

Year 8

Key Information for parents and carers about what
students are learning this term

Spring Term 2026 Edition



Teaching and Learning:

New beginnings for the Spring Term

The start of the spring term marks an important moment of renewal and reflection. It is a time to reset routines, refocus ambitions and build positively on the learning already secured this year. At The Roseland, we use this new beginning to reaffirm our commitment to a challenging, knowledge-rich curriculum that supports every student to achieve their full potential.

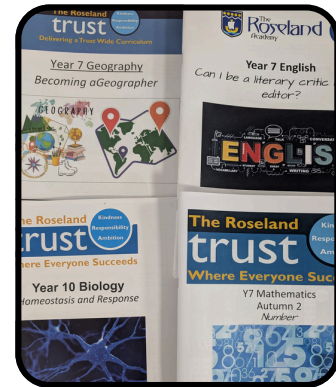
High expectations sit at the heart of our approach to teaching and learning. We believe that all students, regardless of starting point, deserve access to ambitious subject content that stretches their thinking and deepens their understanding. Our curriculum is carefully sequenced (set out in a Learning journey for every subject) so that new knowledge builds logically on what has come before, helping students to make meaningful connections and retain learning over time.

A key feature of classroom learning across The Roseland is the use of bespoke subject booklets. These booklets bring together carefully selected curriculum content, key explanations, reading and tasks in one place. Rather than switching between textbooks, worksheets and exercise books, students work directly in their booklets, allowing them to focus fully on learning by reducing cognitive load.

Booklets are highly effective because they support consistency and challenge. Teachers use them to model high-quality responses under visualisers, guide students through complex ideas and provide structured opportunities for practice. Students can see how their learning develops over a sequence of lessons, making it easier to revisit prior knowledge and build confidence. Importantly, booklets ensure that our students are engaging with the same high-quality material, while teachers adapt their questioning and support to meet individual needs.

As we embark on the spring term, students are encouraged to approach their learning with a renewed sense of purpose. Teachers are reinforcing clear routines and positive learning behaviours so that lessons remain calm, focused and productive. Mistakes and misconceptions are valued as part of the learning process and students are supported to reflect on feedback and take responsibility for improving their work.

We are proud of the commitment our students show each day and grateful for the continued support of parents and carers. By working together and embracing the opportunities of this new term, we can ensure that all students make strong progress and continue to grow as confident, capable learners.



Click on the image to open our curriculum page



Wellbeing and Belonging

Attendance at School

Thank you to parents and carers for your continued support in helping us maintain attendance above the national average last term. Regular school attendance is essential for students' learning, wellbeing and long-term success. Every lesson builds on the last, and even short or repeated absences can quickly create gaps in understanding that are difficult to close. Being in school every day also supports strong routines, positive relationships and a sense of belonging, all of which help students to feel confident and ready to learn.

POOR SLEEP HABITS

Sixty-eight percent of teens bring their devices to bed, and nearly a third fall asleep with their phones. Thirty six percent of teens wake up and check their mobile device at least once a night for a reason other than checking the time.



Sleep routines

We encourage families to aim for consistent bedtimes and wake-up times throughout the school week, as regular routines support healthy sleep patterns. Avoiding screens for at least an hour before bedtime can also help students settle more easily and get the rest they need to be ready for learning the next day.

Screen time

We encourage regular conversations with your child about their online activity, clear boundaries around screen time and privacy, and the use of parental controls on devices and apps. Reminding students to think carefully about what they share and to speak to a trusted adult if they feel uncomfortable helps to build safe and responsible online habits. responsible online habits.

SIX TO NINE HOURS PER DAY!

School-age children spend more time with screens - television, video games, computers, tablets and phones - than any other activity but sleeping. That adds up to 114 full days of screen time each year.



MENTAL HEALTH IMPACTS

Kids who log more screen time experience lower psychological well-being. Among kids 14-17, high users of screens were more than twice as likely to have been diagnosed with depression or anxiety and have a higher rate of obsessive-compulsive disorder diagnoses.



Mental health

If you have any concerns about sleep, screen use or anxiety, please contact your child's tutor in the first instance so that we can work together to support them. Thank you for your continued support.

Together, we will ensure every student feels safe, supported and ambitious on their Roseland journey and beyond!



Tutor Reading in Year 8

The Roseland Tutor Reading Programme

We believe reading should be enjoyable and firmly embedded in the daily life of our school. We read together because it matters and it makes a difference. As part of our commitment to developing confident, lifelong readers, all tutor groups take part in Tutor Reading during tutor time. This year is the National Year of Reading, and we believe reading is a vital skill that supports learning across every subject, as well as wellbeing, imagination and communication beyond school.

During Tutor Reading, pupils read one of a rotation of five carefully chosen books together as a group. Either the tutor reads aloud or pupils listen to a high-quality audiobook, while everyone follows along with the text. This shared approach ensures that all pupils can access and enjoy the story, regardless of reading confidence, and helps build a positive, inclusive reading culture.

Research shows that hearing fluent reading aloud improves vocabulary, comprehension and reading stamina. Tutor Reading also encourages discussion, develops listening skills and allows pupils to experience books they might not otherwise choose to read independently.

If you would like to read the book that your child is reading in tutor time, please ask them which book they are reading from the selection below.



Support reading from home

Reading for just 20 minutes every day builds vocabulary, improves understanding and strengthens concentration. It supports success across all subjects, boosts confidence and reduces stress. A short daily reading habit at home makes a significant difference to academic progress, wellbeing and long-term life chances.



Supporting Ambition: Learning Across the Curriculum in the Spring Term

Message from the Year 8 Learning Leader

As we move into the spring term, we wish all Year 8 students a happy, safe and ambitious 2026. This is a crucial year for developing independence, cementing routines and building resilience, and we look forward to supporting all students to rise to these challenges. We look forward to working closely with families to support strong progress and positive choices.

Subject	Current Topic	Next Topic
Art	Flora and Fauna' a printmaking project.	This project will last the rest of the term
Catering	Healthy Eating Re-visiting safety in the kitchen	Producing meals and continuing learning new cooking skills.
Computer science	Graphic Design - using Inkscape software to create logos, icons, and typography.	Python Coding - building on the coding learned in Y7 to write increasingly complex applications.
English	Novel Study of 'Ghost Boys'	Shakespeare's 'The Tempest'
Geography	Africa and Kenya	Tropical rainforests
History	The Industrial Revolution	The Slave Trade
Maths	Algebraic thinking	Developing number
MFL	Diet	Pastimes
Music	The legacy of the Blues Music	Guitar skills
PE	Boys = Football - Girls = Rugby - Mixed = Trampolining	Boys = Badminton - Girls = Cross Country/O.Ed - Mixed = Football
PSHE	Developing enterprise skills	RSE content: What is consent?
Resistant materials	Using computer aided design to control a plotter and laser cutter	Using computer aided design to control a 3d printer
Science	Health & Disease	Bioenergetics

How you can support learning at home

- Ask your child to explain what they have learned in each subject.
- Encourage independent organisation of equipment and deadlines.
- Support regular revision of key knowledge and vocabulary.
- Reinforce positive study habits and resilience when learning feels challenging.





Extra-curricular clubs

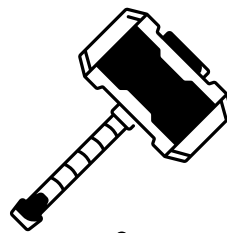
#teamroseland

Extra-Curricular Clubs - Spring 2026



Morning Break & Lunchtime Clubs

Day	Time	Club	Year Group	Description	Lead staff	Room	Start Date
Mondays and Tuesdays	Morning break	Farm Club	All years	Gardening and maintenance around the farm - weather dependant - all welcome!	Miss Bone & Mrs Taylor	Farm	12/01/26
Mondays 'A' weeks only	Lunchtime	Art for Self-Expression	All years	Art club exploring self expression through a range of media	Mrs Hicks	Room 28	12/01/26
Tuesday	Morning break	Drawing Club	All Years	Drawing club for all abilities - do you enjoy drawing? Come along to explore your love of drawing and be inspired!	Ms Warburton	Room 28	06/01/26
Tuesday & Friday	Morning Break	Dance Club	All Years	All ages and abilities are welcome to join us for dance club!	Mrs Case	Sports Hall	06/01/26
Wednesday	Morning break	Jazz Band	All Years	Musicians welcome from all year groups!	Mr Fox	Room 23	14/01/26
Wednesday 'B' weeks only	Lunchtime	Vibe Coding Club	All Years	Coding club - if you have an idea for an app then come along and build it! Just drop in or see Mr Jones for more information.	Mr Jones	Room 25	21/01/26
Thursday	Morning Break	Ukulele Club	Year 7	Musical fun with ukuleles! Instruments provided, all abilities and complete beginners welcome!	Mr Fox	Room 23	15/01/26
Friday	Lunchtime	Law Club	Years 9, 10 & 11	Learning about English laws and legal jobs - all welcome!	Mrs Toms	Room 15	16/01/26
Friday	Morning break	Samba Band	All years	Samba drumming & percussion club - instruments provided, all abilities and beginners welcome... See Mr Fox or Miss Polley to join, or just drop in on a Friday lunchtime!	Mr Mitchell	Room 23	Starting soon



After School Clubs

Day	Time	Club	Year Group	Description	Lead staff	Room	Start Date
Monday	3.05 - 4.15pm	Clay Club	Years 9, 10 & 11	Creative clay club open to all abilities	Ms Warburton	R28	12.01.26
Tuesday	3.05 - 4.15pm	Badminton Club	All Years	All ages and abilities welcome! PE Kit required.	Mrs Case	Sports Hall	13.01.26
Tuesday	3.05 - 4.15pm	Rugby Club	All Years	All welcome! PE Kit required.	Mr Hooper	Sports Hall/Fields	13.01.26
Tuesday	3.05 - 5.00pm	Art Open studio	Years 10 & 11	Art open studio	Miss Palmer	R28	06.01.26
Wednesday	3.05 - 4.15pm	Football Club	All Years	All welcome! PE Kit required.	Mr Davidson	Sports Hall/Fields	14.01.26
Wednesday	3.05 - 4.15pm	Girls Football Club	All Years	All girls welcome! PE Kit required.	Mrs Dove	Sports Hall/Fields	14.01.26
Wednesday	3.05 - 4.15pm	Years 9, 10 & 11	Years 10 & 11	Photography Club - all welcome!	Ms Capron	Room 24	07.01.26
Wednesday	3.05 - 4.15pm	Warhammer Club	All Years	Warhammer Club - paint & play!	Ms Capron	Room 24	07.01.26
Wednesday	3.05 - 4.00pm	Greenpower	All years	Electric racing car - for interschool challenge (limited numbers)	Mr Seyler	Room 27	07.01.26
Thursday	3.05 - 4.15pm	Trampoline Club	All Years	All welcome! PE Kit required.	Mr Hooper	Sports Hall	15.01.26
Thursday	3.05 - 4.15pm	Fitness Club	All Years	Fitness training open to all year groups - see Mr Avery for more details.	Mr Avery	Sports Hall	15.01.26
Thursday	3.05 - 4.15pm	Eco Club	All years	Help our school and local community become more environmentally friendly	Mrs Tomusk	Hub 1	21.01.26
Thursday	3.05 - 4.05pm	Art Open studio	Years 10 & 11	Art open studio	Miss Palmer	R28	08.01.26
Friday	3.05 - 4.15pm	Squad Netball Training	* Selected students only	Selected students from Years 7-10. PE kit required.	Mrs Case	Sports Hall	16.01.26
Friday	3.05 - 4.15pm	Roseland Band	Years 7, 8 & 9	For young musicians who play woodwind, strings, brass or keys. Please see Mr Fox or Miss Polley to sign up.	Mr Douglas & Ms Polley	Room 23	23.01.26

A huge WELL DONE to all participants for their ambition, determination and team spirit.

KINDNESS - AMBITION - RESPONSIBILITY



IN-SCHOOL EVENTS



Below is a snapshot of exciting events happening in school this term! Students involved will be informed of dates and details by their teachers.

Year 7

Reading - Uncovering how music and lyrics tell stories that matter - Jeffrey Boakye
Maths - Coachbright Maths mentoring graduation at Plymouth University
Reading - Books and Stories graduation at Falmouth University

Year 8

Reading - Uncovering how music and lyrics tell stories that matter - Jeffrey Boakye
Reading - Books and Stories graduation at Falmouth University

Year 9

Careers Advice and guidance - Speakers for schools - Advertising
Careers Advice and guidance - Options process

Year 10

Careers Advice and guidance - Speakers for schools - Advertising
Media - Film school with St Austell College
Drama - Shakespeare workshop with Minack Theatre
Art - Creative careers webinar - Lifestyle, fashion and design.
Maths - Coachbright Maths mentoring graduation at Plymouth University

Year 11

Media - Film school with St Austell College
Rewards Trip to Thorpe Park (in planning TBC!)

Whole school

Dance - Hall for Cornwall Dance and Drama showcase 'Kernow Rising'.
Reading - World Book Day!

PLEASE ALWAYS CHECK THE SCHOOL WEBSITE OR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR ANY EVENT UPDATES.



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