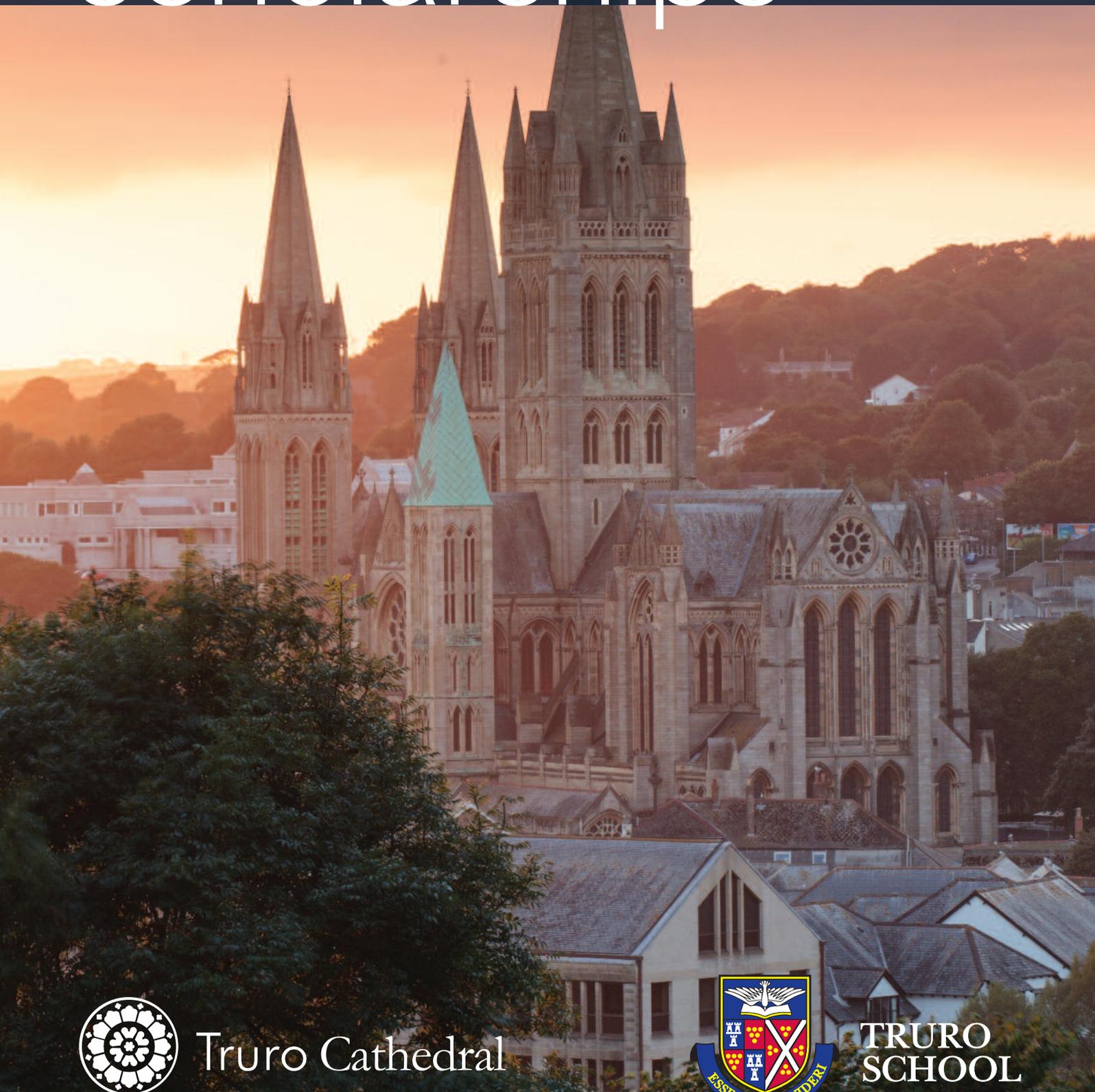


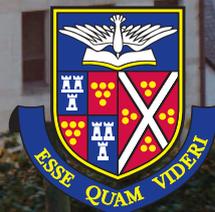
TRURO CATHEDRAL

boy chorister scholarships

8–13 years



Truro Cathedral



TRURO
SCHOOL

What is the Cathedral Choir?

Truro Cathedral Choir consists of 18 boy choristers, 18 girl choristers and 12 adult professional singers.

The boy choristers (aged 8 to 13) and girl choristers (aged 13 to 18) are distinct groups with their own musical and social identities; they only occasionally sing together, for some of the biggest services and concerts.

All of the singers are auditioned and prioritise in their lives the choir's busy schedule of commitments which includes services, broadcasts, CD recordings and foreign tours.

Truro Cathedral has had a choir since it first opened its doors in 1887 and the current choristers are custodians of this precious piece of Cornwall's cultural heritage.

Boys entering the choir in 2017 will be educated at Truro Prep School and receive 25% scholarships. These scholarships are towards the school's fees and can be supplemented by means-tested bursaries if required.

What are the benefits of being a chorister?

Performing music by great composers with an outstanding choir directed by specialist professional musicians in one of the South West's finest buildings.

Taking part in live broadcasts for television and radio, CD recordings and foreign tours.

Receiving scholarships and possibly bursaries towards fees at Truro Prep School.

Developing leadership skills in a supportive environment with a great deal of individual attention.

Working as part of a close team with a special purpose and strong sense of identity.

Do I have to be religious?

There is no requirement to have experience of Anglican worship of traditions but families must be comfortable with the cathedral's ethos.

Those who wish to be confirmed into the Church of England will, of course, have that opportunity but this is not an essential part of the choir's duties.



What scholarships and bursaries are available?

The choristers are educated at Truro Prep School where they receive a 25% scholarship which can be supplemented by a means-tested additional bursary with the aim that selection is based purely on ability.

Bursaries will aim to make the school fees affordable for applicants of any financial background, but parents will be expected to make some sacrifices. Bursaries are reviewed annually and will be adjusted if parental circumstances change. Truro Cathedral's Director of Operations will be pleased to discuss this aspect of a chorister application at any stage.

Music at Truro Prep School and Truro School

Music plays a key role in the wide and varied curriculum at Truro Prep School where the ethos is that education should take place both in and outside the classroom.

In 2015 Truro Prep School's Chamber Choir were awarded Best Performance at the National Music for Youth Festival. More recently, the school's chamber choir took to the main stage at the Llangollen International Music Festival as they performed in the Children's Choir of the World competition.

As your child grows and progresses up to the senior school in Year 7 they will be surrounded by other high-achieving musicians and be presented with a wealth of opportunities, enabling them to further develop their potential. In the last academic year 15 pupils passed their Grade 8 ABRSM exams and a further 5 pupils gained their DipABRSM diplomas. Masterclasses and workshops also take place with the country's top performers.

What is the time commitment?

The boys rehearse every weekday morning from around 8am.

There is a two-week pattern for singing services at the cathedral, as follows:

Week A: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 4.40pm rehearsal for 5.30pm service, (finished by around 6.10pm). Additional 5-6pm Tuesday rehearsals possible. Sunday services at 10am and 4pm, with rehearsals from 8.50am and 3.15pm respectively.

Week B: Monday Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 4.40pm rehearsal for 5.30pm service; no Sunday duties.

In addition to these core duties, the choir sings services at Christmas and Easter as well as concerts at churches in Cornwall. Occasionally there is a foreign tour during the Easter or summer holiday. A full schedule is published well in advance.



Who can apply?

Auditions are held annually for boys in Year 3. Boys normally enter the choir at the start of Year 4 though occasionally there are spaces in other years.

Boys from any school can apply, though if successful, they would have to move to Truro Prep School.

How does the selection process work?

The official chorister auditions take place annually at Truro Prep School.

Experienced staff from the cathedral and school assess each application carefully to decide whether a chorister place is right for the child and for the choir.

Boys can sing a short piece of music (for example, a verse from 'Away in a Manger') if they wish. They will be assessed on their voice, reading skills, ear and general aptitude (for example, concentration and commitment).

Boys must pass the school's independent assessment which will be given at the same time as the chorister auditions. At this very young age it is musical potential rather than ability that is being tested.

How can I find out more or apply?

Truro Cathedral's Director of Music or the Head of Truro Prep School will be happy to meet and listen to a boy at any time of year to give informal advice.

Sarah Patterson

Head of Truro Prep, Highertown

Truro, Cornwall, TR1 3QN

Tel 01872 243120

prepadmissions@truroschool.com

www.truroschool.com

Christopher Gray

Director of Music, Truro Cathedral,

14 St Mary's Street, Truro, Cornwall, TR1 2AF

Tel 01872 245004

christophergray@trurocathedral.org.uk

www.trurocathedral.org.uk

www.truroschool.com

