

TRURO PREP SCHOOL

# ISI report 2017

**DOUBLE  
EXCELLENT**



**TRURO  
PREP  
SCHOOL**

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS INSPECTORATE REPORT

Quality of pupils' academic  
and other achievements:  
**EXCELLENT**

Quality of pupils' personal  
development:  
**EXCELLENT**

In June 2017, the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) inspected Truro Prep School over the course of three days.

We are delighted to announce that Truro Prep School was awarded 'Excellent' across both standards in the latest inspection – the best possible grades.

This brochure summarises the findings from the inspection report in line with our strategic plan.

### Who are the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI)?

The ISI is a government-approved inspectorate responsible for auditing independent schools. They assess a wealth of areas including safeguarding, the quality and effectiveness of education, care, welfare and the personal development of children in schools.

During a full inspection ISI assess two key areas of school performance:

- The achievement of the pupils, including their academic development
- The personal development of the pupils.

One of four scores is then awarded to summarise the performance of schools in the above-mentioned key areas – excellent, good, sound or unsatisfactory.

### OUR MISSION

Our mission across Truro Prep School and Truro School is to be a beacon of inclusive excellence, providing a balanced education and producing confident, tolerant and enthusiastic young people who enjoy working with others and are ready to influence the world.

To make our vision a reality, we are working towards five core objectives.



***“Pupils thoroughly enjoy their learning, and are proud of their school and of each other. The school is entirely successful in meeting its aims to challenge, inspire and support each and every pupil.”***

ISI INSPECTION, JULY 2017

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE ONE

For excellent teachers to inspire pupils to achieve academic success at school and go on to first choice universities, colleges or jobs.

*“Pupils are full of praise for the teachers who they say make lessons fun, know them well and support their learning.”*

The educational journey at Truro School begins at Willday House, our Pre-Prep, where achievement of Early Learning Goals (ELG) is all part of the fun. Our latest Early Years Foundation Stage data showed Truro Pre-Prep to be well above local and national averages, particularly in reading and writing. In 2017, 100% of Truro Pre-Prep pupils met their goals in both of these areas, compared to Cornwall averages of 76% (reading) and 71% (writing).

Subject-based teachers are first introduced in Year 3, with pupils slowly decreasing the time they spend with their main class teacher. From Year 4 onwards, pupils take full advantage of teachers who specialise in their subject areas. From core subjects like Maths and English, to the performing arts of Music and Drama, Truro Prep pupils in Year 4 and above benefit from specialist expert tuition in each and every lesson.

Almost all Truro Prep pupils progress to the Senior School, which has a proven track record as a successful springboard for students into leading UK universities.

### OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ISI REPORT:

*“Teaching encourages a spirit of enquiry in lessons throughout the school.”*

*“Pupils have excellent levels of self-knowledge, self-esteem, self-confidence and resilience.”*

*“The pupils are placed at the heart of everything undertaken.”*



## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE TWO

To enable young people to live their lives to the full and transform society for the better.

*“Pupils’ contribution to the lives of others is excellent. The work of the school council is central to the charity fund-raising undertaken by the school each term. Pupils are most willing to contribute and participate in activities for the benefit of others.”*

We encourage our pupils to grasp every opportunity and live life to the full. This is achieved through providing an abundance of opportunities, both in and outside of the classroom.

From coast-to-coast cycles along Cornwall’s historic mining trails to performing in front of packed audiences at the Hall for Cornwall, it is these experiences that allow our pupils to develop as confident, well-rounded individuals.

More often than not, we tailor such experiences around giving back to the community, a fundamental element of our Methodist ethos. One leadership opportunity is the Student Council. This empowers our pupils to have their say in the running of the school, including the organisation of fundraising events for pupils’ chosen charities. Additionally, in Year 5, all pupils take part in the John Muir Award, an initiative that helps children connect with, enjoy and care for wild places.

### OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ISI REPORT:

*“The pupils embody the school motto ‘to be rather than to seem to be’; they have confidence in being just who they are.”*



*“The moral development of the pupils is exceptional and is a significant strength of the school. The respect that pupils show toward each other and the school community as a whole engenders a calm, productive atmosphere throughout.”*

ISI INSPECTION, JULY 2017

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE THREE

To be known for outstanding pastoral care and trusting partnerships with parents.

*“Pupils’ understanding of how to stay safe and how to be physically and mentally healthy is outstanding. Their development is enabled by a detailed PSHE scheme of work that includes mindfulness and meditation, providing the pupils with the tools to deal with stress.”*

During their time at Truro Prep School, pupils learn about the world through our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) programme. Our PSHE programme develops both emotional and social strengths.

During PSHE sessions pupils learn about important life lessons such as relationships, how to keep safe when using IT and what to do if a classmate looks sad.

With happiness being the most essential ingredient in a proper childhood, all the staff at Truro Prep School are here to make sure that the welfare of every child is monitored each and every day, along with an open door policy for parents.

#### OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ISI REPORT:

*“Pupils respect and value diversity within society, show respect for and appreciation of their own and other cultures, and demonstrate sensitivity and tolerance to those from different backgrounds and traditions. These qualities are encouraged through the personal, social and health education (PSHE) programme, visits from parents representing different backgrounds, the celebration of world cultural events and visiting speakers.”*

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE FOUR

To help each child to find and fully develop his or her talents.

*“The school is entirely successful in meeting its aims to challenge, inspire and support each and every pupil.”*

At Truro Prep, we offer a huge variety of clubs and activities designed to help pupils to develop a sense of individuality and pursue their interests. With over 40 co-curricular activities on offer, there is something to suit every taste and talent.

The activities on offer are designed to encourage pupils to maintain a healthy lifestyle, to enrich their lives, learn a new skill and enjoy working with others. Building upon self-confidence, team work and commitment skills, each pupil is given the scope to find his or her talent at Truro Prep School.

### OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ISI REPORT:

*“They are given space and freedom to think for themselves, and to make their own decisions about their learning.”*

***“Pupils celebrate substantial success in many areas of school life, ranging from art, music and drama to sport and outdoor pursuits. This is because the school provides wide-ranging and considerable opportunities to pupils to participate and improve.”***

ISI INSPECTION, JULY 2017





## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE FIVE

To be celebrated as an environmentally and socially responsible member of the Cornish community.

*“Pupils’ understanding of being part of a wider community is exceptional.”*

At Truro Prep School, we encourage our pupils to be active members of our wider community.

We are committed to teaching our pupils about the environment and sustainability, with students from Nursery to Year 6 taking part in the Woodland Trust’s ‘Green Tree Award’ and being the first school in Cornwall to be presented with the Gold plaque for sustainability in 2017.

*“They carry out beach cleaning projects as part of the school’s environmental project and collect for a local foodbank.”*

*“Pupils benefit from, and contribute to, community links such as visiting a local Methodist home for the elderly.”*

# See for yourself

**SOME FINAL WORDS FROM SARAH PATTERSON, HEAD OF TRURO PREP**

*"I am delighted that Truro Prep was given the top grade possible in this recent inspection.*

*The inspectors found us to be excellent in both areas, from the outstanding breadth and balance of the curriculum to the pupils being at the heart of everything that we do here.*

*The fact the children told the inspectors that 'they see the school as being like one big happy family where all members of the community feel involved and valued' is really heart-warming to hear."*

## TRURO PREP SCHOOL INFORMAL TOURS

If you are interested in visiting Truro Prep School, please contact the Head's PA, Simone Weston on **01872 243 120** or email [prepadmissions@truroschool.com](mailto:prepadmissions@truroschool.com)

You are more than welcome to visit the school at any time to meet the Head, Sarah Patterson, to discuss your child's entry or have a tour of the school.



**TRURO  
PREP  
SCHOOL**