



PENRYN COLLEGE

ACHIEVING through CHALLENGE





Welcome from Headteacher Claire Croxall

At Penryn College, we believe that every student deserves the opportunity to thrive—academically, socially, and personally. As Headteacher, I am proud to lead a school community that is committed to excellence, inclusivity, and innovation. Our motto, “Achieving through Challenge,” reflects our belief that with the right support and encouragement, all young people can reach their full potential.

We are passionate about providing a broad and balanced curriculum that inspires curiosity, creativity, and confidence. Our dedicated specialist staff work tirelessly to create an environment where students feel valued and empowered to take ownership of their learning. Lessons are engaging and underpinned by excellent resources including technology. Beyond the classroom, we offer a rich programme of trips, extra curricular activities, leadership opportunities, and community engagement that help shape well-rounded individuals.

As a parent myself, I know how important the move from primary to secondary is for students and their families and we pride ourselves on a supportive transition for year 6s which includes primary visits, induction days and the Stepping Stones Programme. This builds on the outstanding partnerships we have with our feeder and local schools.

Penryn College is more than just a place of learning—it is a vibrant, caring community where every moment matters. Our students are encouraged to be ambitious, resilient, and kind. Whether you are a prospective parent, student, or visitor, I invite you to visit the school and discover what makes our school such a special place.

Warm regards,

Claire Croxall
Headteacher
Penryn College

The background is a solid red color with two large, overlapping circles. One circle is a darker shade of red and is positioned in the upper right corner. The other circle is a lighter shade of red and is positioned in the lower left corner, partially overlapping the first circle.

About Our School

Welcoming students since 1957

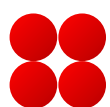


What makes Penryn College special?

- At Penryn College, we aspire for every child to be the very best they can be — whoever they are, wherever they come from, and whatever their starting point.
- We want them to be resilient, adaptable, and confident problem-solvers — ready to meet the challenges of the modern work force.
- We believe that learning flourishes when students feel safe, happy, and valued. Our school is a place where children learn how to stay safe — online and in the wider world — and how to support the safety and wellbeing of others.
- We celebrate effort and achievement, and we work closely with families to discover and nurture every child's unique talents

Penryn College alumni

By the time our students leave Penryn College, doors are open to so many opportunities. Our alumni include Oxbridge students, international apprentices, performers in the West End, Olympians



Who We Are

We are a lively, thriving school, and we pride ourselves on our local and national reputation for educational excellence. We work in partnership with national research-led teaching and learning initiatives such as the Arts Council Creativity Collaborative and we are an award winning Cyber Award School and UNICEF Rights Respecting School.

We cater for children and young people aged 11-16 who live in Penryn and the surrounding villages of Constantine, Flushing, Mabe, Mawnan Smith, Mylor, Perranwell and Ponsanooth. Students also join us from Falmouth and other outlying villages and towns.

Originally, Penryn College opened in Falmouth in 1957, and was moved to its present site in 1961. Since that time, there has been a programme of continuous improvement and updating of buildings/classrooms. Our biggest development was the opening of our £24 million College building in 2008.

Our PAN (published admission number) for each year group is 210, but the occupational capacity is slightly different for each one. Currently, we are oversubscribed in all year groups.

⚙️ What Sets Us Apart



01 Proven Excellence

We have a proven track record in consistently achieving higher than national average GCSE outcomes, and continue to build on these successes every year. We have a strong reputation both locally and nationally for academic and sporting success. We have a relentless ambition for students to be the best they can be. The school fosters resilience, independence, and ambition, encouraging students to meet challenges head-on and opening doors to futures they didn't know existed.



02 Achieving through Challenge

We understand the importance of a broad and balanced curriculum offer and allow all our students to excel across the extensive range of subjects. Penryn College has a strong commitment to developing students' skills and lifelong learning. Through an award winning PSHE curriculum (lifeskills), a nationally recognised rewards programme, and ambitious student leadership opportunities, our young people become well rounded learners that can achieve through challenge.



03 Working in Partnership

Our school builds highly effective partnerships. Our unique 'Penryn Primary Partnership' is over 25 years old. We strive to prepare our students for life after school through our careers team, working with employers, industry partners such as Watson Marlow and Pendennis Shipyard. We have outstanding relationships with post 16 providers across Cornwall and the south west.



04 Outstanding Facilities and Community Links

With a £24 million campus development, Penryn College boasts state-of-the-art facilities, including a six-court sports hall and a synthetic turf pitch—developed in partnership with the local universities. Our Creative Arts department have an enviable outdoor amphitheatre, modern auditorium, dance studios and cutting edge practice rooms. Our classrooms and learning environments are modern and well resourced, we have specialist classrooms such as 8 Science laboratories and a suite of STEAM workshops. These resources support both academic and extracurricular excellence.

Our Curriculum



Our Curriculum

‘Leaders are ambitious for pupils and there is an ethos of having a go without a fear of failure’ Ofsted 2022

Our curriculum sparks intellectual curiosity, independent thought and a lifelong love of learning. Students build strong foundations in literacy and numeracy, develop successful learning habits, and grow into articulate, thoughtful individuals. Woven through our school experience is our Penryn Foundations for the Future.

Our students are encouraged to embrace wider learning opportunities and achieve GCSEs in additional languages, further maths, astronomy and statistics.



Penryn Foundations for the Future

We want pupils to leave Penryn College being able to:

- Work with others
- Use knowledge to develop and explore ideas
- Take ownership and action
- Use imagination and curiosity
- Show respect and take responsibility

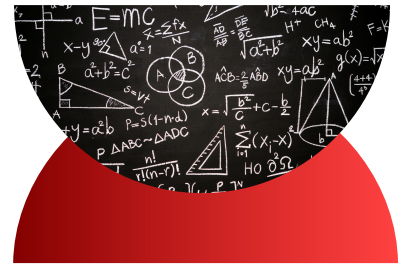


English

Students explore a wide range of voices—from local to global, past to present—to build empathy and understanding. Our engaging curriculum encourages deep thinking, debate and independence through reading and writing. Creativity is at the heart of helping students reach their full potential and find their voice.

Maths

Our Maths lessons are designed so students experience success creating confident learners who are able to problem solve. Students develop a deep understanding of mathematical knowledge and skills. At its heart lies a strong foundation of numeracy, from which all topics are developed, to help students build on prior learning and move towards mastery.



Science

In Science, we are committed to fostering a passion for science and developing curious students who are confident in making evidence-based decisions for themselves. We encourage students to challenge and question the world around them using the scientific methods, theories and concepts. Students build reliable knowledge through experimentation and rigorous analysis.

Humanities

Humanities encompasses RE, History and Geography in which they explore human culture, values, beliefs and the physical world around them. Students will discover the importance of considering many different perspectives including their own, and appreciate how points of view and opinions change depending on where you live and over time. Learners develop empathy, and become respectful of different beliefs and customs. Students will learn how to use and question a range of evidence, form an argument and justify with subject specific examples.





❖❖ MFL

It is through language we truly travel outside ourselves and our curriculum is the language itself, built meaningfully over time. MFL lessons focus on the seven skills needed to become an expert in language learning: speaking, listening, reading, writing, memorisation, translation and grammar. Our aim to build student confidence and resilience with a particular focus on phonics and developing their confidence in taking risks with their speaking. We want to them to become creative risk-takers who feel confident in class and in the wider world. We aim to plant the seed of language that can grow into fluency in later life.

❖❖ Creative Arts

Our Creative Arts Curriculum encourages creativity and collaboration. We create an environment where students can thrive across Music, Drama, Media, Dance, Art, Textiles and Photography. The faculty develops teamwork, self-expression, curiosity and encourages exploration across a diverse range of disciplines. Students develop confidence, independence and communication skills for life beyond the classroom. Through hands-on experiences and exposure to both contemporary and historical practices, pupils are inspired by dynamic starting points and real-world practitioners.



❖❖ STEAM

The STEAM curriculum develops students' mathematical, scientific, mechanical, computing, artistic skills. Our projects allow students to demonstrate accuracy and precision using state of the art computing suites, workshops and laboratories. The STEAM curriculum builds core knowledge and skills in computing, graphic design, design technology and engineering. All students will leave with a clear understanding of the career pathways from STEAM through our close links with industry partners and extension enrichment offer.



Personal Development

Our timetable allows us to develop and strengthen the delivery of our personal development curriculum with a dedicated time each day for students in their timetable. We have strong character development programmes through LifeSkills, Careers, SMSC, and Extra-Curricular provision. In Period 4 we read together and follow our Learn to Learn programme to develop understanding and strategies to help us grow as learners. We develop confidence in Finding our Voice alongside having weekly aspirational assemblies.

Able

Our Penryn Aspire programme begins with quality-first teaching in every classroom, encouraging deeper thinking across all units of work. Students benefit from enrichment opportunities such as Medics Academy, academic trips to Oxford and Cambridge, and the Penryn Futures programme focused on Post-16 and further education pathways. Our elite Performance Sport Programme supports excellence in athletic development alongside academic growth. Period 4 sessions also broaden students' oracy, critical thinking and global awareness through engagement with worldwide topics.



SEND



Penryn College are committed to removing barriers to learning so that every student can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. We work with students, parents and external agencies collectively to ensure that all students attending Penryn College are able to consistently attend school, while feeling safe and supported. Our vision is that every learner makes personal progress, with equal opportunities to all aspects of College life. Through collaboration, tailored support, and a culture of high expectations, we empower students to reach their full potential and celebrate their unique strengths.

ARB (Area Resource Base)

Penryn College ARB, situated on the Penryn College campus, is a specialist provision for children with an EHCP. Students who attend the ARB follow a personalised curriculum, accessed through specialist support and tailored to meet individual needs; for some, this can include access to the mainstream curriculum. All students at Penryn College are encouraged, and supported, to reach their full potential. ARB places are commissioned by the local authority as part of a child's annual review process.





LifeStyle Curriculum and Sport

Our Faculty is committed to fostering a culture of inclusion and personal excellence in and outside of the classroom. Our curriculum emphasizes a strong foundation in:

Physical Education

In PE, our aim is to develop confident, competent and active young people, through high quality lessons to lead a healthy lifestyle and an enjoyment of physical activity.

Food and Nutrition

Students learn to cook nutritious meals and understand the science behind food. Lessons explore how social, moral, and environmental factors influence our diets. Practical skills are developed through hands-on cooking and competitions.

Life Skills

Students study topics across three core themes: relationships, health and wellbeing, and living in the wider world. Students explore real life issues through discussion and projects. This statutory curriculum builds confidence, resilience and informed decision making.

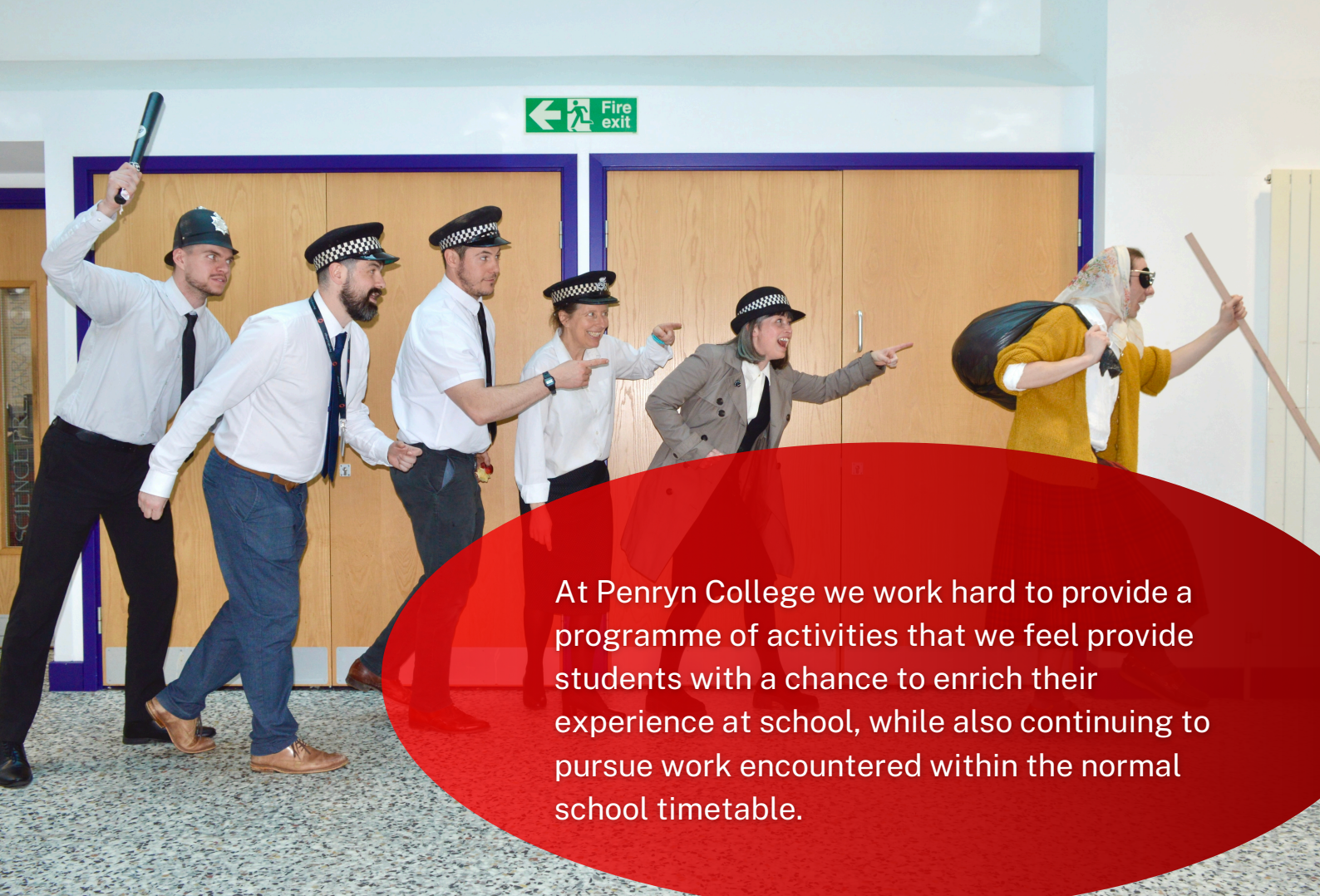
Extra-Curricular Sport

Our extra-curricular sports programme runs every day after school, with additional early morning clubs at 7:30am, and is open to all students. It promotes both wide participation and high-level performance, offering opportunities for everyone to get involved. A large number of students proudly represent the school in a variety of fixtures, embracing the spirit of #ProudToWearRed. The programme builds confidence, teamwork, and school pride through sport

The background is a solid red color with two large, overlapping circles. One circle is a darker shade of red and is positioned in the upper left, partially cut off by the top edge. The other circle is a lighter shade of red and is positioned in the lower right, also partially cut off by the right edge. The text is centered in the lower half of the image.

Extracurricular and Wider Opportunities

Designed to Inspire Learning and Growth



At Penryn College we work hard to provide a programme of activities that we feel provide students with a chance to enrich their experience at school, while also continuing to pursue work encountered within the normal school timetable.

❁ Our Extracurricular Highlights



Over 80 extracurricular clubs and activities to choose throughout the year, led by committed staff from Penryn College and external partners. These often culminate in concerts, productions. We start every day with a breakfast club which is available to every student.



Over 100 opportunities to learn outside of the classroom, from international visits to careers events and further education visits. Curriculum trips are woven across KS3 and KS4.



We consistently recognise the achievements of our young people, from celebration assemblies to Awards Evenings inviting families into school to celebrate with us. We reward academic success and progress across all areas of school life including subject and community.



Through our House system we celebrate and reward achievements across the school recognising every day successes and students' efforts. This includes celebrating the reading through World Book Day with staff and students alike.

❖ Leadership Opportunities

01 Senior Student Leadership Teams

We value student leadership and we know it enables students to develop key attributes that are valuable for life. Our elected senior students are our role models for younger students and represent our values across our school community.



02 Student Leadership Groups

There are many ways that our students can demonstrate leadership such as becoming a prefect, mentor, reading buddy as well as opportunities to work on the holiday programme and in the community. Our Student Leadership groups meet with the Headteacher every half term to share progress in key areas



03 Anti bullying ambassadors

We are proud to be part of the Diana Award developing anti-bullying ambassadors across the school. This Anti-Bullying Programme has a strong peer-to-peer focus, giving young people the skills and confidence to become Ambassadors to raise awareness around bullying.

❖ Outdoor Education Opportunities

01 Duke of Edinburgh Award

We have high levels of student participation across year 9 and 10 on this character-building award. DofE encourages greater achievement in young people and is highly regarded by employers. It develops independence and problem-solving skills; attributes that can be used for the rest of a student's life. Our students enjoy the expedition and we love watching them grow in confidence.



02 Outdoor Education

Outdoor experience is an exciting part of school life and our vast offer includes climbing, surfing, orienteering, sailing and other water-sports. During their time at Penryn College, students will have the opportunity to learn through many outdoor activities, including Activity Day, the school ski trip, or even signing up to be a part of the highly prestigious Ten Tors expedition.



The background is a solid red color. It features two large, overlapping circles. One circle is a darker shade of red and is positioned in the upper right quadrant. The other circle is a lighter shade of red and is positioned in the lower left quadrant. The circles overlap in the center of the page.

Our Community

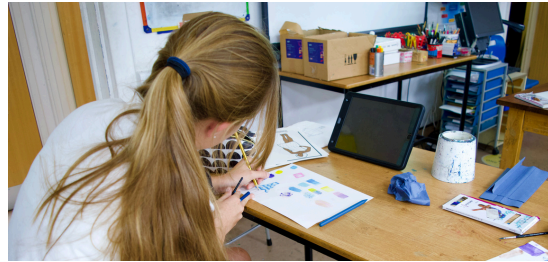
Voices from across our community

At Penryn College, we believe that everyone's voice matters. We listen carefully to students, families, staff, and our wider community to help shape the future of our school. This shared approach ensures we create a supportive, inclusive environment where every learner can thrive.



01 What parents say ...

"Both of my children are very happy at the school and we're very grateful to have a fantastic school on our doorstep. They are given many extra-curricular opportunities which enable them to grow in confidence and feel part of the school community."



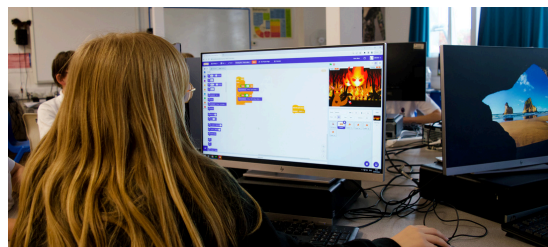
02 What students say ...

"There's a great team spirit here. We all get on well with each other and the teachers. We feel safe, and the facilities are amazing!"
"The changes that have been made by all of us have been listened to and have happened thanks to the school staff."



03 What staff say ...

"The school does a fantastic job... it enables our young people to thrive and be valued"
"This is a great school to work in...there is a strong sense of community."



04 What OFSTED say ...

"Penryn College is a happy and welcoming school.."
"Pupils follow an exciting curriculum with a broad range of different opportunities. Leaders are ambitious for pupils and there is an ethos of 'having a go', without fear of failure."

The background is a solid red color with two large, overlapping circles. The top circle is a slightly darker shade of red and is partially cut off by the top edge of the frame. The bottom circle is a slightly lighter shade of red and is also partially cut off by the bottom edge of the frame. The circles overlap in the center of the image.

Contact Information

Get in Touch with Us



Penryn College

Achieving through Challenge

Thank you for exploring Penryn College. We look forward to welcoming you to our school.

Address Penryn College, Kernick Road, Penryn, TR108PZ

Phone 01326 372379

Email enquiries@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk

Website www.penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk