



# Poltair School

Prospectus 2023-2024

[www.poltairschool.co.uk](http://www.poltairschool.co.uk) | 01726 874520 | @poltairschool









## Welcome to Poltair School

It is my great privilege to welcome you to Poltair School. Our school is steeped in history and is at the heart of the St. Austell community. What makes Poltair a special place is its young people; this is a school where children thrive & grow. **Our mission is to ensure that every child leaves school with the confidence and character to take charge of their futures and reach their potential.** We will challenge them to be the very best that they can be. We provide a wealth of learning opportunities and experiences that develop their confidence and character. We expect the best from our students.

We expect them to be model citizens in every way, from the way they act to how they dress. We instil in them the confidence and resilience that will set them up for the very brightest of futures.

### Mr Mark Everett, Headteacher

**We are transforming the lives of the young people in our care. We create a safe, calm and focussed learning environment for all learners to flourish in. At Poltair school, children grow in confidence & character to become proud, ambitious and successful young people. They are empowered to embrace life's opportunities & to be resilient to its challenges.**



## Why Poltair School?

Poltair has been through a rapid, transformational journey since joining the Cornwall Education Learning Trust. We now offer a truly unique and exemplary provision for families in the St. Austell area.

Poltair is a school where so much is happening. We're constantly upgrading our facilities to create the best learning environment possible for our students. Our state-of-the-art learning spaces for Art, DT, Catering, Music, Drama and Vocational Studies opened this year, alongside our recently upgraded Library, placing a wonderful collection of books at the heart of the school ; to reflect the importance reading has within the Poltair experience.

Alongside these substantial upgrades to the Poltair buildings and facilities, we have also introduced some exciting and pioneering changes to our teaching & learning offer. The school saw its best GCSE results in history this summer and with the development of both curriculum delivery and enrichment experiences, there really couldn't be a better time to be considering Poltair School.











## Student Experience

A child's experience in school is more than just what is taught. We have designed our curriculum to provide opportunities for creativity and success, whilst ensuring that students are adequately challenged. To develop a child's resilience in an everchanging world, it is important that they have the chance to make mistakes in a supportive environment. We aim for our students to grow and develop into valued members of society, who are prepared to take on challenges, unafraid of failure, with the determination and perseverance to make the most of life.





## Teaching & Learning

Teaching and learning is at the heart of everything that we do at Poltair. Students are taught by expert teachers who have excellent subject knowledge. Lessons are characterised by calm, purposeful learning environments where students are challenged to think and question. Our teachers receive regular professional development so that the quality of teaching is of the highest priority and students benefit from teachers who are constantly striving to be the very best. As a result, every student at Poltair School experiences high standards of teaching so that their learning is engaging and inspiring and leads to them achieving excellent outcomes.





## Reading

We are incredibly proud to have implemented a thriving reading programme on a grand scale. The energy and commitment invested by each member of staff has, and will, continue to reap huge gains, both on an academic and a pastoral level.

**When?** Every day during tutor registration time

**Where?** In tutor bases

**How?** Trained tutors read to their tutees, who track the text with a ruler

**Which texts?** Texts have been extremely carefully selected, to address age-appropriate key themes, offering challenge to support your child's learning journey.

**Why?** There is growing evidence in the field of education, to suggest that the act of reading is one of the best ways in which you can improve academic performance in the long-term.



### Key benefits of reading together:

1. A social experience that builds a sense of community and belonging
2. Regular modelling of fluent, passionate reading delivered by tutors
3. Exposure to countless words and phrases not found in everyday dialogue
4. Coverage of a wealth of themes and concepts, valuable for personal development
5. On-going improvement in independent reading skills





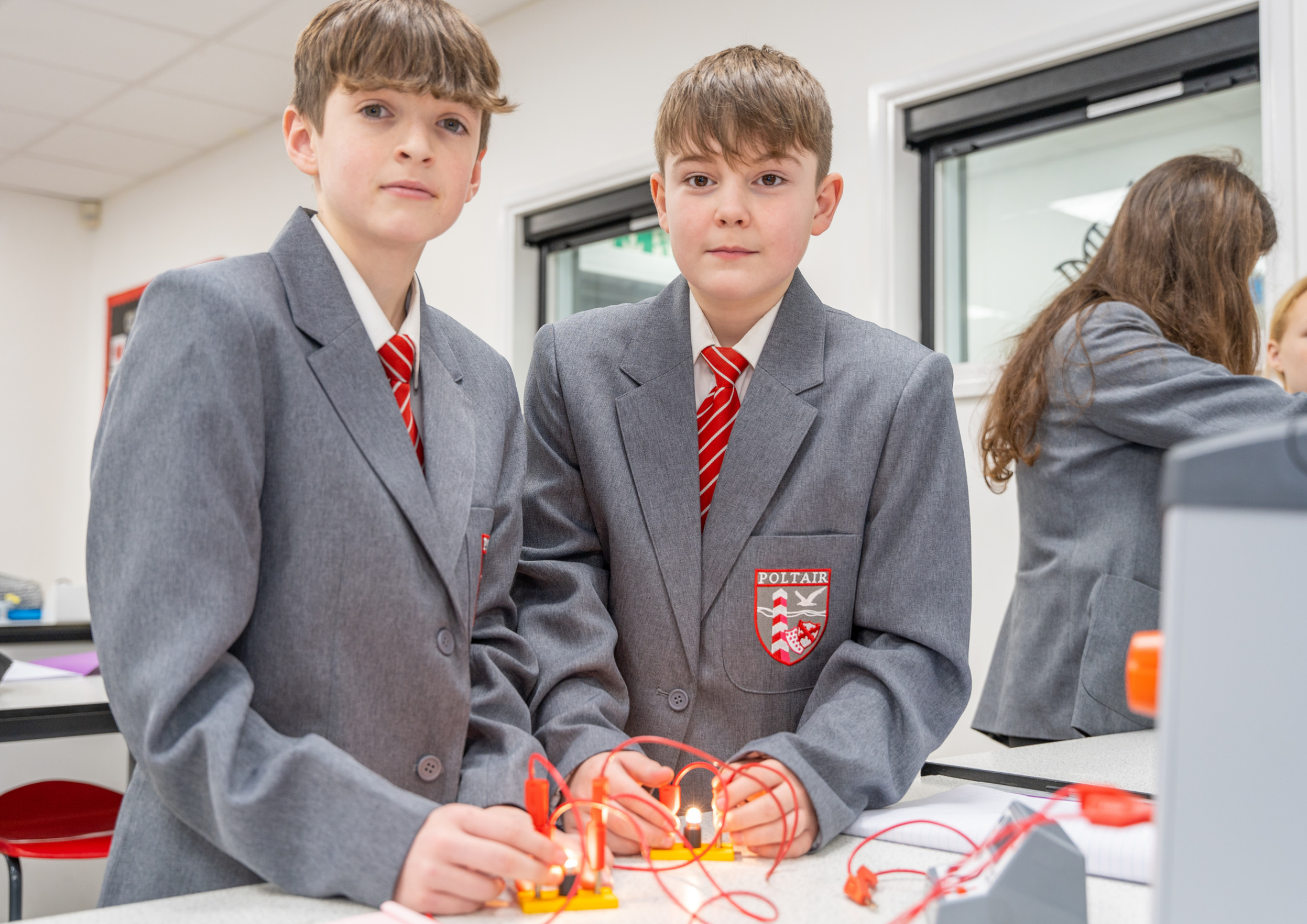
## Enrichment

Through Poltair Plus we offer a vast range of after-school activities for children to get involved in. A sample of the activities on offer is listed below, with more and more added as staff or students suggest them. Wherever possible, we provide additional transport for these.

**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**

On top of Poltair Plus, we offer a broad programme of enrichment such as visiting Plymouth Aquarium, the Imperial War Museum in London, West End theatre shows, Exeter Chiefs, visits from authors, charitable activities such as Cornwall Hospice Care Santa Fun Run to name just a few.











## Support

### Special Educational Needs:

Some students require additional support to ensure they are able to reach their full potential. For some, this may be an identified learning need, for others it might be a social or emotional need. Whether students require short or long term support, the interventions are tailored to the individual needs of the student.

### Pastoral Support:

Our pastoral system is designed to ensure that every child gets the support and challenge they need, when they need it. Meeting the needs of the children is paramount to their success. Sometimes, the support may be about ensuring they try their best - our behaviour system is very clear, to ensure that every child works to maintain the calm and focussed learning environment we have. Sometimes it may be support in confidence or other areas that is needed. Whatever it is, the pastoral system is there for them, to make sure their experience of school is positive and they feel safe.

Before your child even gets to Poltair, our transition team will be working with their primary school, to make sure they are known before they even set foot in the building.

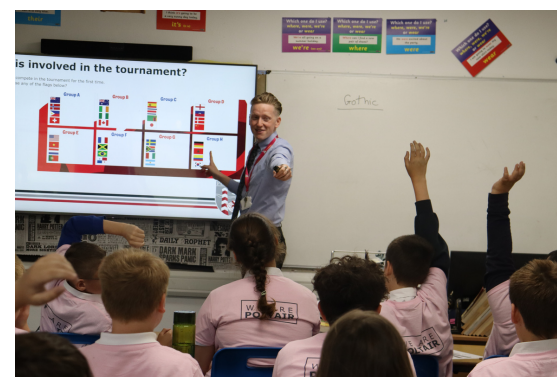






## Transition

Selecting a Secondary School, and then making the move from Primary to Secondary, can be a daunting process for many children and their parents/ guardians. That's why we feel it's really important to help Year 6 students be as prepared as possible for the move. At Poltair, we hold several welcome events throughout the school year. There are two 'Welcome Afternoons' (for parents and students) and two induction days where the young people will spend time in their new tutor groups and school setting before the summer holiday and their start in the September. We produce a welcome pack for the students and their parents, as well as online content, to answer any questions and address any concerns. The term starts with a Year 7 Induction Day, focused on helping the students build new friendships and learn their way around, followed by an Activity Day.







## Results

We are exceptionally proud of the hard work and dedication our Year 11 students showed last year. Despite the turmoil and disruption of the Covid pandemic, they rose to the challenge of the first proper GCSE examinations in three years, with maturity and confidence, achieving the best GCSE results in our school's history! Students made significantly better progress across all measures.

Our Class of 23 have shown huge confidence and character by rising to every challenge given to them and achieving incredible individual results. We are immensely proud of their achievements and the tireless work of colleagues. This set of results evidences the enormous improvements that have been made at the school.













**Thank you** for taking the time to look through our prospectus. We would be delighted to welcome you into the school for an in-person visit. Our Open Evening on Thursday, 28th September 2023 will give you an opportunity to have a look around the school, visit the departments, meet the students and staff and ask any questions you might have.

If you would like to see what a typical day at Poltair looks like, then we encourage you to book onto one of our 45 minute tours, running at 2:15pm daily from Monday, 2nd until Friday, 13th October 2023. To book onto a tour, to arrange one at a different time or to ask any other questions please email: [secretary@poltaire.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:secretary@poltaire.cornwall.sch.uk)

We hope to see you soon.

To apply for a place at Poltair, please follow the local authority's application process.







## Building Confidence & Character



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**Cornwall Education Learning Trust**