



Poltair School Curriculum Overview for Year 8 2023-2024

Year 8	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
English	Murder, Mystery and Mayhem: Novel study of Neo-Victorian The Ruby in the Smoke and other examples of detective fiction. Why is crime fiction so popular?		War Poetry: How have poets influenced perceptions of war? Exploring other literature influenced by war, Journey's End by RC Sherriff and real-life accounts of war.		A perfect world: from Utopia to Dystopia How can Lois Lowry's The Giver be read as a dystopian text?	
Maths	Calculations and number; area and volume; circles	Circles; statistics, graphs and charts; expressions and equations	Real-life graphs; decimals and ratio	Decimals and ratio; lines and angles; calculating with fractions	Calculating with fractions; indices, power and roots; linear graphs	Quadratic graphs; percentages, decimals and fractions.
Science	Sports Science: Why is diet and exercise important for the human body?	Reactions: How do we form new substances?	Science in action: How are circuits built and used in the technology around us?	Energy: How is energy transferred?	Variation and evolution: Why are we all different?	Our Planet Earth: How is our planet structured and why is it important to protect it?
Geography	Is population growth sustainable? Exploring changes to population over time and factors that affect population growth.	Is it too late to save the oceans? Exploring human impact on the oceans and sustainable management solutions	Why is the world's climate becoming so extreme? Investigating human impact on climate and strategies to manage and adapt to climate change.	Are all deserts the same? Exploring hot and cold deserts, the animals and plants that inhabit them and how we can sustainably develop them.	Is sustainable living the solution to our current climate emergency? How do our lifestyles impact the environment, and can technology be the solution?	Is sustainable tourism possible? Exploring a variety of tourist destinations to investigate the positive and negative effects of tourism and potential solutions.
	What did the Industrial Revolution mean for Britain? Exploring a time of change and upheaval in Britain from a social, economic and political point of view.	What were the reasons for the development of the slave trade and why was it abolished? Exploring how the Slave Trade began, key events and sources of evidence, and what led to its abolition.	What were peoples' experiences of the British Empire? Exploring the impact that the British Empire has had on different countries including Britain and looking at the cause and consequences of these impacts.	How successfully has prejudice been challenged throughout British History? Exploring change and continuity in terms of people's experiences of prejudice but also the ways in which these things have been challenged too.	Why wasn't the First World War the 'war to end all wars'? The First World War was supposed to be the war to end all wars. Investigating how the war was fought and consider its far-reaching impacts and significance, even as a cause for WWII.	What makes a successful political protest? Considering change and continuity in terms of political protest. Investigating what, how and why people have protested and the impacts of these protests. For example, the women's suffrage movement.
MFL	My summer holidays	Around town	All about sports	At the movies	Social media and new technologies	How to survive in Spain

	Talking about what you did during the holidays	Describing the area where you live	Discussing our favourite sports and what we have done recently in our free time	Expressing opinions about different films and TV programmes and describing the story lines	Considering the advantages and disadvantages of new technologies and what they are used for	A focus on transactional language so that you can successfully go shopping when in a Spanish speaking country
RE	What is good and challenging about being a Muslim teenager? Exploring how faith impacts on Muslim's lives and look at the ways in which this might clash with growing up in a secular society.		What was so radical about Jesus? Exploring the importance of the actions taken by Jesus and how his ministry impacts on the lives and work of modern Christians.		How can people in Cornwall express their spirituality through the arts? Part of the Cornwall Agreed Syllabus, we explore how a person's spirituality be shown through the arts?	
PSHE	How can we achieve financial wellbeing? Investigating the benefits and strategies for effective financial planning and management, including; behaviour, attitudes, motivation and the ability to manage money on a day-to-day basis. There is also a focus on the harms and issues of gambling.		What choices do we need to make around drugs and alcohol? Exploring the laws and decisions around drugs and alcohol including the pressures and choices that young people face as they grow up.		What does the law state about discrimination and tolerance? Exploring legislation, employability and our responsibility as responsible citizens in society.	
PE	<p align="center">Building skill development and tactics through a range of sports and activities: Athletics, Basketball, Cricket, Football, Health & Fitness, Netball, Outdoor Adventurous Activities, Rounders, Rugby, Softball, Table Tennis What are the key strategies and tactics for each sport particularly in attack? How can we use the rules to outwit opponents? What are the different roles in team sport? (Depending on pathway, students will follow a selection of the sports listed above.)</p>					
Music	The Four Magic Chords Exploring the culture, history and music through different genres whilst exploring rhythmic devices through the use of guitars, ukeles and piano/keyboards.		Variations Developing dexterity across different instruments, exploring compositional devices such as harmony, expression and context through the genres of western classical and minimalist music.		Lights, Camera, Music How music technology is used to create music for film and television, whilst exploring sound effects and instrumentation through composition.	
Art	Natural Forms Experimenting with lino printing, gel-tile printing and photography as mediums to interpret the works of Blossfeldt, Angie Lewin and Earnest Haeckel		Natural Forms 3D Using the works of Halima Cassell, Peter Randall-Page and Barbara Hepworth to explore sculpture and 3D mediums.		Natural Forms Abstract Exploring the cultural and historical context of Sonia Delaunay, Piet Mondrian and O'Keefe to create expression through observational art.	
Computing	Development of Computers Exploring the development of computers over time and the impact upon bias, online safety and legislation.		Representing Data Using binary logic, converting numbers bases and measurements in rel-world scenarios.		Python Coding How to write, sequence, test and implement python coding to solve problems.	
Design Technology	Trebuchet Exploring levers, pivots and weights in mechanical design and engineering.		Market & Consumer Design Design to meet a target market. Meeting a design brief.		Electronics Incorporating electrical systems with aesthetics and ergonomic design.	
Food Technology	A Balanced Diet For All		Knead To Know		Reducing Food Waste Around The World	

	Developing knowledge of nutritional sources, functions and deficiencies to make good choices.	Developing knowledge of the techniques, ingredient functions and nutritional value of bread.	Understanding changes in the nutritional context of foods over time and exploring Mexican influences for minimising waste.
Drama	<p>Oliver Twist</p> <p>How can we use physical and vocal skills in characterisation?</p>	<p>Theatre Through Time</p> <p>Where are the origins of theatre? Exploring Greek theatre, Commedia Del Arte, Shakespeare,</p>	<p>Physical Theatre</p> <p>How do theatre practitioners use body and movement to tell a story?</p>