



Penryn  
College

"Achieving through Challenge"

## Information for Candidates

The English Department runs GCSE AQA Language and Literature along side Step Up to English for our lowest ability. It is a school belief that all students benefit from exposure to a wide range of texts and for this reason a high percentage of students are entered for both GCSE qualifications. KS3 Schemes of Work have recently been reviewed to ensure they incorporate stretch and challenge across the ability ranges.

Results for English Language and Literature have been significantly above National figures for progress and attainment over the past three years. Our key GCSE challenge remains with boys, in particular HPA boys and the progress of our LPA students.

The department is well established, with 13 members of staff, a number of which are part-time. All staff deliver across the full subject and ability range.

Literacy across the curriculum has been a key priority for us since 2012; we appointed a Literacy Co-ordinator and specialist Literacy Teaching Assistant to promote a cohesive whole school approach to Literacy and to deliver high quality CPD. All staff have had Performance Management targets to improve literacy standards and all departments have adapted their Schemes of Work and approaches to teaching to support literacy.

Whole school INSET has had a literacy focus with National Speakers such as David Didau and Gary Wilson leading. Tutor time allows students regular opportunities to read for pleasure. The library stock ensures that there is a range of challenging texts for able students, boy-friendly literature and a range of texts from other cultures and traditions. Selected students take part in a daily phonics intervention scheme to support phonological awareness, decoding and reading comprehension in order to accelerate reading ability. This is delivered as part of an alternative curriculum programme in Year 7 and 8 English lessons.

We have developed very strong links with the University of Exeter, Penryn campus, which is immediately adjacent to ours; students regularly visit the university for a growing range of cross campus lectures and activities.

Our unique relationship with surrounding primary schools - known as the "Penryn Partnership" - helps primary children to settle in to the college whilst adjusting to their new environment. Literacy underpins this; Penryn College works alongside feeder primary schools to accelerate literacy across the local area and to ensure successful transition. Included in this are workshops for parents, enrichment opportunities for the able and a highly effective Literacy Summer School.

Penryn College is a lively thriving college which caters for 1135 11-16 boys and girls. We pride ourselves on offering the very best for our students so that when they leave us, they are confident and capable young people who are prepared to give something back to their community. We were recognised by OFSTED as "Outstanding" for seven years and "Good" in March 12 and 17.



**Head Teacher:** Paul Walker

Penryn College, Kernick Road, Penryn, Cornwall TR10 8PZ

**T: 01326 372379** F: 01326 373194 e:secretary@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk [www.penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk](http://www.penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk)

A company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales, number 7654298. An exempt charity