

Looking Ahead

2025/26

Essential Information for Parents,
Carers and Students regarding
the Return to School



Dear all

It is with absolute pleasure I write to you at the end of this extremely busy but productive summer term, and to say a huge thank you once again for all your unwavering support.

The term has seen so many highlights, Year 11 completing their public examinations in exemplary fashion and thoroughly enjoying their well-earned Leavers Assembly and Prom. Year 10 have been busy with PPEs, College Visits, and Work Experience, while Years 7 – 9 have enjoyed their Curriculum Enrichment Week over the last few days.



On top of this whole school events such as the dance show, sports day and the Awards Evening have reminded us of what a fabulous school this is, with staff constantly going the extra mile to provide wonderful opportunities for all of our incredible students.

Once again thank you for your support, and please can I just remind you about the slight change to our school day from September; students can come onto site from 8:10am, with a movement bell at 8:40am and student registration at 8:45am. Further details about the start of term are on the following pages, but for now have a wonderful summer break, and we look forward to welcoming all our students back to school in September.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Cardigan', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr Richard Cardigan
Headteacher



Welcome to Year 9 at Poltair School.

I am really looking forward to seeing you in school every day and celebrating your successes – especially your excellent attendance, a key focus for the academic year ahead. Every day in school matters and being here consistently will help you make the most of all the opportunities ahead.

I expect every student to be **‘good every day’**. That means showing respect, kindness, and making positive choices in your lessons and around school. Of course, challenges will come – but I know you have the resilience to face them head-on and keep moving forward.

Year 9 is an exciting time as you start to focus on your option choices. These decisions will play an important role in shaping your future as a young adult. I encourage you to think carefully, work hard, and make the most of every opportunity to explore your interests and talents.

I’m confident that, together, we can make this a really positive year. Let’s get started!



Mr McNally
Head of Year 9

Key Dates 2025/2026

Term will begin on Thursday 4th September 2025 for students in Years 7 & 11.

For students in Years 8, 9 & 10, term will begin on Friday 5th September 2025

INSET Days

Poltair School and CELT schools will be closed to students on the following dates:

- Monday 1st September 2025
- Tuesday 2nd September 2025
- Wednesday 3rd September 2025
- Friday 17th October 2025
- Friday 3rd July 2026

School Day - School open to students

INSET Day - School closed to students

School Holiday - School closed to students

September

MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October

MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November

MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December

MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January

MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February

MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March

MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April

MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May

MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June

MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July

MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August

MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Team Year 9



Mr McNally

Head of Year

smcnally@poltair.celtrust.org



Mrs Harvey

Pastoral Manager

charvey@poltair.celtrust.org

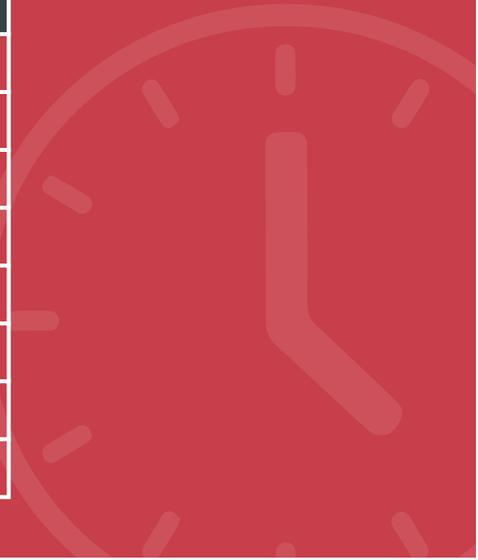
Tutor Group	Tutor	Room
9JTU	Miss Turk jturk@poltair.celtrust.org	CLC3
9KMC	Miss McWhirter kmcwhirter@poltair.celtrust.org	H1
9JED	Mr Edson jedson@poltair.celtrust.org	H3
9JBU	Dr Buchanan & Miss Freestone jbuchanan@poltair.celtrust.org	H2
9GOW	Miss Owens gowens@poltair.celtrust.org	CLC1
9DGO	Mr Goldsmith dgoldsmith@poltair.celtrust.org	CLC4
9LVI	Mr Vincent & Mrs Quinn lvincent@poltair.celtrust.org	CLC12

Where to find your tutor room



reminder that from September, our school day timings will be adjusted. The school will open at 8:10am every day and tutor time will begin at 8:45am. All other lessons and break times will stay the same.

Time	Lesson
8:45am - 9:15am	Tutor Time
9:15am - 10:30am	Lesson 1
10:30am - 11:00am	Break 1
11:00am - 12:15pm	Lesson 2
12:15pm - 1:30pm	Lesson 3
1:30pm - 2:00pm	Break 2
2:00pm - 3:15pm	Lesson 4
3:15pm - 4:15pm	Poltair+ & Masterclasses



Uniform Reminder

Please make sure that you wear plain black socks, no logos or ankle socks. Your shirt should stay tucked in all day and you must wear your tie. Your blazer should be worn at all times too. Please remember that rings, bracelets and necklaces are not allowed.

For PE, make sure you wear your reversible Poltair PE top. Girls' shorts should not be tight-fitting (so no cycling shorts). Instead, you should wear leggings or loose-fitting shorts.



Having the right equipment is essential to help students succeed in their learning. All students are expected to come to school each day with the following basic items:

- Pencil case
- Pen
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Scientific calculator (Casio Fx-85GT CW)
- School bag (big enough to hold A4 folders)
- PE Kit
- Refillable drinks bottle
- Knowledge Organiser (provided for all students)



The Importance of Summer Reading: Keep the Pages Turning This Summer!

As we head into the summer holidays, we encourage all families to support their child in maintaining regular reading habits. Just 15 to 20 minutes of daily reading can help prevent the "summer slide" where students lose some of the progress they've made during the school year. Reading improves vocabulary, imagination, focus, and empathy, and it's a brilliant way to relax and unwind without screens. Whether it's revisiting an old favourite or discovering something brand new, summer is the perfect time to reignite a love of reading.

To make it fun and accessible, we've created a 5-week Summer Reading Challenge to inspire and engage students of all interests. Happy reading!

(YA - Young Adult Fiction)

Week 1

Rediscover a favourite

Re-read a book you've loved before. That could be a comfort read like Heartstopper by Alice Oseman, The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins, or even something you loved in primary school to see how it feels now.

Try:

- Heartstopper.
- Harry Potter.
- The Hunger Games.



Week 2

Travel Without Leaving House

Choose a book that takes you somewhere new – a different culture, country, or time period. This could mean exploring identity, history, or fantasy through powerful storytelling.

Try:

- Four Eids and a Funeral a contemporary YA with cultural themes.
- Glasgow Boys, A compelling historical novel.
- I am Rebel, a bold and inspiring coming-of-age story about identity, resilience and finding your voice in a world that wants to silence it.

Week 3

Listen While You Lounge

Try an audiobook version of a great YA title. Perfect for relaxing on long car rides, during walks, or while sunbathing in the garden.

Try:

- The Reappearance of Rachel Price, a mystery with twists.
- If My Words Had Wings, a beautiful and poetic book.
- The Twilight Saga for some nostalgic paranormal drama.



Week 4

Listen While You Lounge

Try an audiobook version of a great YA title. Perfect for relaxing on long car rides, during walks, or while sunbathing in the garden.

Try:

- Apocalypse Cow, a humorous dystopian twist.
- The Dagger and the Flame, a fantasy adventure.



Week 5

Listen While You Lounge

Try an audiobook version of a great YA title. Perfect for relaxing on long car rides, during walks, or while sunbathing in the garden.

Challenge Ideas:

- Create a mini-review (video, poster, or written).
- Recommend one of your reads to the class in September.
- Design your own book cover for a story you enjoyed!



Looking Ahead at Poltair

Exciting Trips & Visits

From city breaks like London and Vienna to outdoor adventures and residentials, there's something for everyone to enjoy and explore.



Transition & Leadership Roles

Be a Transition Mentor, Sports Leader, Student Parliament Representative or part of a leadership group helping shape the future of Poltair.

Poltair+ Clubs & Masterclasses

A growing range of after-school clubs, enrichment sessions, and Masterclasses, from sports and the arts to STEM and study support.



Joyful School Events

Non-uniform days, bake sales, live performances, themed weeks, and whole-school competitions that bring the community together.

Curriculum Enrichment Week (CEW)

A whole week dedicated to trying new things, with activities such as inflatables, sports, baking, cinema trips as well as adrenaline-filled adventures.



Focused Academic Support

Whether it's Year 11 Masterclasses, KS3 Study Support, or targeted revision programmes, we're here to help every student succeed.

Award & Celebration Events

From termly rewards to the big end-of-year Awards Evening, students will be recognised for their effort, character, and success.



Confidence-Boosting Opportunities

From performing in assemblies, taking part in competitions and showcases, students will have chances to step out of their comfort zones and shine.

Sporting Opportunities

Compete in local leagues, represent Poltair in tournaments, or get involved in new sports with help from expert coaches and visiting athletes.



Strong Tutor & Pastoral Support

Daily check-ins, dedicated tutor time, and access to wellbeing resources help students feel confident, supported, and ready to learn.

Coming Soon!

Introducing the **Poltair Student Parliament**

Involve | Ignite | Inspire

Formally known as the Student Council



September 2025

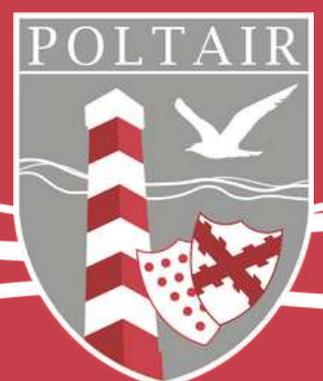
Poltair+

Our exciting new interactive booklet will be launched soon!

Offering a wide range of clubs and activities, aimed to build confidence & character



Art | Book Club | Chess Club | Choir | Debate Club | Duke of Edinburgh Award | Film Club | Handball | History | Instrument Club | Minecraft Netball | Poltair Unfiltered | Rugby | School of Rock School Production | Science Club | Sport Academy | Ten Tors | Textiles Young Enterprise





Poltair School

Safeguarding Team



Mrs Spurgeon

Designated Safeguarding Lead
& Assistant Headteacher



Mrs Heale

Operational Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Harvey

Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Brammer

Safeguarding Team Member



Miss Taylor

Safeguarding Team Member



Mrs Parsons

Safeguarding Administrator

We recognise our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils. We endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued. We are alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and follow our procedures to ensure that children receive effective support, protection and justice.

Our aim is to provide a safe and secure environment for Pupils, Staff and Visitors. If you have any concerns regarding the safety of a child please ensure you report it to a member of the safeguarding team or contact Reception.

If your concern is of immediate harm or outside of school hours, please report to the Police or MARU.

Agencies

Emergency Services: 999

Devon and Cornwall Police: 101

Cornwall Children's Multi-Agency Referral Unit (MARU):
0300 1231 116

Childline: 0800 111

Contact

dsl@poltair.celtrust.org

Support Organisations



**In an emergency,
call 999**



Worried about a child?

Multi-agency Referral Unit (MARU)

0300 123 1116

Out-of-hours number 01208 251 300

multiagencyreferralunit@cornwall.gov.uk



Support for children and young people is available from

Cornwall's Early Help Hub

(01872) 322 277

earlyhelpclub@cornwall.gov.uk

NSPCC
0808 800 5000



Cornwall



Citizens Advice Cornwall who will be able to issue you with a **food bank voucher** - call 0800 144 8848 (closed 23 December to 01 January)

Financial support or advice for single parents
0808 802 0925
www.gingerbread.org.uk



YOUNG MINDS

Support young people with the tools to look after their mental health
Parents helpline (closed 25 - 01 January)
0808 802 5544
Young person - Text SHOUT to 85258



free, safe & anonymous advice at kooth.com

shout
85258

"It's alright to ask for help"

SAMARITANS

116 123



0800 58 58 58
Helpline for men
open 5pm - midnight
www.thecalmzone.net

SAFER

FUTURES

Ending Abuse in Cornwall & Isles of Scilly

0300 777 4 777
Mon-Fri 9am-8pm
Sat- 9am-1pm

HOPELINE247
0800 068 41 41
TEXT: 88247



Young People Cornwall
Support for young people aged 11 to 25
23, 24, 27, 30 & 31 Dec
3pm - 6pm
youngpeoplecornwall.org



LEARNING TOGETHER
CORNWALL EDUCATION LEARNING TRUST