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Truro School



Education for Life

A welcome from the Headmaster of Truro School

At Truro School we love the fact that 80% of our county is surrounded by sea and we encourage our pupils to take full advantage of Cornwall's 300 mile section of coastline whether surfing on its sandy beaches, sailing on its sheltered estuaries, walking its dramatic headlands and moorlands, or exploring its many geological features.

Why introduce Truro School in this way?

Because education is about so much more than excellent exam results, as important as these are. It is one thing to grasp something intellectually, but real learning takes place when students have time to reflect on their experiences. Our home in the South West of England is a joyful and secure environment where children can thrive, be transformed by what they learn, and develop into well rounded individuals ready to take their place on the global stage.

Our mission is to be a beacon of inclusive excellence developing confident, tolerant and enthusiastic young people who enjoy working with others and are ready to influence the world.

The mothers and fathers of over 1000 children have entrusted us to ensure that their sons and daughters get the best possible education. We offer high levels of academic study combined with a broad range of co-curricular opportunities, celebrating both cultural and sporting achievement.



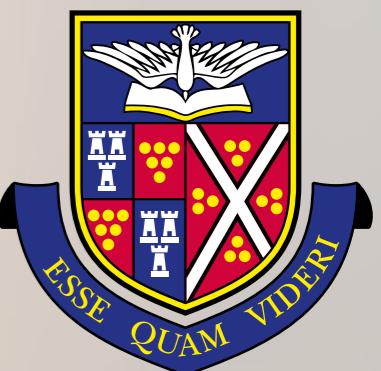
Our motto, "Esse Quam Videri", translates from Latin to say "to be, rather than to seem to be" and we encourage every student to be comfortable in his or her own skin.

Nurturing students to develop a sense of purpose and individuality is at the heart of everything we do at Truro School.

Evolving together

Truro School is a place characterised by constructive and trusting relationships, a place where talented and dedicated teachers accompany pupils as individuals on this leg of their journey. We also aspire to be an organisation that learns, in self-critical pursuit of our goal to offer a creative, innovative and progressive education.

I hope that the pages of this prospectus give you a sense of Truro School, our vision and values. Do also follow us online for constantly updated information about our pupils' activities and successes. Most of all, please come and visit us where you will be warmly welcomed.



Mr A S Gordon-Brown, Headmaster of Truro School

Maximising your child's academic ability

We recognise that a strong academic background plays a major role in unlocking the world of opportunity for your son or daughter.

From Accountants to Zoologists, whichever pathway your child decides to take in life, they will leave Truro School with the keys to their future having reached their full potential.

Strong academic track record

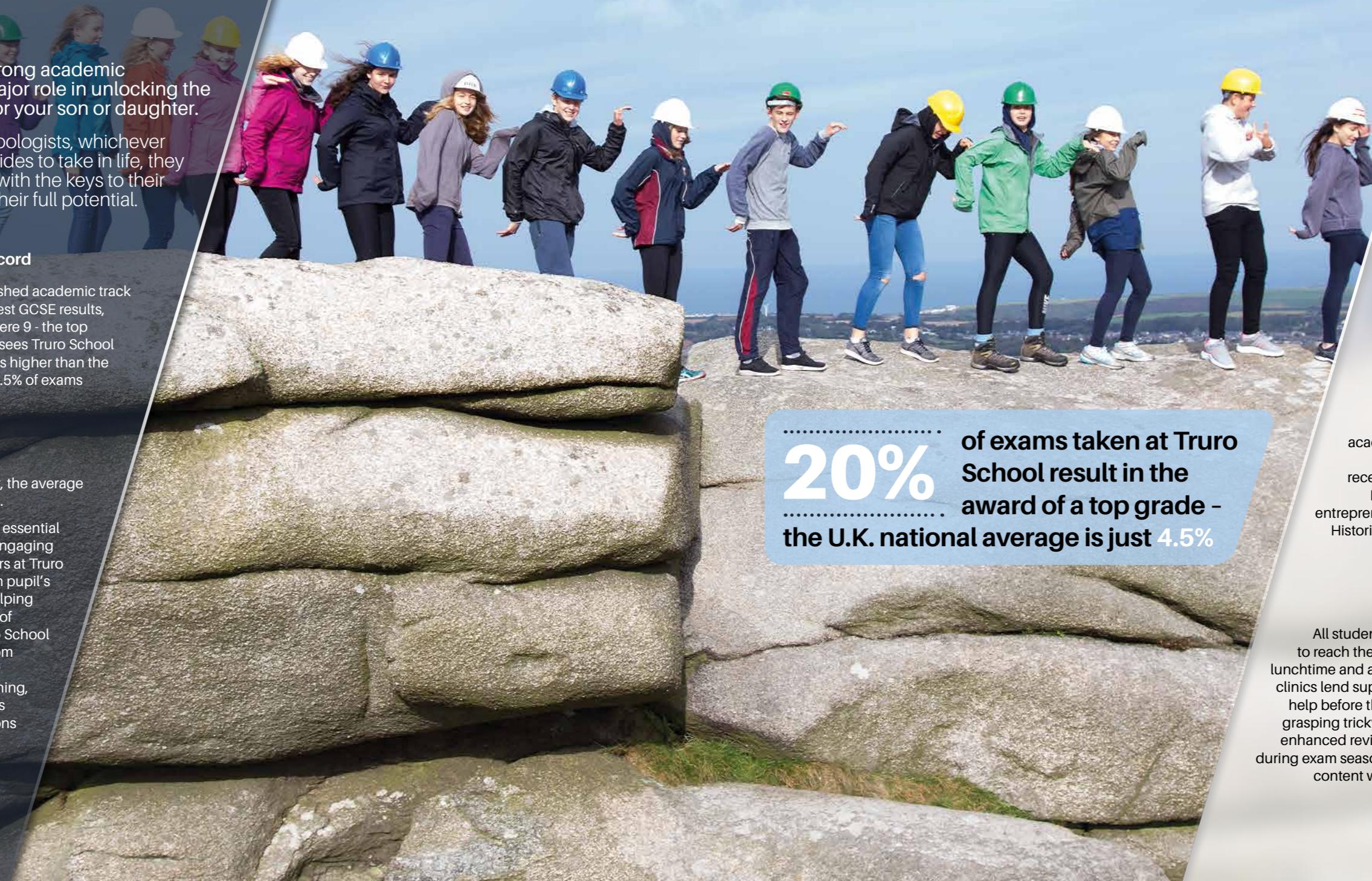
Truro School has an accomplished academic track record. Impressively, in the latest GCSE results, 20% of our students' grades were 9 - the top mark achievable. The statistic sees Truro School performing well over four times higher than the national average where only 4.5% of exams scored the top mark.*

Small class sizes

Between 1st Year and 5th Year, the average class size at Truro School is 22.

Keeping class sizes small is an essential ingredient in maintaining an engaging learning environment. Teachers at Truro School really get to know each pupil's strengths and weaknesses, helping them to excel. The high levels of support from teachers at Truro School results in a distinctive classroom atmosphere. Students actively embrace curiosity in their learning, creating a culture where pupils are encouraged to ask questions and gain a greater depth of understanding.

* Accurate at the time of publishing (September 2018).



20% of exams taken at Truro School result in the award of a top grade - the U.K. national average is just 4.5%

Academic enrichment

Truro School's academic enrichment programme fuels a desire for learning at all ages. Will your child discover a passion for politics at one of our annual public speaking and debating competitions?

Perhaps they will shine on the national stage, proudly representing the school in annual Maths and Science Olympiad competitions. On the other hand, maybe a VIP visitor will spark an interest in the worlds of engineering, literature or geography.

From 1st Year to 5th Year, there are a myriad of opportunities for eye-opening experiences through academic extension. On top of a series of annual academic competitions, recent visiting speakers have included Land speed record breaker and UK entrepreneur Richard Noble (OBE), Horrible Histories author Nick Arnold, and Spooks author Joseph Delaney.

Subject clinics

All students at Truro School are empowered to reach their full potential through a wealth of lunchtime and after school subject clinics. Regular clinics lend support when individuals need a little help before that gratifying light bulb moment of grasping tricky subject content. Clinics also offer enhanced revision opportunities for GCSE pupils during exam season, allowing teachers to revisit past content with students when it matters most.

Building self-confidence through the creative arts

Drama, music and art play a key role in the development of your child's confidence and communication skills. It is for this reason that we offer a wealth of opportunities in the creative arts.

Take to the stage in Drama

If your child loves the stage then they will feel right at home in our 200-seat Burrell Theatre. Fully equipped with a sound and lighting rig, it is a magnet for touring production companies. What could be more inspiring than standing on the same stage as the professionals?

The school's facilities provide a home to our theatre company in residence, Cube Theatre, allowing aspiring drama students to work with a professional company. Over 25 pupils have performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival with Cube Theatre in the last 3 years.

Most importantly, drama at Truro School is all-inclusive and we ensure that nobody is left out. The LAMDA awards and annual school productions allow students of all abilities to get involved and perform on the big stage. Those who prefer to avoid the limelight can also join the Tech Team, mastering how to rig sets and taking responsibility for managing lighting and sound at school shows.



I could never imagine that shy eleven year old Ollie would, on his last day in the Upper Sixth Form, so eloquently address the 1500 people in the marquee.

WENDY, TRURO SCHOOL PARENT

Play and perform in Music

Truro School's music department is always a hive of activity. There are over 60 concerts and ensembles annually.

One in three senior school pupils currently learn a musical instrument, that's over 250 students. So whether your child is picking up an instrument for the first time or approaching Grade 8, they will feel comfortable alongside students who share their ability level.

A total of eight talented Truro School musicians have gained Music Diplomas in the last three academic years, an accolade intended for University undergraduates.

Unleash your creative energy in Art and Design Technology

Throughout the campus you will find signs of our pupils' creativity, guided by their teachers' infectious enthusiasm.

Works include ceramics, glass work, paintings, furniture and hanging sculptures.

The school's Heseltine Gallery is home to exhibitions throughout the year, showcasing work from students and professional artists alike. Students are guided in masterclasses led by these visiting professionals. A variety of field trips also aid creativity.

Developing physical and mental wellbeing through sport

Getting every child to develop an enduring love for exercise is something we strive to achieve.

Equal opportunities at every level

When it comes to sport, our primary focus is on participation over professionalism. B-teams feature prominently in school life, C-teams where interest is high enough, giving equal opportunities for all students. It is through this approach that your child will develop a healthy, deep-rooted love of exercise, regardless of their ability.

A top ranking UK independent school for sport

Whilst participation comes first, if your child is sporty then they are in safe hands. One in seven students currently compete at county, regional, national or international level.

Truro School regularly features inside a list of the UK's top 20 independent schools for sport, as determined by School Sport Magazine. The annual ranking is based on 20 different sports covering over 120 national competitions.

Pushing the most able

If your child has sporting aspirations, perhaps Olympic dreams, then they will be supported during every step of their journey in our Elite Sports Programme.

Lunchtime and after school ability-based training sessions maximise the potential of the most able. Led by our specialist PE teachers and coaches, many with professional experience, your child will be propelled to the next level in their chosen sport.

Students frequently enter high-level tournaments competing regionally, nationally and, in sports like fencing, our talented pupils battle it out on the international stage.



Recent Sporting Highlights

- Victory at the Public Schools' Fencing Championships sees Truro School retain title as the UK's Number 1 Sabre Fencing School
- Under 16 Girls' team clinch silver in the National Schools' Badminton Finals
- 1st XV Rugby Team reach the quarter finals of the NatWest Cup
- 3rd Year pupil wins the National Schools' Cross Country Championship

Over 15 sports to choose from

Truro School offers a wide range of sports, allowing all pupils to handpick a physical activity that truly excites them. The vast array of sporting opportunities will help your child to build new friendships through shared interests and team camaraderie, regardless of their ability.

The nationally popular sports of Football, Hockey, Netball and Rugby form a prominent feature of school life. Such sports regularly receive high levels of student interest, particularly concerning progression in major national tournaments where classmates and teachers are ever-present, cheering from the sidelines at home fixtures.

As well as the mainstream sports, Truro School also receives significant student interest and success in Athletics, Badminton, Cricket, Cross Country, Fencing, Golf, Rounders, Sailing, Surfing, Swimming, Squash and Tennis.

Developing character through the great outdoors

Sore feet, aching legs and a ravenous appetite; but a priceless sense of achievement as your child crosses the finish line. These are the treasured 'it was all worth it' moments that your son or daughter will remember long after leaving school.

It is during these moments that parents and teachers alike see more than just a sense of satisfaction. Students start to reflect on their experiences, developing a positive, persevering attitude to reaching their goals as they move forward in life.

Dedicated Outdoor Pursuits Team

Students at Truro School enjoy making the most of Cornwall's wilderness, including the 300-mile coastline that surrounds our beautiful county.

From navigating the county's moorlands to expeditions covering beaches, clifftops and remote villages, our dedicated Outdoor Pursuits Team make sure there is hardly a weekend of the year that does not see a group from Truro School go on an adventure.



Duke of Edinburgh and Ten Tors

The school is recognised as a centre of excellence in the South West for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Similarly, the Ten Tors programme receives keen interest every year from pupils. Both outdoor pursuit schemes are optional but extremely popular within the school.

Students can start any of the Outdoor Pursuits award schemes in 3rd Year when they tackle the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award or the 35-mile Ten Tors challenge.



The award schemes build in difficulty and complexity, with pupils embracing harder challenges year after year. For example, the pinnacle of the Gold Duke of Edinburgh programme sees students jet off to Slovenia. It is here that the Gold students complete their expedition with our link school, ably supported by the Slovenian Armed Forces. In return, our Slovenian guests join us in the Autumn Term to undertake their Gold expedition on Dartmoor.

World Challenge

Truro School also takes part in the World Challenge programme - another memorable opportunity for pupils to step out of their comfort zone and explore the planet.

Does 12 days camping, crossing knee-high rivers or canoeing fjords sound like something your child would enjoy? If so, this could be the perfect adventure! Often completed with a tight-knit team of around 16 pupils, the biennial trip always returns with students treasuring newfound friendships and a sense of togetherness, sharing in the experience of their unforgettable journey.

Previous trips have included Peru, Norway, Croatia, Ecuador and India.

Finding a sense of belonging through clubs and activities

Combined with our academic curriculum, our wide and varied co-curricular programme ensures that students thrive through a holistic and rounded education.

The rich variety of clubs and activities help pupils to develop friendships and a unique identity through hobbies and common interests, whilst actively embracing the skills of classmates.

Be part of a club

There are over 70 clubs on offer before and after school every Monday to Friday. From taking the plunge in our swimming pool to getting creative in Design Technology club, there is bound to be something that piques your child's interest.

The extensive list of clubs and activities on offer also relieves some of the pressure on busy parents, with something happening after school every day to keep our students busy and engaged.

Clubs & Wednesday Afternoon Activities

EXAMPLES INCLUDE:

- Astronomy • Ceramics
- Community Volunteering
- Drama Tech Team • Jazz Orchestra
- Programming and Robotics
- Snorkelling • Squash
- Surfing • Sustainability Group



Wednesday afternoon activities

Would your son or daughter like to take to the waves with our Surf Academy?

Perhaps they would like to try their hand on the pottery wheel in Ceramics?

Maybe programming and robotics in Computer Science would capture their imagination?

At Wednesday lunchtimes, the standard timetable ends and your child will be able to pick from over 25 co-curricular opportunities. The choice available on Wednesday afternoons truly offers something for every individual and represents a key linchpin in our co-curricular approach to education.

The healthy mix of ages revelling in the afternoon activities contributes towards a warm and sociable school community throughout the year groups. The activities allow 1st Years to feel at ease in their new school environment whilst empowering older children to practise leadership skills under the guidance of teachers.

Teaching empathy and respect for others through our Christian ethos

One of our goals is to encourage your child to be someone who respects other people and the world around them. At Truro School and beyond, we want your child to live their life to the full and transform society for the better

Even in the 21st century, poverty and famine are still rife all over the globe; corruption too. It is through learning about these tough topics that your child will develop empathy and respect for those who are less fortunate.

Giving back to the community

During their time at Truro School your child will learn the importance of giving and experience the fulfilment that it brings. The school's student-led charity committee empowers young people to make a difference and have fun in the process. From dodgeball tournaments to fancy dress challenges, the charity committee has successfully raised over £20,000 in the last two years.

A regular feature in the yearly calendar is the school's junior and senior charity music concerts. Hosted in the Burrell Theatre every Spring Term, students from 1st Year to Upper Sixth take to the stage, flaunting their musical prowess to sell-out crowds. Arranged entirely by the students, the gigs successfully raise around £1500 for the organisers' chosen charity each year.



Understanding the bigger picture

The purpose of World AIMS is to facilitate the increased understanding that, as a school and as individuals, we have a role and responsibility as citizens in a global village. The scheme includes:

- A Fairtrade Fortnight
- Work alongside Amnesty International
- Monthly charity events
- Two World Aims workshop days in the summer term

It is through World Aims that we educate children about the wider world and instil the motivation to make a difference. For the bravest and most determined students, our eye-opening biennial trip to Uganda gives pupils a chance to serve on the frontline in the world's battle against poverty.

What the inspectors said...

Upon their most recent inspection in 2017, the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) reported:

"Pupils have a very well-developed moral and spiritual awareness, underpinned by the Methodist values of the school's foundation and a strong respect for everyone within the school community."

Excellent standard of pastoral care

Known for our outstanding pastoral care and trusting partnerships with parents, the pastoral system at Truro School underpins everything that we do. Alongside high quality teaching and learning, it ensures the success and personal development of the children in our care, so they flourish academically and socially.

Truro School is distinguished by being a place where every child is known by name, by face, and by character.

Direct communication with your child's tutor

The fundamental building blocks of a successful education is the relationship between school and home. There are bound to be times when you have worries and anxieties about your son or daughter. When concerns are great, you will want reassurance from someone who really knows your child, someone who sees them on a daily basis. Contact between parents and form tutors is imperative and we ensure that you can always raise concerns and obtain answers quickly.

The Deputy Head of Pastoral, the Head of Year, the School Chaplain, the Medical Centre and the school's counsellor all act as further points of contact for children and parents alike.



Proactive safeguarding

We work to prepare your child for the large variety of life's challenges, not only those they will encounter during their school days, but also trials they may face later on in adulthood.

Truro School's Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHEE) programme therefore plays a key role in the provision of excellent pastoral care. The programme confronts difficult issues, helping your child to make informed choices as they grow up. During PSHEE sessions your child will learn age-relevant information about aspects of life including relationships, mental health, money, drugs, alcohol and more.

Educating parents and students about new threats

When it comes to keeping students safe, we know that we cannot sit still. The rise and accessibility of social media channels like Facebook, WhatsApp and SnapChat represent new areas of risk. Through parent information evenings, our senior pastoral team will regularly update you with advice on such things as e-safety. We also run parent and child workshops to help you deal with these unfamiliar hazards.

What the inspectors said

In their latest visit (2017), the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) scored the quality of pupils' personal development as 'Excellent', the highest grade possible.

ISI stated: "Pupils are aware of the dangers which society and their own behaviour can bring, and feel well supported by the school should they have any physical or mental health concerns. They feel that they are developing good lifestyle habits for the future in a safe and secure environment"

PUPIL PROFILE

Monty (5th Year)

Truro School is big. Really big. But, you get used to it very quickly.

When it comes to settling in, the school is great. I was really thrown in the deep end when I was involved in the school production of Sweeney Todd. I knew nobody at the school before I arrived and the play was a great way to meet people. My form tutor, Dr Spring, also helped me settle in, guiding me through the many processes and finding my planner on numerous occasions. I paid him back by successfully defeating him in countless battles in wargaming.

School community

The sixth formers are so helpful and kind, they help you with any problem you have – they've probably had those problems before. I have friends from all year groups and all of my teachers, past and present, have been very supportive in all areas of school life.

Favourite subject

I have many "favourite" subjects. Physics at a higher level I really enjoy. I love history and look forward to each lesson. My set's debates in Religious Studies are legendary. Maths gets much more fun the higher you go. I only discovered Geology in 4th Year, but have enjoyed it so much I am considering it for a career.

Clubs and activities

The most important area of school is co-curricular activities. I have done astronomy, a keen area of interest for me. I have done public speaking and LAMDA, a great way to continue acting. I have been in all the plays I can; I am a full member of the drama family. I have hosted the Hall for Cornwall concert, and I also play percussion of all types. The music scene at Truro School is a diverse mix of some of the best music in the country.

Truro School students should take every opportunity they get. We often joke that we will do less work in our future jobs, but when you hear that applause, or get the trophy, or see a rocket fly off, or win the prime ministerial election (as I so nearly did), it is definitely worth it.

MONTY



Parents' View

The old African proverb, *it takes a village to raise a child*, still holds true. Its 'village' community is one of Truro School's most life enhancing qualities. It has allowed our son, Monty, to find his niche, or rather niches, and to flourish, so much more than we had expected was possible.

Truro School has been the perfect environment for him to grow into a fine young man. Both his social and physical confidence have grown exponentially, and his academic and intellectual interests have been hugely stimulated. It's of course not the buildings and facilities that have done that, excellent though they are. It is thanks to all the caring and intelligent staff at Truro School. These, of course, include the wonderful teachers, but also everyone from the kitchen staff and the librarians, to the nurses and the Headmaster. Each has had so many constructive interactions with Monty and each has played a huge part in giving him such a positive and engaging attitude to life.

As parents, we can sometimes, mistakenly, think that our children have turned out well because of our care and support alone. If we had ever had that misconception, it would surely have been corrected by the daily stories of kindness and generosity, from the Truro School community, that Monty recounts to us every evening over the dinner table. We really couldn't wish for a better village to help us raise him.

Eileen & Simon,

Monty's mum and dad

PUPIL PROFILE

India (3rd Year)

My first impression of Truro School was that everyone seemed very friendly and nurturing towards us as new pupils.

All our teachers were very caring and patient, especially when we lost our way around the school. I think that the school is nurturing because it gives me confidence to be myself and it makes me feel safe.

Describing the school in three words

If I could describe the school in three words I would say it is:

Exciting – because there are plenty of opportunities and there is always something for everyone.

Fun – because I love the social aspect and being with my friends. I really enjoy Wednesday Afternoon Activities which have included surfing, hockey, netball and snorkelling.

Challenging – because I think the school challenges me academically and in my sporting activities.

Subjects, trips and experiences

My favourite subjects are Art and English because they allow me to be creative and express myself, whether it's through a painting or the written word. During my time at Truro School I have been involved in a variety of different activities before and after school for example hockey, netball, athletics and swimming. I enjoyed the Big Bang school trip with our biology teachers to Exeter University and next term I am looking forward to a two-day hockey camp in Cardiff and a two-day netball camp in Manchester.

Future Aspirations

My aspirations for moving forward are to carry on doing well in my academic subjects so that I can attend a good university and to improve my sporting skills. I have grown in confidence since starting Truro School and I am incredibly happy. With this in mind I am looking forward to the years I have left at Truro School to create some lifelong memories.



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INDIA

Parents' View

Our daughter India has just finished her second year at Truro School and we can honestly say that she absolutely loves being a pupil here. As a family we have been made to feel very welcome, nothing is too much trouble and we are very grateful to have found such an exceptional school.

The teachers maximise the academic ability of each and every pupil with their attentive, caring and inspirational teaching skills and this, paired with small class sizes, has provided a wonderful and exciting learning environment for India. They work tirelessly as a team to understand and encourage every pupil, realising their hidden talents and addressing their individual needs.

India feels safe and secure at school and has made friends easily. Any minor problems that have occurred over the last two years have been dealt with swiftly in a professional manner and the communication between the teachers and ourselves has been excellent.

India is one of the representatives on the school council. This role together with the guidance and nurturing from the teachers has meant that she is growing into a happy, well rounded and confident young lady who we hope will continue to excel and build on the skills and knowledge she has acquired from the staff and the school as a whole.

Truro School offers a wide range of co-curricular clubs and activities ranging from surfing and snorkelling to ceramics and war-gaming! There is something for each and every child's personal interest whether it be sports, arts or volunteering within the local Truro community. India has taken part in both the surfing and snorkelling Wednesday activities and has had an absolute blast. This is what living and attending a school in Cornwall is all about.

We hope the school's success continues and cannot recommend Truro School highly enough.

**Yvonne and Alastair,
India's mum and dad**

Book a Tour

To really discover what Truro School has to offer your son or daughter, we recommend visiting us for a tour.

Given by our current students, this is the best way to witness the school in action and find out about school life by those who experience it daily.

To arrange a tour of the school and a meeting with the Director of Admissions, please contact the Admissions Office on **01872 246062** or admissions@truroschool.com



truroschool.com

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