



TRURO SCHOOL PUBLIC BENEFIT AND CHARITABLE ACTIVITY REPORT 2015-16

Objective 5 of Truro School's Strategic Plan is: "To be celebrated as a socially and environmentally responsible member of the Cornish community." This report outlines the range of activities undertaken by the school and its staff to support the local and wider community.

Financial Support to families of Pupils at Truro School

Truro School is committed to keeping its doors open to as many students as possible from the local community who will benefit from a Truro School education, regardless of the financial means of their parents. Scholarships (academic, sport, music, art, fencing, drama and chorister) are merit based but are small in value, usually 10%. However, bursaries are available which may provide financial support up to a maximum of 100%, dependent on the outcome of means-testing. Special emergency discretionary bursaries can also be awarded, usually for a limited time, when unforeseen financial difficulties arise for those parents whose children are currently in the School. These special bursaries are generally awarded for a key period of education such as completion of GCSEs or A Levels.

When available, places are found in the boarding accommodation to overcome a domestic or family crisis.

Funding for these bursaries comes from Truro School, the Truro School Foundation, Methodist Independent Schools Trust and some external Educational and Charitable Trusts.

Benefits to Local Community

The pupils' Community Service Scheme involves Truro School pupils helping with the elderly, young children at nurseries and in charity shops.

The School Chaplain leads services throughout the county (including the Royal Cornwall Hospital) as a Minister of the Methodist Church and other staff are lay preachers in the community.

Prep School children visit Langholme, Methodist Home for the Aged in Falmouth to chat and sing to them. The Pre-Prep children prepared a Christmas window for the Methodist Church.

The Sustainability Committee has promoted a programme of recycling around the school along with a reduction of our carbon footprint. A significant impact on the latter has been made through a systematic installation of high efficiency LED lighting in the Burrell Theatre and English Department classrooms. Tree planting has taken place at the prep school in conjunction with the Woodland Trust. We also hosted the Sustainability Awards at Truro School.

There are many examples of Truro School staff giving their time generously and voluntarily to help support local community projects. Truro School is fortunate to attract such talented staff that are willing to commit their time beyond the school campus. For example:

- Hosting a regular magazine slot on Cornwall Hospital Radio, interviewing local authors and also involving pupils from Truro and other schools reciting their own poetry.
- A level 4 coach and former England U18 group rugby coach providing free weekly coaching services to Falmouth Rugby Club.
- Training boys' rugby teams at Falmouth RFC, using the experience gained developing coaching skills whilst teaching at Truro School.
- Two coaches of a local netball club, one of whom is also Chair of Cornwall Netball; she has recently been awarded a Cornwall lifetime Sports Award and has been nominated for the BBC Unsung Hero Award 2016.
- An FA Coach Mentor, Cornwall U18 football manager who has helped set up Cornwall FA football camps across the County; voluntary coaching extends to St Dennis, Newquay, Ludgvan, Biscovey and Saltash football clubs and provision of FA coaching workshops for coaches to gain CPD hours.
- An RNLI lifeguard who provides First Aid training to external groups, life-guard training and assessing.
- Our Director of Music provides voluntary organ playing to the Cornwall Organists' Association, Truro Cathedral and All Saints' Church in Falmouth
- The Head of the Cornwall Music Service Trust voluntarily runs the St Keverne band which comprises over 100 musicians.

Educational Schemes and Partnerships

The Cornwall Sixth Forms Together (CSFT) initiative has seen Truro School hosting workshops for teachers to help share best practice and provide the benefit of our own teachers' expertise. In 2015-16 we hosted and ran an A Level Chemistry day for sixth form teachers along with Oxbridge events. There has also been collaboration regarding Oxbridge and Medics, Vets and Dentist applications with Truro School hosting mock interviews. Truro School brought in representatives from the Institute of Chartered Accountants for England and Wales to run a one-day Business and Accounting Challenge session. Business Departments from each of the CSFT schools were invited to bring Year 10 and/or Year 12 team(s) and a teacher to participate.

Since 2012 we have run a Junior School Challenge which is a day of competitive activities hosted at Truro School. Year 5 pupils from local junior schools are invited and they compete in activities contextualised by a different theme each year; for example science, art and design, computing, mathematics, geography and history.

Since 2013 we have run an annual ethics conference *The Only Way is Ethics*. We invite teachers and gifted Year 11 RS students from local schools to hear the talks and to collaborate in the follow-up seminar discussions.

In 2016 we launched a Year 6 Activity Morning in November – an opportunity for boys and girls to try out lessons that they would not experience at their junior schools, specifically physics and chemistry experiments, looking at geology, dissections and working with our Heads of Departments.

The Physics Department is the hub for the first Ogden Physics Partnership in Cornwall; funded by the Ogden Trust and working with five local maintained schools and another independent school. The aim is to share expertise and resources, provide INSET training for teachers and technicians and collaborate on projects to enhance physics teaching and learning. Pupil events and teacher and technician workshops are hosted at our own school and at other

schools in our partnership. Plasma Physics Talk hosted by Truro School for students from Falmouth School and Richard Lander. Humphry Davy Essay prize for year 10 and Year 12 students; 1500 word essay celebrating Cornish Science, followed by a viva voce talk from the top 10 essay finalists at Truro School; this was followed by a dinner for pupils and parents of the finalists and an award presentation by a guest adjudicator. Students came from Truro School, Truro High School, Camborne Science & International Academy, Falmouth School, Humphry Davy School, Mounts Bay Academy and Richard Lander School. Our Physics department also ran a series of four weekly revision classes to Penair School students.

There was also a collaboration with Torbay Boys' Grammar for Oxbridge and mock interviews. Students travelled to Torquay for the mock interviews, accompanied by Truro School staff who carried out interviews for their students.

In October 2015 Truro School hosted a Study Abroad Fair which brought together 35 universities from around the world to exhibit their universities and admissions processes through stands and a lecture series; open to pupils and parents from our own and all other Cornish senior schools.

Our Sixth Formers, who were involved in the Community Sports Leadership Award, assisted with community events under the direction and supervision of The Cornwall Sports Partnership. Roles included umpiring, scoring and organising games and rotas.

The Prep School is now involved in an Independent State Schools Partnership project to promote ICT and computer coding in junior schools. This has involved pupil workshops on coding and teacher INSET on use of the Raspberry Pi.

Our Senior School Dodd Library team annually invite professional authors to give talks and provide writing workshops. In some cases, they are local Cornish authors, which helps to boost their book sales. The librarians also invite local state schools to benefit from these events. In 2015-16, the *Horrible Science* author, Nick Arnold, gave a lecture and book-signing to 60 pupils from Shortlanesend, Chacewater and St Mary's Penzance.

The Art, Music and Drama Departments work extensively within the community with teaching and technician staff volunteering their time and forging links with schools in the maintained sector, in particular during the *Truro Schools Art Festival* when other senior schools come together at Truro School to jointly prepare their exhibitions. In January 2016 our art technician set up a weekend ceramics workshop for local school children. The Art Department also began an exciting partnership link with Falmouth University. We have exhibited Falmouth Art students' degree work in our Heseltine Gallery and also hosted a Peninsula Medical degree art show as part of the Art Department's collaborative work with the junior doctors from the Peninsula Medical School. They are required to produce creative artwork to help develop empathy, think creatively outside the box and build character through working outside their comfort zone.

Our musicians play free of charge at numerous events around the county, including but not exclusively:

- Chamber Orchestra joined school and staff ensembles to play at St Agnes Methodist Church, raising funds for Release International, the voice of persecuted Christians. This charity provides pastoral care and practical support for families.
- Performing at the Mayor of Truro's Annual Charity Music Concert (also hosted by Truro School).



- Free concerts have taken place in All Saints Church Falmouth, St Marys Penzance, St Michaels Newquay, Truro Cathedral, Truro Methodist Church, One Day One Choir World Peace Day, Carol Singing at Cathedral View Home.

Truro School provides an exam base for ABRSM practical exams. The music School facilities are used by Cornwall Concert Orchestra, Cornwall Youth Orchestra, Cornwall Youth Brass Ensemble, South West Music, National Youth Choirs, Truro Choral Society, IMS, The Sixteen.

The Cornwall Music Service Trusts (CMST) is now hosted in offices at Truro School. The Head of Service, Gareth Churcher, manages 100 peripatetic music teachers, delivering a music service to 82% of all Cornish schools from Truro School's hub. We provide our facilities at a reduced rate.

The Burrell Theatre plays host to a number of visiting performing groups and the School enjoys a partnership with the *Cube Essential Theatre* company to promote performing arts within the local community.

We support the Cornwall Schools Games through our own participation in events and by hosting events at Truro.

Access to the School's Facilities

The School hosts a number of clubs and groups using school facilities and buildings that are open to others from outside the school community.

The School's facilities are well utilised by the local community and deliver additional coaching courses to children of all ages. The School plays host to over 40 local clubs and societies who enjoy the use of the School's facilities to further their own aims and to bring the community to the School in the spirit of collaboration. The School is the venue for the Cornwall Youth Games, which in collaboration with the Cornwall Sports Partnership, the County Community Sports Coaches and National Governing Body Sports Development officers bring together more than 1,500 students from primary and secondary schools across Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

Throughout the year 2015 -16 we provided facilities for local community groups either free of charge or at reduced charitable rates:

Free of charge – Duchy Opera, Falmouth University, Peninsula Medical School, Royal Cornwall Museum, Cornish Buildings Group Tour of site, Cornwall Eating Disorder Association
Concessionary rates - Grace Church, Cornwall Beekeepers, St Piran Church, Truro Choral Society, Rotary Club of Great Britain, Freefall Dance, Truro Arts, Touch Theatre, 16 Choir, Cornwall Chamber Orchestra, Penhaligons Friends

We provided the Sir Ben Ainslie Sports facilities for schools and community groups either free of charge or at reduced charitable rates:

Free of charge - Richard Lander School, Cornwall Hockey Association, 1st Truro Scouts
Concessionary rates - Portreath Surf lifesaving Club, Cornwall Healthy Schools, Duchy Badminton, National Autistic Society, Truro Learning Academy, Bosvigo School

Charitable Giving



It is an integral part of the Methodist Schools Mission Statement to focus pupils' attention on the importance of charitable giving within the community and further afield.

The School has a Charities Committee chaired by the Chaplain and attended by pupil representatives. This supports a number of local and national charities through a variety of fundraising initiatives. These include: Shelterbox, Farms for City Children, Cancer Research UK, Little Harbour, MNDA, WWF, Penhaligon's Friends, Comic Relief, Children in Need, Water Aid and the School of Leadership in Afghanistan (SOLA). The amount of charity money raised by pupils and staff at school for 2015 -16 amounts to £10,337.

At the Prep School charitable fund-raising takes on an educational perspective at every opportunity with the children supporting Cool Earth, a rainforest charity, by growing and selling salad. They also learned about Palm Oil and made sustainable Palm Oil soap, the proceeds of which allowed us to adopt an Orang-utan. The children also support MacMillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning, Children in Need, Sport Relief, Comic Relief and the Harvest Festival contributions go to Truro Food bank.

The School is part of the Methodist Development Fund World Aims project which supports schools in Uganda and raises awareness of development issues in the developing world. Staff members actively carry out work as World Aims Co-ordinators. Staff are involved with the Dorcas Children's Home, a youth shelter run by Ugandan locals and supported by foreign workers.

At the end of each Autumn Term we have an Austerity Lunch. Instead of the usual food options that day, both staff and pupils are provided with soup and a bread roll. This simple meal was once the daily fare in early Methodist Schools. The Austerity Lunch was set up by our charity committee to remind staff and pupils of all those less fortunate than ourselves who would be grateful to have a simple meal like this even once a day. The saving we make on food that day is donated to a charity chosen by the catering staff.

Our boarding houses support local charities and also contribute to voluntary work for the community, eg. spending a day supporting the beach clean at Perranporth for Surfers Against Sewage.

Pupils organise three charity music concerts each year: the boarders' charity concert; the Junior Charity Concert (Years 7 – 11); and the Senior Charity Concert (Sixth Form). This demonstrates their commitment to raising awareness of charities, raising money and also enhances their leadership and team-working skills.