learn how to talk about how we use social media and new technologies including the pros and cons.	
Art and Design	The Built Environment Introduced to architecture through the study of Antoni Gaudi analysing and drawing from his work as well as drawing from natural forms to show the artists point of inspiration.		The Built Environment Introduced to contemporary architect Frank Gehry. Paper and clay sculptures in response to his work.		Pop Art Research key figures in the Pop Art movement to write a comparative analysis and produce a series of drawings and paintings of mass produced items to link to Pop Art.	Pop Art Draw and paint on a larger scale and designing a piece working with the rules of composition from own still life photography.
Design and Technology	Materials, Properties & Surface Finishing Learn about different types of materials and their properties and how they should be chosen for different purposes. Look at surface finish and quality control methods. Make the second component of their product and finish both to a high standard.		Manufacturing Processes Explore and develop knowledge of industry standard production processes for metals and polymers. Moulding, forming, bending, manipulating and cutting. Produce several small example products during this time to show their understanding of each process.		Product Construction & Materials Joining Explore different joining methods and testing parameters for a final product. Apply this knowledge to complete the production of the final product to a high quality.	
Drama	Baseline Drama Assessment Blackout by Davey Anderson - An exploration of the roles and responsibilities in theatre as well as the interrelationships, style and context (identification of verbatim/TIE) of a scripted performance piece.	The Riots Physical theatre scheme of learning inspired by the work of Frantic Assembly	Blood Brothers Willy Russell C20 British Drama, students will explore sections of script in a workshop style, developing characters and consider how they approach characterisation. The module will be taught in a highly practical way so students understand the play's context and playwright's purpose and intention.		Theatre In Education Mark Wheeler plays - Missing Dan Nolan. Devising from a stimulus and creating TIE performance pieces to inform and engage audiences. Use of both naturalistic and stylised elements.	
Food	Bread making Bread varieties, kneading techniques, proving, health implications and alternative ingredients, measurements, timings, temperatures, pizza, focaccia, cultural traditions and identity.		Eggs Function of eggs, vegetarian (& vegan) diet, reading food labelling, binding, aerating, glazing, temperature. Making pavlova, quiche and sponge.		Pastry Making techniques, the purpose of fat and ways of reducing fat in the recipe. Making filo, shortcrust and rough pastry and a variety of pastry dishes. Planning and making a final showstopper dish.	
Music	Scales and Chords Scales and chords are called 'the building blocks of music' - why is that? Learning the C, F and G scales and their triads and using them to compose melodies and accompaniments.		Musical Composition 'Composers are not born, they are made' - what does that mean? Learning to emulate the pieces we hear and compose music 'in a specific style' using musical devices learned in the classroom.		Descriptive Music Why is music so important in films and video games? Learning the role of illustrative music in setting the mood in a scene and the use of leitmotifs to inform the audience of a character's feelings.	
CLASS	Health and Wellbeing Personal safety and road safety. Alcohol and mental health.	Relationships Tackling racism, gender and stereotyping.	Relationships Consent, sexting and cyberbullying.	Living in the Wider World Lloyds banking. Buddhism key facts and Buddhism fact file.	Cohesion project Growth mindset, open minds, empathy and perspective.	Cohesion project Empathy and perspective. Meta-cognition, wrap up and reflection.
PE	Effective warm up Components of an effective warm up. How heart rate increases with physical activity. Understand key terms of: working heart rate; resting heart rate and maximum heart rate. Improve leadership skills through planning and leading effective warm ups and cool downs.	Invasion games Learn to be more effective as a player in Invasion games like rugby, football, netball and hockey. Take on the role of an official/coach or timekeeper. Learn about team spirit and how to be competitive. Importance of how to win or loose gracefully.	Observe and Feedback Develop ability to observe and give feedback on others performances in a variety of sports and physical activities. Be able to listen to and act on feedback given by peers and teachers.	Leadership Develop leadership skills in lessons by planning and leading a part of a lesson. Learn how to reflect on their sessions.	Aerobic and Anaerobic Improve athletic attainment in a variety of athletics events. Understand the difference between aerobic activities like long distance running and anaerobic activities like sprinting. Identify aerobic and anaerobic aspects to their striking and fielding games, rounders, cricket and tennis. Know how fast twitch and slow twitch muscle fibres impact on aerobic and anaerobic performance.	