Hello from the Head Girl and Head Boy, Freya & Jake

On behalf of everyone here at Penrice Academy, we welcome you to our school. This year Penrice has introduced a new set of core values: pride, respect, success. Penrice aim to embed these core values into students every day life through the academic and pastoral support offered. We hope this will help students to build confidence, branch out, create new friendships and have an enjoyable education.

Further support is always available in the Student and Family Centre, Learning Centre and Learning Inclusion Centre.

Penrice prides itself on raising money for local and international charities. Unfortunately, due to COVID, we have been unable to complete our usual fundraising activities. In 2019 we raised £6,400 for Invictus Trust Cornwall, the charity chosen by the students. In 2018 we raised almost £10,000 for our local hospice, Mount Edgcumbe. We have achieved these results through a variety of whole school fund-raising events organised by the academy council, such as fun runs, bake sales and the Christmas Quiz.

Penrice Academy has outstanding opportunities that offer every child the chance to become involved in extra-curricular clubs. There are a wide variety of clubs to choose from which provide learning opportunities with like minded people, creating a diverse, fun and inclusive atmosphere.

Penrice Plus offers a range of academic, creative and sporting opportunities such as: Eco Club, Penrice Bake Off, Badminton, Film Club, Sign Language and many more. You have the opportunity to represent our school in sports at a local or even national level, can join in with music concerts or star in our very own school play.

At the end of the year students get to enjoy our fantastic curriculum enrichment week where there really is something for everyone. Skate, make, horse ride, surf or even enjoy a trip abroad. A tremendous way to end the year.

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 our students are incredible and deserve the very best life has to offer.

At Penrice we continued to learn and thrive through the global pandemic, ensuring that our students enjoyed 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 Enhancement 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.
Welcome to Penrice, a kind and caring community, built on our core values of being PROUD, RESPECTFUL and SUCCESSFUL; where students come to learn and develop their character, to grow into confident, independent young adults.

Our students are proud to be part of this community. They take pride in how they present and conduct themselves, and in the quality of work they produce. Our staff take pride in their work with students to develop them both academically and socially.

We are respectful of each other and our beliefs, allowing individuals to grow into their own unique self without fear of prejudice.

Students at Penrice are able to feel successful every day, not just through the outstanding academic results they achieve, but through small wins each time progress is made or an obstacle is overcome, knowing that being the best version of themselves is the ultimate quest and the only expectation we have.

By choosing Penrice, you will be joining a community with high standards and expectations in everything we do and through a combination of challenge and support we believe that every student can grow into a successful and happy individual.
Our Vision for Learning

At Penrice we are unwavering in our commitment to deliver the highest quality of education for all our students, ensuring the best possible life chances for them. This involves achieving success in public examinations but also involves the development of the individual, to be able to lead fulfilling, happy and purposeful lives. We want our students to leave Penrice being able to contribute to society in a positive and valuable way; being able to think freely, make informed choices and explore the world around them.

We believe that equipping students with knowledge and understanding is pivotal in ensuring we achieve our ambitions. As such, our curriculum and strategy for learning is crafted to empower students with knowledge and provide a rich and diverse range of enriching opportunities.

Throughout your child’s learning experience we embed our school values of pride, respect and success. Our character curriculum during tutor time ensures students develop as individuals with strong values and a sense of place in the wider world.

Our Curriculum Structure

Year 7 & 8 - Broad and Strong Foundations

In Year 7 and 8 your child will study the full breadth of the key stage 3 national curriculum and beyond, developing strong, knowledge rich foundations across a broad range of subjects. Our ambitious approach for all students ensures our students have completed the content on the key stage 3 national curriculum at the end of Year 8. We endeavour to provide the strongest possible foundation, ensuring all our students have access to powerful knowledge across the full breadth of subjects.

All students study:
- English
- Maths
- Science
- History or Geography
- French or Spanish
- Computer Science
- Art

Year 9 - Personalisation and Enrichment

In Year 9 your son/daughter will personalise the range of subjects being studied and experience our enrichment curriculum. This broadens their horizons and ensures they are equipped with an appreciation of the place each subject has in the world. We continue to develop powerful knowledge.

Halfway through Year 9, students then begin to specialise to the subjects they will take qualifications in.

(Until February half-term and then as Y10 & 11)
All students study:
- English
- Maths
- Science
- History or Geography
- Drama
- Music
- Food
- Design Technology
- CLASS
- RE
- PE

Plus four of the following:
- Art
- Business
- Creative iMedia
- Drama
- Engineering
- Food
- Sociology

Year 10 & 11 - Specialisation and Expertise

During Year 10 and 11 our students develop expertise in their chosen subjects. Students leave Penrice having been highly successful in their chosen disciplines. We encourage students to engage with curriculum choices that are right for them.

All students study:
- English
- Maths
- Science

Plus three of the following:
- French
- Spanish
- Art
- Business
- Creative iMedia
- Drama
- Engineering
- Food
- Sociology
- French or Spanish
- CLASS
- PE

Plus four of the following:
- History or Geography
- Art
- Business
- Computer Science
- Drama
- Engineering
- Food
- Sociology
- PE
- History
- Film Studies
- Computer Science
- Music
- Music Technology
- Animal Care

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The Student and Family Centre (SFC) is a huge part of our pastoral support on offer at Penrice Academy. We recognise that, for some children, school is not always an easy experience. Children occasionally face social and emotional challenges which can impede on their learning; for these more vulnerable children our involvement may need to be intensified and may require extra support from our highly trained SFC staff or support agencies working through the SFC.

Mrs Lorraine Farr
Pastoral Support Mentor (Year 7) & TIS Practitioner

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The SEND Team
The SEND Team includes two Autism Champions, three Literacy and Dyslexia Support Specialists, three SEND teachers, and numerous SEND Teaching Assistants. Supporting across the school, we are based between The Learning Centre (KS3) and The Learning Inclusion Centre (KS4).

We are here to help
The nature and extent of support we offer is dependent upon the young person’s needs and provision will be bespoke. We consult with parents/carers of young people with additional needs to ensure that interventions and support is purposeful and monitored carefully throughout their Penrice experience. Within the school we have several highly specialised provision centres and interventions as shown to the right.

Intervention Options:
- TIS (Trauma Informed Schools) One-to-One Support
- Emotional First Aid/Mental Health Support
- CAF/FGC Advocates Signposting to Outside Agencies
- School Support Dogs and our TIS Tortoise
- One to One Mentoring
- TIS Group Work
- Gender Support
- Behaviour Management
- Attendance Support
- Social and Emotional Support
- Young Carers
- School Counsellor

Available Support
- A Bespoke Curriculum for pupils who are working at Entry Level
- Future opportunities with specialist teachers
- Lunch Club and Home Learning Club
- Social development programmes delivered by our Dyslexia champions, including screening tests in Years 7 and 9
- Application for Exam Dispensation where appropriate
- Additional exam preparation and revision support
- Additional Past 16 guidance and support
- One-to-one interventions as and where necessary and support with organisation
- Emotional drop-in sessions
- Dyscalculia Support
- A named Key Worker for every student identified as requiring additional support (this member of staff is a key contact for families as well as the student and provides academic support).
Enrichment and Penrice Plus

Music & Performance

Our school productions always create magic and we’re sure this year’s production of Mary Poppins will be no exception.

Past performances, like the School of Rock, showcased the wealth of talent within our student body. Other performances have included Annie, Grease, Wizard of Oz, Midsummer Night’s Dream and Romeo & Juliet. We always include every child who auditions or expresses an interest in helping backstage with student helpers also working in the Sound & Light Events Crew.

Many of our students learn to play musical instruments, some in-school with our Cornwall Music Service Trust teachers and others with local music teachers in the area and many who teach themselves. No matter which method your child has chosen to learn, they will be welcome in our academy music groups including Orchestra, Choir, Rock School, Brass Group, Wind Group and Ukuleles.

Race Across the World

The Race Across the World challenge offers Year 7-9 students an extensive variety of activities to develop confidence, resilience, engagement and life skills whilst also being academically stimulating.

Each year group has a different journey to complete throughout the year. This journey is split into 5 different legs, with each leg being divided into weekly challenges set by our wide range of subject areas.

Each week students will arrive at a different country and their challenges will be both related to the subject area and the country they are visiting. Successful completion of all 5 legs will result in a unique Penrice Academy pin badge being awarded.

Maths Challenges

Our Maths Department encourage our students to engage in many fun maths challenges and activities.

Last year, 100 Year 7 and 8 students entered the UK Maths Trust Online Junior Maths Challenge 2020.

43 students were awarded Gold, Silver and Bronze certificates.

World Book Day

Our Year 7 and 8 students are invited to dress up as their favourite book characters to celebrate World Book Day.

In addition, our staff decorate their doors in the theme of a book with help for their tutor groups.

Mini Medics

At Penrice Academy, all of our students have the opportunity to learn the most important skill of all: how to save a life. With the Mini Medics programme, the students learn all the basics of First Aid, from the recovery position to how to use a defibrillator.

Aimed at younger students, the programme uses language and terminology that is easily understood and remembered, focusing on DR ABC: Danger, Response, Airway, Breathing, CPR.

Students leave the sessions with invaluable knowledge and a certificate in Mini Medics Training.

Outdoor Learning – The Farm

We are very lucky here at Penrice Academy to have our own farm. The farm was opened in 2019 and has proven to be a fabulous addition to the school.

The farm allows Penrice Academy to offer a BTEC Level 2 in Animal Care, which is a hands-on course containing elements of practical and theory work. The course supports and helps to develop students social, emotional and physical skills through outdoor learning and could lead onto a Level 3 in Animal Care at college.

The animals we have on our farm are:

- 2 Golden Guernsey goats
- 1 North Ronaldsay sheep
- 2 Kune Kune pigs
- 4 guinea pigs
- 2 rabbits
- 2 degus
- 1 bearded dragon

We also have our own visiting farm dog Delphi.

The animals we have on our farm are:

Curriculum Enrichment Week (CEW)

CEW takes place at the end of each school year. Activities can include surfing, fishing, action and adventure, horse riding, golf, football with Plymouth Argyle, art, design, model making, catering, the Army, animal care and visits to all the very best that Cornwall has to offer. International trips are also available (resuming again when COVID-19 restrictions ease).

It is a wonderful opportunity to try out new skills and learn something different. Students can challenge themselves and the week is always described by them as one of the highlights in the five year journey at Penrice.
Taking place immediately after school, Penrice Plus is a whole school initiative that allows every student to develop their sporting, academic and creative talents. Our aim is to provide enrichment activities as part of our extensive extracurricular programme that complements our curriculum, and fosters a love of education. As students develop through the programme, pupils will have increased opportunities to develop their leadership skills and inspire future generations. We even have Penrice Plus Prefects!

Every member of staff runs or supports an activity, ensuring that we have a fully inclusive programme that offers something of interest for everyone. Our staff have a wonderful array of skills, interests, and hobbies that they share with students. At Penrice, we are committed to supporting every student to find their passion. Your next Penrice Plus Club could inspire you to pursue a healthy pastime for the rest of your life!

Some Examples of Penrice Plus Clubs from Autumn Term 2021:
- Penrice Kitchen
- Street Art
- Photography
- Sign Language
- Farm
- Board Games
- Couch to 5k
- History Mystery
- Penrice Band
- Girls Active/Boys Gym
- Bake Off
- Survival School
- Coding
- School Production
- Drama/Public Speaking
- Eco Art & Craft
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Big Bang
- Rugby / Football / Hockey / Netball
- Library Time

Sport
At Penrice, every student benefits from the wide ranging, fully inclusive curriculum that we offer through Physical Education. Every student strives to attend an after-school sports club per week, with many attending fixtures, training or Penrice Plus Clubs every night of the week!

We encourage and facilitate opportunities for all students to play competitive sport, as we fully believe that the life values students learn on the sports field, support them to win in the exam hall. We are fully committed to finding the sporting and athletic potential in every student.

Facilities
- A four-badminton court sports hall
- 4 netball courts
- A newly refurbished state-of-the-art strength and conditioning suite
- A dance studio
- An AstroTurf hockey pitch
- Extensive playing fields for athletics, rugby, football, cricket

Popular Sports
- Athletics
- Cricket
- Netball
- Hockey
- Football
- Rugby

Questions
If you have any questions about our sporting provision, please get in contact:
Aaron Marks, Director of Sport
amarks@penrice.org.uk
We have a very effective programme in place which aims to make the transitions from primary to secondary school as smooth as possible. Year 6 students and their families are invited to visit us at the beginning of the Autumn Term to experience the exciting opportunities Penrice has to offer.

Once Secondary school places are allocated, we work closely with our primary colleagues to establish a detailed picture of your son/daughter whilst they are in Year 6. This is developed in the Spring and Summer terms when the Head of Year 7, Operational SENCO, our Year 7 Pastoral Support Manager and current Year 7 students visit primary schools. This enables us to learn as much as possible about your child and gives the Year 6 students the opportunity to meet Penrice staff and learn about the transition experience and Year 7 from our students. We also meet with parents and professionals whenever the transition to secondary school is likely to cause particular challenges to ensure a fully supported move from primary school.

Once all the information is gathered, our Head of Year 7 creates tutor groups balanced in respect of ability, friendship, gender and individual need; an approach designed to ensure each child feels safe and secure. In the latter part of the Summer Term, we host all our incoming Year 6s for two Welcome Days, complemented with an Information Evening for parents. During the immersive Welcome Days, the new intake meet with their tutors, tutor groups, make new friends, sample taster lessons and get a real feel for life at Penrice Academy.

Our staff and students welcome and support all our new students to help everyone familiarise themselves with our wonderful school.

Mrs Kirsty Taylor, Head of Year 7 (TIS Practitioner)

#InspiringFutures
Student Stories

Katie Munday
Class of 2013

Seasons Delivery Specialist at Network Rail

Offered the Network Rail Graduate Scheme. Now Seasons Delivery Specialist where she helps to coordinate the railways response to weather and different seasons from London Paddington to Penzance.

Zoe Blackwell
Class of 2011

Operating Department Practitioner at North Bristol NHS Trust

Graduated from Cardiff University with a First Class Honours Degree in Operating Department Practice.

After 3 years at Derriford, Zoe made the move last year to Southmead Hospital in Bristol so she can further expand her knowledge and skills and has since had the opportunity to undertake a training position as a senior member of the team.

Lee Bray
Class of 1983

Archaeologist at Dartmoor National Park Authority

Worked in the oil industry before a career change into Archaeology. Lee then worked in commercial archaeology, followed by a PhD on Roman period iron smelting on Exmoor.

What will your story be?