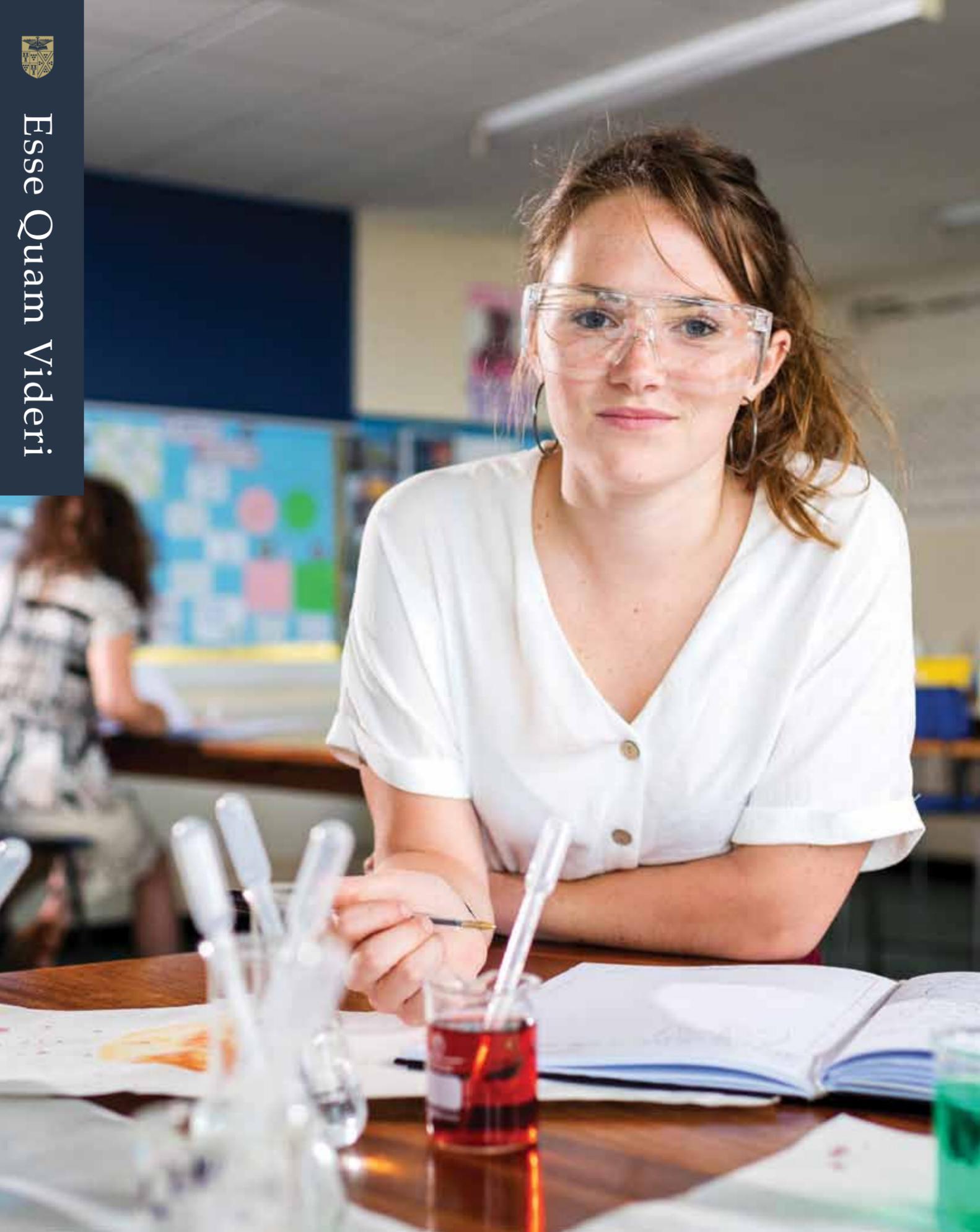


TRURO SCHOOL

SIXTH

COURSE GUIDE 2021



Esse Quam Videri



Truro School Sixth Form

TO BE, RATHER THAN TO SEEM TO BE

**TRURO
SCHOOL
SIXTH**



Welcome.

YOUR FUTURE BEGINS HERE

Entering Truro School Sixth Form is an exciting time; you want to achieve the best grades with a CV that impresses Admissions Officers and employers, but you also want to have a fun two years that will be full of life experiences.

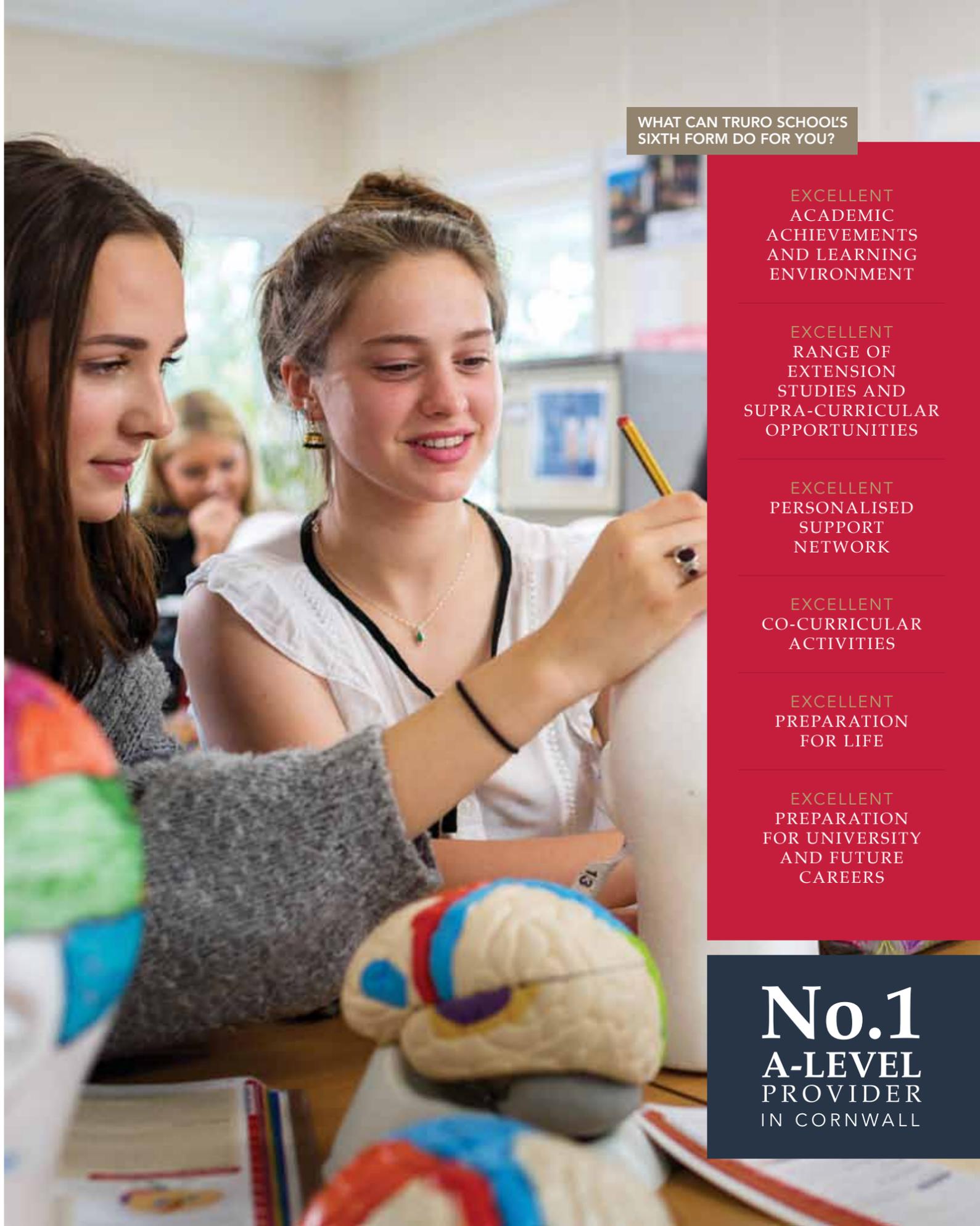
Here at Truro School we believe that, whilst our excellent examination results and university outcomes speak for themselves, they should only be the culmination of a memorable two years that help you to develop as a well-rounded individual. That is why our Sixth Form delivers excellent academic standards alongside a personalised support network and innovative life skills programme with a strong focus on leadership and employability skills to provide students with a truly 'balanced' education.

We also believe that studying A-Levels shouldn't mean you have to give up your other interests; co-curricular activities, including sport, drama, arts, music and outdoor pursuits to name but a few, play a vital role in preparing students for the pressures of the exam room, as well as providing improved wellbeing and mental toughness.

By joining Truro School's Sixth Form you will be part of a strong community of students who are ready to learn, grow, develop and flourish together.

As we look ahead to the next academic year, we look forward to welcoming you on the first step of your Sixth Form journey. Like those before you, you will be given the individual guidance and support to thrive, providing the springboard to your future.

HEAD OF SIXTH FORM
ROSS WILLIAMSON



WHAT CAN TRURO SCHOOL'S SIXTH FORM DO FOR YOU?

EXCELLENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

EXCELLENT RANGE OF EXTENSION STUDIES AND SUPRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

EXCELLENT PERSONALISED SUPPORT NETWORK

EXCELLENT CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

EXCELLENT PREPARATION FOR LIFE

EXCELLENT PREPARATION FOR UNIVERSITY AND FUTURE CAREERS

No.1
A-LEVEL
PROVIDER
IN CORNWALL



Excellent Academic Achievements

88% A*-B

at A-Level,
including the EPQ

EXCELLENT VALUE-ADDED

Truro School Sixth Form's value-added score ranks in the top 10% nationally, on a rolling three-year average.

81%

of the Sixth Form headed to their firm or insurance choice of university

EXCELLENT TEACHING

Awarded 'Double Excellent' status by the Independent Schools Inspectorate

Excellent academic and other achievements

100%

A-LEVEL PASS RATE

Excellent personal development

61% A*/A A-LEVEL



At Truro School Sixth Form you can rest assured that we have excellent teaching staff. Inspectors recently recognised our talented and dedicated teachers by awarding us 'Double Excellent' status, the top grades possible.

SMALL CLASS SIZES

With class sizes never exceeding 16, and even smaller tutor groups, our teachers have the time to fully understand how you learn best, providing outstanding progression and support.

EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

From leading guest speakers in the Burrell Theatre to opportunities to represent the school through national competitions and contests, there are a huge range of extended learning opportunities available.

ACADEMIC EXTENSIONS

Our academic extensions make for impressive elements on CVs and Personal Statements, giving you the ability to stand head and shoulders above competing candidates when it comes to university or job interviews.

Pupils display high levels of confidence and assurance in themselves, and leave the school very well prepared for the next stage of their lives.

ISI INSPECTION

No.1 A-LEVEL PROVIDER IN CORNWALL

WEEKLY CLINICS

Clinics offer small group assistance, providing you with individualised academic support when you need it most.

SUPRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Each department will point students toward areas of supra-curricular activities, both within and outside the School environment, to support your A-Level learning and evidence, for universities, your depth of knowledge.

PERSONAL MENTOR

Regular meetings with your personal mentor to discuss progress in subjects and involvement in co-curricular, ensuring the balance is right.



Preparation for Life

To truly help you be the best that you can be, and to fully prepare you for life after A-Levels, we run a series of programmes focussed on character development outside of the classroom. Every student who passes through our Sixth Form leaves a mark on our community and it is through these additional programmes and constant buzz of events and activities that our students really develop an identity and skillset to prepare them for the challenges of adult life.



CO-CURRICULAR

We believe that studying A-Levels shouldn't mean you have to give up your other interests; balance is important and co-curricular activities play a vital role in preparing students for the pressures of the exam room, as well as providing improved wellbeing and mental toughness.

SPORTS AND FITNESS

Truro School has a fine reputation for its sporting achievements at county, regional and national level. The school takes great pride in offering a broad range of sporting opportunities for all pupils, irrespective of their abilities. Blessed with outstanding sporting facilities, as well as knowledgeable and enthusiastic coaches, we can provide support and mentoring programmes to help with your lifestyle choices, nutrition, training and balancing your exercise and studies.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Develop your culinary skills and prepare for independent living with cookery lessons in our new state-of-the-art kitchen. You can study the Leiths Introductory Certificate as part of your timetable or during evening classes.

CREATIVE ARTS

The Heseltine Gallery is our on-site working gallery with an annual programme of exhibitions from external artists designed to inspire and fuel creativity.

DRAMA Take your performance skills to the next level in our professional theatre or seize an opportunity to learn with a working technical team and professional theatre company.

MUSIC Improve your skills with international musicians and a programme of masterclasses. With over 60 concerts and ensembles throughout the year, there are plenty of opportunities for you to showcase your talents.

OUTDOOR PURSUITS

Our leading centre is the biggest in the south west and provides opportunities to join the Duke of Edinburgh's award, participate in the Ten Tors challenge on Dartmoor or undertake an overseas adventure.

These activities, whilst fun to take part in, will allow your referee for university and/or employment to evidence valuable skills such as leadership, teamwork, communication, sociability, honesty, integrity, determination, resilience and self-confidence.

LIFE AND EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS Our Life Skills programme runs throughout the Lower and Upper Sixth. It helps students make well-educated and informed choices, whilst respecting the independence of each individual.

The programme is designed to prepare you for the journey ahead and gives you a firm understanding of the common threats and challenges that you may face.

Students also get to take part in our Post 18 Options Days where you will get the opportunity to meet a range of entrepreneurs and high-profile visitors from leading businesses and universities. With a multitude of talks and seminars going on at the same time, you can dip into the sessions that interest you specifically, gaining first-hand insight from those at the top.

LEADERSHIP

Truro School has a strong tradition of leadership and responsibility and all students are given the opportunity to nurture and develop active leadership skills during the Sixth Form.

PREFECT SYSTEM

Whether serving as school prefects, head of houses, team captains or representing their peers through the democratically elected Sixth Form Association, we expect students to become positive leaders to their peers and make an important contribution to the life of the school.

COMMITTEES AND EVENTS

Many students take part in events that nurture and develop leadership skills such as the Mock Council of Europe, Model United Nations, Debating Competitions, World Challenge and

Ten Tors. In addition, students are encouraged to join the Charity and Sustainability Committees who help organise events, initiate change and exercise their student voice.

ACHE

ACHE stands for Advice, Care, Help and Empathy. It's a programme that sees Sixth Form students develop the skills and experience needed to listen to others and to offer compassion in times of need. A key feature of the ACHE training programme is putting what you learn into practice. As you move into the Upper Sixth, you will take on the responsibility of running the peer-mentoring drop-in sessions, working with the younger members of our school community.



Preparation for University and Careers

At Truro School, we take pride in the academic record of our students. Not only are their examination results consistently high, but the overwhelming majority move on to succeed in Higher Education, including at the most selective universities.

While these achievements are in no small part down to our Sixth Form students' positive attitude to their work, we have also earned a reputation for the outstanding quality of our advice and encouragement.



SUPERB SUPPORT

Truro School Sixth Form offers superb levels of support, both in and out of the classroom. Small class sizes, clinics and excellent teaching maintain an environment where each student is able to be the best that they can be academically, whilst a proactive approach to tracking, monitoring and communications provides a safety-net for all our students.



PERSONALISED CAREERS AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

One of the biggest advantages of being part of Truro School's Sixth Form is the outstanding careers guidance on offer from our in-house Careers Team.

Throughout each school year there are a number of careers events, including psychometric testing, one-to-one interviews, timetabled career sessions and a dedicated resource centre, as well as business lunches, allowing students to get a taste of various professions during their time in the Sixth Form.

Once you've set your sights on a career, you'll then need to figure out how to get there. At this point you will be rigorously supported in securing places at leading universities or on top apprenticeship schemes, both in the UK and overseas. Our Overseas University Initiative has this year seen Upper Sixth leavers pack their bags for the USA, The Netherlands, Switzerland and Ireland.

Throughout the Upper Sixth, extensive and highly personalised support is provided with every aspect of your application, from writing a personal statement to preparing for interviews and deciding which offers to accept. Our Sixth Form team are there to advise on UCAS Extra, and, after results day, to help those who need it to successfully navigate Adjustment and Clearing.

OXBRIDGE APPLICATIONS

For those applying to Oxford or Cambridge we have a designated member of staff who supports you through this particular application system. With individualised preparation for tests and interviews, we ensure that you are completely ready to grasp the process and increase your chances of success. Oxbridge Admissions Tutors are invited to Truro School to meet students, giving them the opportunity to explain just exactly what they are looking for in a successful application.



THE MEDICAL PATHWAYS PROGRAMME

Medical Pathways is Truro School's personalised programme that prepares students for success at securing an interview and a place at medical, dental or veterinary school.

You will gain insight into your prospective career and be thoroughly supported in developing the skills you need to evidence on your personal statement, in application tests and at interview. Read more on page 60.

COMMUNITY ETHOS

The Truro School Community is a thriving and supportive network of past and present students, parents, staff and governors working together to offer students life-changing opportunities. A professional and social network, we encourage every member of the Sixth Form to enjoy and benefit from their association with the Truro School Community through diverse events, invaluable careers support, guidance and mentoring opportunities. (See Truro School Connected on page 13.)

GREATER INDEPENDENCE

Developing a healthy work-life balance is an essential ingredient to success at A-Level and beyond.

In the Lower Sixth, students are able to utilise their greater independence and make the most of private study periods with spaces on campus specifically for the Sixth Form: Sixth Form Café, Sixth Form Common Room, ICT suite and Sixth Form Study Area. Students may also make use of the Sir Ben Ainslie Sports Centre's gym.

Throughout the Upper Sixth, if on track, students can gain additional independence. You can leave campus or sign out in the afternoon if you have no further commitments that day. There is also a designated Sixth Form parking area.



TRURO SCHOOL
CONNECTED

Truro School Connected

One of the main roles of Truro School Sixth Form is to set students up for the rest of their lives; working with our thriving and supportive community we have developed Truro School Connected.

A professional and social network of past and present students, parents, staff and governors working together to offer students life-changing opportunities, Truro School Connected encourages every member of the Sixth Form to enjoy and benefit from their association with the Truro School Community.

STUDENTS MAY BENEFIT FROM:

CAREERS ADVICE AND LINKS – gain insight into your preferred employment sector and develop personal networks

MOCK INTERVIEWS – gain more experience ready for university and/or employment interviews

WORK SHADOWING – spend time with a professional gaining a brilliant insight into that particular job role or sector of employment

LECTURE SERIES – hear from those at different points of the career ladder, just setting out and those who have years of experience

CV TECHNIQUES – have your CV checked by those recruiting into your chosen career path

Many alumni return to visit the Sixth Form, ready to inspire our current students through talks and workshops, often offering personalised advice whilst here. Our alumni also play an essential role in delivering our Medical Pathways Programme.

Truro School Connected is as important in shaping the achievements of our younger alumni as it is in helping them towards their next steps at 18.

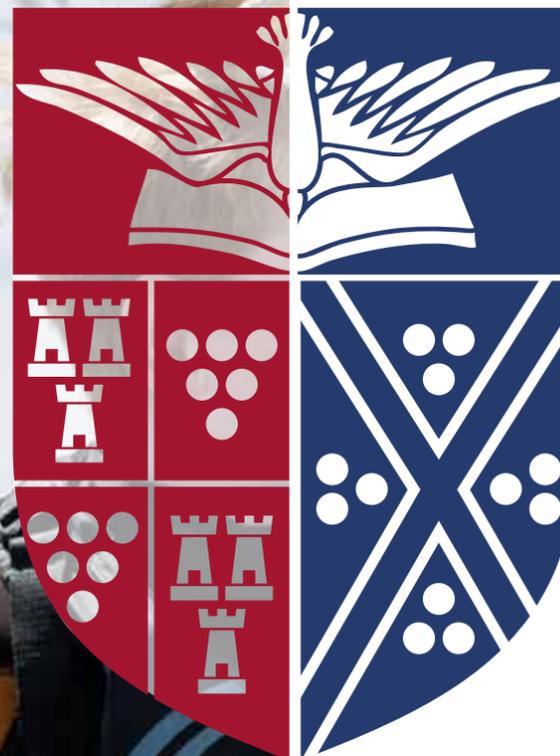
Recent alumni are encouraged to make use of TSCONNECTED through the Development Office and are invited to Networking events in London and Bristol. These play an essential role in bringing members of our community together and provide a platform for professional and social networking long after a student has left the Sixth Form.

Within weeks of launching TSCONNECTED we were able to put a law student (CO16) in touch with 2 other alumni barristers (CO11 and CO09) to help and advise in his future career plans.





Esse Quam Videri



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Art



HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR MEADS
EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

SPECIFICATION: FINE ART
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL ART

The creative and cultural Arts industries express and reflect the importance of creativity and culture in our society. All around us artists create the world we inhabit, and contribute to a thriving and important industry which has a vast range of exciting career options and choices.

A strong Art training can also develop highly valuable transferable skills, including creative ideas development, problem-solving, contextual interpretation, and visual communication, as well as organisational, presentation and team-working skills, and independent thought.

During the course, students are given the opportunity to produce practical and critical/contextual work in one or more areas of study: drawing, painting, mixed media, sculpture, ceramics, installation, printmaking, moving image (video, film, animation) and photography.

COURSE DETAILS

The course is developed so that each student can reach their full potential at A-Level; much more time is given to exploring, experimenting and starting to develop their personal study in the Lower Sixth. The course also prepares them fully to move on to further education in art.

- Unit 1.** The foundation stage
- Unit 2.** The personal investigation
- Unit 3.** The externally set assignment

Unit 1. The foundation stage: All students will experience a wide range of workshops that explore different media, methods and ways of thinking. This work will link to the experience the students have during their residential trip. Students are helped to find their personal focus and direction which they will take on into Unit 2.

Unit 2. The personal investigation: This is a practical investigation supported by written material. Students are required to conduct a practical investigation into an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by written material. The focus of the investigation must be identified independently by the student and must lead to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes. It must include evidence of the student's ability to research and develop ideas and relate their work in meaningful ways to relevant critical/contextual materials. The investigation must be informed by an aspect of contemporary or past practice of artists, photographers, designers or craftspeople. The written material must be a coherent and logically structured extended response of between 1000 and 3000 words of continuous prose.

Unit 3. An exam paper will be provided by AQA which comprises of around eight starting points from which the students have to select one. Students will be provided with examination papers on 1 February, or as soon as possible after that date. Preparatory period – from 1 February. Following receipt of the paper students should consider the starting points and select one. Preparatory work should be presented in any suitable format, such as mounted sheets, design sheets, sketchbooks, workbooks, journals, models and maquettes. Supervised time – 15 hours. Following the preparatory period, students must complete 15 hours of unaided, supervised time. In the 15 hours students must produce a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes, informed by their preparatory work.

WHY STUDY THIS AT TRURO SCHOOL?

Truro School has dedicated art teachers who have collectively taught A-Level Art for over 40 years. The teachers are both practising artists and David Meads is an AQA A-Level moderator. Due to the small class size, students have a lot more one-to-one time with their teachers.

Having two different teachers teaching gives the students a much wider skill base and greater depth of advice.

Both teachers are highly skilled in a wide range of media ranging from painting (oils, watercolour and acrylic), printing (etching, lino and mono printing) photography, sculpture, textiles, and ceramics.

The students can also work with our ceramics and textile technicians in a university style of working.



WHERE WILL AN A-LEVEL IN ART TAKE YOU?

Successful A-Level Art students can go on to study on a range of art and design foundation and degree courses, nationally and internationally, and train in their area of specialisation, before going on to become an artist, designer, architect, or arts professional in a broad variety of specialist areas, including; working in fashion, architecture, graphic design, ceramics, advertising, events design, sculptor, computer animation and graphics, web design, film industry, theatre design, gallery organiser, photographer, set designers, illustrator, medical artist or product design.

SUPRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Working with the Heseltine Gallery, Commissioned work for the School cafes, entering the Royal Society of Artists competition.

TRIPS, VISITS AND FIELD WORK

Cape Cornwall bespoke residential three-day trip in the Lower Sixth.

London Art trip in the Upper Sixth.

TOP-LEVEL FACILITIES

ART STUDIO

The students have their own studio which is spacious and well equipped. They are given their own working space and they have the freedom to be adventurous and develop the space how they wish and work whenever they want.

CERAMIC DEPARTMENT

Well equipped with two kilns, one glass kiln, wheels and ceramic technician.

PRINT STUDIO

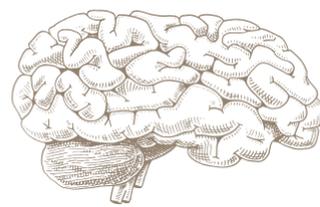
Etching room and press.



I loved art from an early age and having the opportunity to study it here at Truro School has been incredible. I had the freedom to pursue any aspect of art which really helped me to produce better creative work. Not only do we have a gallery on site, we also have a well-equipped studio in the Sixth Form to use as our own work space. I feel anyone who has a passion for art, or would like to pursue a creative career, will thrive here at Truro School.

JACK





Biology

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MISS FINNEGAN
EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

SPECIFICATION: 7402
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL BIOLOGY

The study of life itself; A-Level Biology explores the theories and principles involved in living systems, in all their intricacy. A-Level Biology takes students beyond the detail at GCSE so, if you found yourself asking how or why does that happen a lot during the GCSE, then A-Level Biology is for you. Exciting new developments that are not covered lower down the school, like epigenetics also feature in the course.

Alongside an A-Level qualification, students are also given extensive opportunities to obtain the practical endorsement by carrying out both the required practicals and a range of additional ones. Students, therefore, develop as confident scientists who are well prepared for further study and work in this field.

Biology teachers at Truro School come from a range of different backgrounds, bringing to the department a wide variety of expertise and contacts. They also regularly include topical items in their lessons at appropriate points so students feel informed about topics in the news which affect coming generations.

Students are given extensive opportunity to develop as practical scientists, so routinely secure the practical endorsement and go on to the science-based courses with confidence in conducting practical work.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

The Lower Sixth starts by exploring the structure of biological molecules including nucleic acids. You learn about the ultrastructure of cells, getting to explore the intricacies of the organelles, before moving on to study cellular transport and immunity. In the summer term you will learn about exchange of materials and how this is maximised by Fick's Law, a principle that is applicable to all surfaces where diffusion takes place. The exploration of how materials are transported, genetic coding, genetic diversity and biodiversity are also studied.

The content is covered through a range of interactive, engaging activities including practical tasks. The academic year ends with a field trip to Perran Sands to study succession as part of the practical work required to achieve the separate practical qualification. Practical and skills-based work is at the heart of our lessons. At each stage your skills in the practical and mathematical components of Biology will be developed and supported.

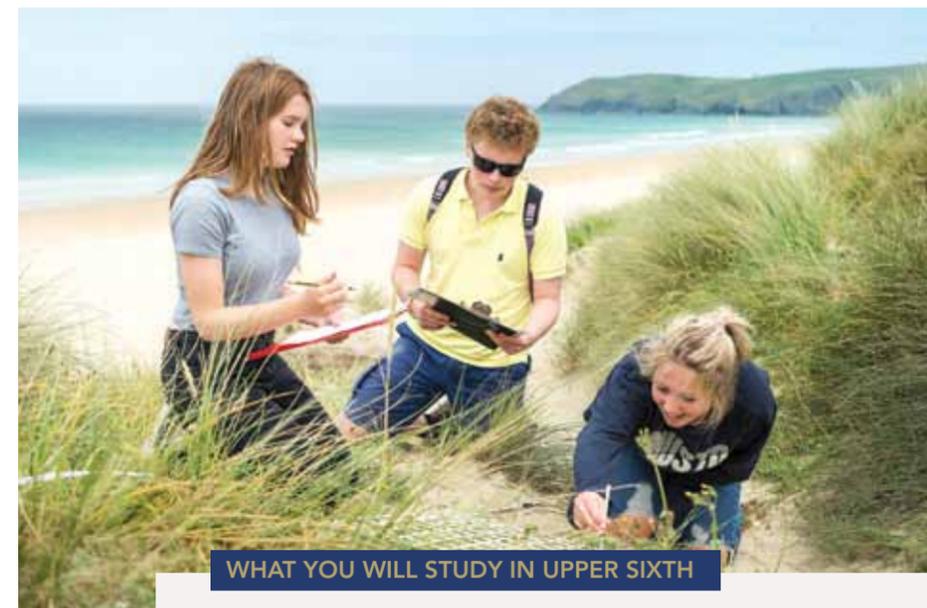
WHERE WILL AN A-LEVEL IN BIOLOGY TAKE YOU?

Biology is a desired A-Level for those students wishing to pursue a career in Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary care, as well as being suited to those who are interested in becoming research scientists across multiple areas, such as Molecular Genetics, Food Technology, Pharmacology, Ecology and Sustainability.

Due to the nature of Biology requiring good numeracy, descriptive and evaluative skills, the subject skills you will learn are highly adaptable and can be applied to a wide range of professions in the working world.

TRIPS, VISITS AND FIELD WORK

Field trip to Perran Sands in the summer term of the Lower Sixth to study succession and to carry out practical project work.



WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN UPPER SIXTH

The Upper Sixth starts by studying the biochemistry of respiration and photosynthesis. You get the opportunity to explore nervous and homeostatic control in greater depth than at GCSE and cover genetics in more detail. The final section involves exploring the ever-expanding area of

control of gene expression, including the role of technology in manipulating this.

Skills work remains embedded within the program of study in the Upper Sixth year. You will develop as a biologist who truly understands the practical work being undertaken. There will be greater freedom to plan your own tasks as the year

EXTENSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Stretch your knowledge further than the syllabus by taking part in the national Biology Olympiad and Intermediate Biology Olympiad; annual competitions for the most gifted Biologists.

Sign up to receive the quarterly Biological Sciences Review magazine to read about the latest research in biological fields, tips from lead examiners and possible career options.

Talk by, and links with, Professor Laurence Hurst, Truro School alumni, now president of the Genetics Society.

For those want to study medicine, dentistry or veterinary medicine, a comprehensive program throughout the sixth form equips students for each stage of the application process.

TOP-LEVEL FACILITIES

Each Biology laboratory is equipped with a video microscope as well as standard equipment for being able to carry out the range of practical activities included in the course. The department houses a suite of surfaces so that ICT can be part and parcel of lessons.



You have the chance to take part in supra-curricular activities such as Olympiads and running BioSoc, if you would like to extend your knowledge further. There are so many ways to get involved! The team of Biology teachers that we have at the school are always available and happy to help with anything that you ask them.

MAIYA-JADE

progresses. You will also be provided with ample opportunity to fulfil the practical endorsement that sits alongside the A-Level.

To assist learning, all lesson resources are made available on Moodle so students can review them in their own time, including for revision.



Business Studies

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR WHATLEY
EXAMINATION BOARD: EDUQAS

SPECIFICATION: EDUQAS BUSINESS
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL BUSINESS

How did the founders of YouTube manage to create a business worth over £800m in less than two years? What should tobacco companies do to maintain sales in the UK when they cannot advertise their product? What effect will the vote to leave the EU have on UK businesses? These are the types of issues you will discuss during Truro School's A-Level Business course.

You are not required to have studied Business prior to A-Level. The course is a contemporary subject and the theory that is learnt in the classroom can be applied to the real world of business.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

Lower Sixth Business students are encouraged to look at business organisations from both the inside and the outside, understanding the importance of stakeholders such as shareholders, employees and suppliers. At the start of the course you will focus on new business start-ups and small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs). Topics covered in the Lower Sixth include market research, marketing, human resources and operations management.

There are constant opportunities in the course to carry out research, work in groups and to present findings.

For example, in the Lower Sixth students will be asked to:

Identify and investigate two successful SMEs in the local area; interview the owners to find out the reasons for the success of their business.

Select three entrepreneurs and describe the nature of their business. Identify their particular skills and character traits and explain the reasons for their success.

Carry out project work on identifying a gap in the market and produce an outline business plan.

OUTSTANDING VALUE ADDED

10 students out of 22 exceeded ALPS by 1 grade (45%), 1 student out of 22 exceeded ALPS by 2 grades (5%), 9 students achieved ALPS (41%).

OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Small class sizes, 1:1 meetings and online resources and tests via moodle.

COMPREHENSIVE UCAS SUPPORT

1:1 guidance on building academic evidence and workshops on how to write excellent Business personal statements.

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

The Business department offers a real focus on developing the learning skills needed to succeed at university, for example debating, presenting and independent research. They also work collaboratively with other departments to deliver lectures on a range of relevant topics.

SUBJECT EXTENSIONS

Tenner Challenge
Student Investor Challenge

WHERE WILL AN A-LEVEL IN BUSINESS STUDIES TAKE YOU?

Many of our students go on to read Business Studies at university, however the A-Level provides a good grounding in many subject areas and provides a breadth which enables students to go on to study a range of degree courses.

For those not wanting to go to university, Business is an excellent introduction to how firms work, and would provide a good grounding for anyone wanting to start their own business, or join a training or apprenticeship scheme at an existing firm.

Business is a dynamic course which prepares students for the challenges of the 21st century by introducing them to the world of business. This subject helps to develop a wide range of skills, from communication to problem solving, time management, teamwork and decision making.

BABA



WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN UPPER SIXTH

During the Upper Sixth you will build on the skills you have developed. One side of the course involves the handling and manipulating of business data. This aspect of the course includes problem-solving techniques and tools such as forecasting, decision trees and investment appraisal.

The other side of the A-Level year considers business strategy, the external environment and the international dimension of business. This part is challenging and will develop your ability to expand arguments and offer balanced evaluations. There will still be opportunities for research and group work in the Upper Sixth but there will also be much more focus on developing exam technique in readiness for the summer exams.

For example, in the Upper Sixth you will be asked to:

Use ratios to analyse the accounts of one plc per group and present findings.

Investigate examples of good and bad decision-making by business leaders.

Research the changing social trends in the UK and try to estimate how these changes could impact on businesses of different sizes and types.



Chemistry



HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: DR BROGDEN
EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

SPECIFICATION: 7405
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL CHEMISTRY

Studying A-Level Chemistry at Truro School is a completely immersive experience. Practical Chemistry forms a large part of the learning and every student is expected to set up and perform their own experiments. Students flourish at Chemistry if they are curious and can take a newly taught concept and apply it in new and unique ways to solve a more complex problem. Chemistry is immersive because it is all around us; it helps us understand why things happen on an atomic level, and with that comes a deeper understanding and appreciation of the world that we live in.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

The course begins by covering the structure of the atom and looking more closely at electronic orbital notation, demonstrating how the Periodic Table is linked to electronic configuration. Calculations form a large part of the first term's work; titration experiments are carried out to calculate the concentration of unknown solutions and reaction stoichiometry is studied. We also cover the Ideal Gas Equation and simple spectroscopic methods.

Over the year, you will also study Organic Chemistry. Some examples of topics focusing on the different functional groups include how alkanes act as fuels, how CFCs can break down

the ozone layer, how alkenes can be used to make everyday polymers and the interesting properties of alcohols that make them soluble in water.

As part of the Physical Chemistry section, you will learn about equilibria and Le Chatelier's Principle, including applying the equilibrium constant K_c to specific reactions to help predict their outcomes based on changing concentrations and pressures. You will also study rates and calorimetry and get to grips with Hess's Law.

SUBJECT EXTENSIONS AND SUPRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

We offer an A-Level Chemistry Extension class (after school) to teach very able students how to answer Olympiad style questions. Ultimately, the students attending this club will be coached to problem solve effectively using their course knowledge. This could mean the difference between an A and an A* grade at A-Level.

Lower Sixth students sit the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge

TOP-LEVEL FACILITIES

We have four labs all equipped to deliver A-Level practicals on an individual basis. We have state-of-the-art thin layer and column chromatography equipment, including a UV viewing box, and Quik-Fit apparatus for carrying out complex oxidation reactions involving both reflux and distillation set-ups. We have a huge range of chemicals to allow all the transition metal reactions to be carried out and storage facilities to accommodate both liquid nitrogen and dry ice.

Upper Sixth students sit the RSC Chemistry Olympiad paper



WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN UPPER SIXTH

As part of the Organic Chemistry course, you will learn about many different functional groups and their associated reactions. Aspirin is studied in detail, including the synthesis and purification of a sample as part of the A-Level Chemistry practical assessment. You will study familiar compounds like paracetamol and amino-acids and progress through the year to design synthetic routes to make these compounds.

In your Physical Chemistry lessons, you will learn about entropy and kinetics; these explain why reactions happen and how fast reactions may go. Through learning about buffers, you will see how these extraordinary chemicals can be used in

biological systems to maintain pH. In the electrochemistry topic, you will have opportunities to build electrochemical cells and to study fuel cells as alternative sources of electrical energy.

As part of the Inorganic Chemistry course, you will learn about the properties and reactions of transition metal compounds; why they are coloured and how this property relates directly to the effect of photons on electrons in partially full d-sub shells.

Chemistry students will be taught by two A-Level specialists with expertise in Engineering, Material Science and Biochemistry and with qualifications

From the joys of organic chemistry to the chance to develop my practical skills, the course has proved to be both rewarding and exciting, fuelling my passion to continue the subject further. Studying Chemistry at Truro School has been a truly enriching experience, which I would strongly recommend to anyone seeking a captivating academic challenge.

SOPHIE

WHERE WILL AN A-LEVEL IN CHEMISTRY TAKE YOU?

Chemistry A-Level is essential for degrees in Biochemistry, Material Science, Pharmacy, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science and Chemical Engineering. It can lead to university courses such as Nanotechnology, Environmental Science, Forensics, Sportswear Development, Teaching and Food Technology. Academically rigorous, A-Level Chemistry is highly regarded by Admissions Officers on many other courses, such as Accountancy, Economics and Law.

to Doctorate level in Organic Chemistry and Chemical Engineering.

In addition, Chemistry clinics run every week after school and students can use this time to ask for help on prep tasks and re-visit the material covered in lessons in a relaxed and informal setting.

At Truro School there is enough equipment for every student to complete their practical work on an individual basis. This increases confidence and improves practical skills. We have the expertise and knowledge to run exciting and relevant practicals, often developed and enhanced 'in-house' to enrich and improve the learning experience.



Computer Science

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR KITTO
EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

SPECIFICATION: A-LEVEL COMPUTER SCIENCE 7517
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL COMPUTER SCIENCE

If you are someone who likes to be at the forefront of all things technology then this is the course for you. Develop your problem-solving skills and learn how to design innovative solutions in an ever-evolving plethora of industries with Computer Science at Truro School.

A-Level Computer Science at Truro School is taught by Mr Kitto and Mr Vanstone. Mr Kitto has over 12 years of experience in teaching Computer Science and has a background in software engineering having completed a Computer Science degree at Royal Holloway University. He programmed for two years, producing code for companies including Thales, Hypercomm and JCB. Mr Vanstone is a Geology graduate with seven years industrial experience processing scientific data and computer modelling in scientific and civil engineering, before entering teaching.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

In the Lower Sixth a large emphasis is placed on developing your computational thinking and programming skills using Python or a programming language of your choice.

You will be encouraged to solve problems ranging in difficulty from simple input and output to complex simulations and algorithms.

The course covers a variety of theory topics including data representation,

networking, social, moral and cultural issues and systems architecture. These subjects form the backbone of a deep understanding of computer science and will help to provide a solid foundation for further learning.

Towards the end of the year you will begin to plan your programming project which will eventually make up 20% of the A-Level grade; this can either be a solution to a real life problem or an investigation into an area of interest.

SMALL CLASS SIZES

Small class sizes mean that you will be fully supported every step of the way, particularly during your bespoke project work.

YOU'RE IN SAFE HANDS

A-Level teachers Mr Kitto and Mr Vanstone have been at the forefront of the computer science and engineering industries and have worked for a range of companies. They are both very experienced teachers.

WHAT IS AN A-LEVEL IN COMPUTER SCIENCE USEFUL FOR?

Computer Science at A-Level is an ideal preparation for a computing degree or apprenticeship with an IT company. It is also an extremely useful subject combined with the sciences and maths for the future study of aeronautical, electrical/electronic, civil, mechanical and chemical engineering.



Excellent computing facilities and technical support with three in-class computer suites which also contain a range of tablets and other portable devices.

Computer science A-Level has been a great next step for me since I get to continue with programming, while learning more about all the tech our world depends on. The lessons are always challenging, as we come across new ideas and systems which work completely different than anything I've seen before. The course offers a strong base in programming and analytical thinking, which is then applied to different technologies, such as the way each component works, network architecture and databases. I really enjoy how the whole course is based on this technical mindset. I always figure out a way I would solve a problem, and then we learn how people actually did it in the past – and I'm usually right! There is also a huge practical project involved in A2, I am working on a vectorization algorithm using Python extended with C++ at the time of writing.

JOZEF

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN UPPER SIXTH

In the Upper Sixth you dedicate your time to project work whilst building on practical skills in the programming language of your choice. The theoretical elements of the course are studied in greater depth and topics including big data, databases and functional programming are added to the topics from the Lower Sixth.

The project work includes sections on analysis, design, implementation, testing and evaluation. This produces a significant piece of work that can

either form an investigation into an area of computer science or create a solution for a real-world problem.

You will take two end-of-year exams, one covering the theory topics studied throughout the course and the other testing your practical skills. The practical test will allow you to show off your knowledge of programming constructs and techniques and improve some code that you will have studied.



Cookery

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MS TAYLOR
EXAMINATION BOARD: LEITHS SCHOOL OF FOOD AND WINE, THE CONFEDERATION OF TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY (CTH)

Truro School has a purpose-built, state-of-the-art cookery school combining bespoke work stations with a large demonstration area, an overhead camera and a superb range of equipment. In addition to offering a wide range of co-curricular courses to Sixth Form pupils, such as 'Cooking on a budget for university', and 'Around the world', we are the only Leiths Academy school in Devon and Cornwall.

Our Leiths Academy status allows us to offer the highly sought-after 'Leiths Introductory Certificate in Food and Wine' opening doors to a wide range of employment opportunities.

In addition, this qualification has been accredited by the Confederation of Tourism and Hospitality as a Level 3 Certificate in Professional Cookery with a generous allocation of UCAS points as well as a host of transferable skills to put on a personal statement or CV. The Head of Department is supported by an impressive team including two highly qualified chefs who have joined us from Rick Stein's seafood restaurant in Padstow.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

During the first year you will gain the confidence to cook by learning how to use a wide range of ingredients, understanding dishes that complement each other on menus, and learning the methods used to cook and serve the food to achieve the best results.

You will study a wide range of basic methods to master the basics of professional cookery. Beginning with soups, sauces, pastry, bread and cakes, you will soon be tackling complex menus such as duck with ginger, honey and lime and rosti potatoes. Other dishes on the course include sirloin steak with Béarnaise sauce, chocolate mousse and pavlova as well as the all-important traditional roast chicken with all the trimmings.



The Leiths course is allowing me to develop practical cookery skills that are not only useful in terms of employment opportunities but also in everyday life.

WHAT IS THE LEITHS INTRODUCTORY CERTIFICATE USEFUL FOR?

Of course you will learn how to cook healthy meals when you move away from home, as well as the higher culinary skills required to rustle up a Sunday roast for your housemates at university or prepare a celebration meal to impress your family and friends. However, there are some additional bonuses to studying the course...

THE LEITHS LIST

Upon completion of the course, you will be eligible to apply for positions advertised on Leiths List, where private clients source staff for a whole range of catering needs. With Leiths List opportunities arising in both the UK and overseas, the qualification will open the door to paid travel experiences. TV personalities also feature on Leiths Alumni list including Lorraine Pascale, Gizzi Erskine and Matt Tebutt.

UCAS POINTS

The CTH accreditation classes the qualification as a Level 3 course and will therefore accrue sought-after UCAS points. A Distinction will earn you 36 UCAS points, which is extremely valuable when you consider an AS at Grade A is worth 20 points and an A-Level at Grade C is worth 32 points.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN UPPER SIXTH

By the second year, you will really start to master the art of professional cookery. The Leiths Academy programme is not just about learning how to cook, it is about achieving perfection with food, cooking simple high-quality ingredients to an excellent standard. Attention to detail is a large part of the assessment criteria in the second year of the course, proving that you can work calmly under pressure in a professional kitchen. Towards the end of the second year you will all be challenged



BUILT AROUND YOUR TIMETABLE

The Leiths Introductory Certificate is designed to fit around your long-term goals and objectives and is offered alongside A levels as part of the enrichment options on your Sixth Form timetable. The course ends at Easter of the Upper Sixth allowing time to prepare for A-Level examinations.



I have thoroughly enjoyed the practical lessons within Leiths course this year as they provide such a contrast to my other A level classes and give me an opportunity to work with the skills learnt in previous theory classes and demonstrations. I am hoping to use my Leiths qualification to get a job working abroad as a private cook.

ELLA

THREE REASONS TO STUDY FOR THE LEITHS INTRODUCTORY CERTIFICATE

Prepare for independent living before you move away for university or work.

Evidence to interviewers that you have strong time management, organisation and practical skills and that you can work well with others as a team under pressure.

Open the door to future job opportunities in the UK and beyond, be it whilst on a gap year, whilst studying at university or as a chosen career path.

to work as a team to design, prepare and host a luxurious canapé and champagne cocktail party for invited special guests.

Menus during the second year include trout en papillote with a beurre blanc and sweet potatoes roasted with bay and orange; homemade tortellini with tomato and basil salsa, parsley oil and garlic foam; and a dessert tasting plate including vanilla cheesecake, raspberry coulis and jelly, meringue cuite grissini and a quenelle of home-made ice-cream.

You will also study wine pairing and tasting with a professional sommelier from Leiths, gaining valuable knowledge about which wines work best with which flavours and foods.

By the end of the course, you should be able to show that you can produce specified dishes using professional methods to the required standard under timed conditions.



Design Technology

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR BAKER
EXAMINATION BOARD: EDEXCEL

SPECIFICATION: DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (PRODUCT DESIGN)
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL

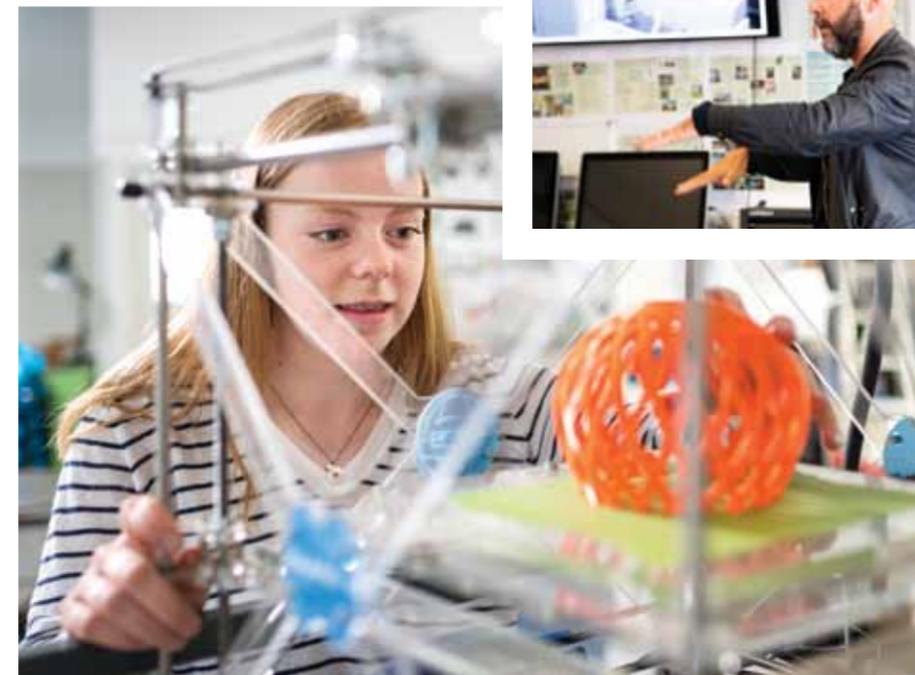
During this course you will generate creative and commercial ideas, solve complex design problems and manufacture to the highest level. This course develops invaluable skills for your journey into higher education and beyond. At the end of the two years you will know how to research, design and build a commercially viable product.

THREE REASONS TO STUDY DESIGN TECHNOLOGY AT TRURO SCHOOL

With over 100 years of combined teaching and industry-led experience, staff are in a position to help pupils develop and manufacture designs that most schools would find challenging.

Over the last few years the OCR exam board has retained numerous pieces of Truro School coursework as exemplar material.

Regular access to the Truro School's CAD suite, IT facilities, Solid Works 3D design software and workshops with support from staff throughout the school day.



The workshop is very well equipped with a large range of machines from woodworking to metal-working lathes, 3D printers to laser cutters, so it's possible to undertake any project. The staff have a great sense of humour and they are expert in all areas of design. They give us lots of freedom, but plenty of great guidance too. There are always staff available to help students at lunchtime and after school and I feel that it is difficult to miss deadlines when the staff open up the workshops all day long and encourage you so much. It's a very friendly and well-equipped place to learn!

JOE

WHAT IS AN A-LEVEL IN DESIGN TECHNOLOGY USEFUL FOR?

We are all consumers and we need to know that the items we purchase are value for money, do the job, are well made and in our opinion look good. From a career perspective, anyone who considers a job in engineering, manufacturing, design related industries, marketing, advertising and design education would benefit from studying this subject.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

A-Level Design Technology is a linear course that consists of three assessed units of work. The non-examined assessment forms your main practical project and equates to 50% of the total mark. Two further exams equate to 25% each.

The two theory-based units cover the areas of technical principles, designing and making principles, and specialist design knowledge.

Approximately one-third of the Lower Sixth year will be spent studying theory through lessons and practical investigations.

In preparation for the main 'design and make' project (which carries 50% of the overall grade), you will complete a single, shorter 'mock' project or a number of smaller projects. You will be prepared to understand exactly what is expected in the main Upper Sixth project (the non-examined

assessment), which will most likely commence in the summer term.

During the Lower Sixth year you will also be invited to attend a Creative and Performing Arts department trip to London. It is here that you will visit a number of design-related attractions such as: The Design Museum, Conran Flagship retail outlet, RIBA (Royal Institute of British architects), the South Bank and other places of interest.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN UPPER SIXTH

The Upper Sixth is spent completing the main practical project. Here at Truro School we give you full control over this main project. You will be given complete freedom to choose the context of your design task.

Ensuring that your final product is commercially viable is a key element of the course. This is of utmost importance for those students who wish to use their skills in industry in

the future. With this in mind, you will learn how to fully research and investigate the needs of your client.

Design development will involve further learning and demonstration of extensive modelling techniques including the use of CAD/CAM. During your project you will explore all design possibilities and obtain approval from your client in preparation for accurate

manufacturing. You will also attend our annual 'Dragons' Den' event, usually hosted at Falmouth University. This is a highly valuable experience, which prepares pupils for formal interview. Design-related professionals challenge pupils on their designs.

Running parallel to this will be a program of theory-based learning. The class will explore exam papers in detail to ensure that you are fully confident when taking the exam.

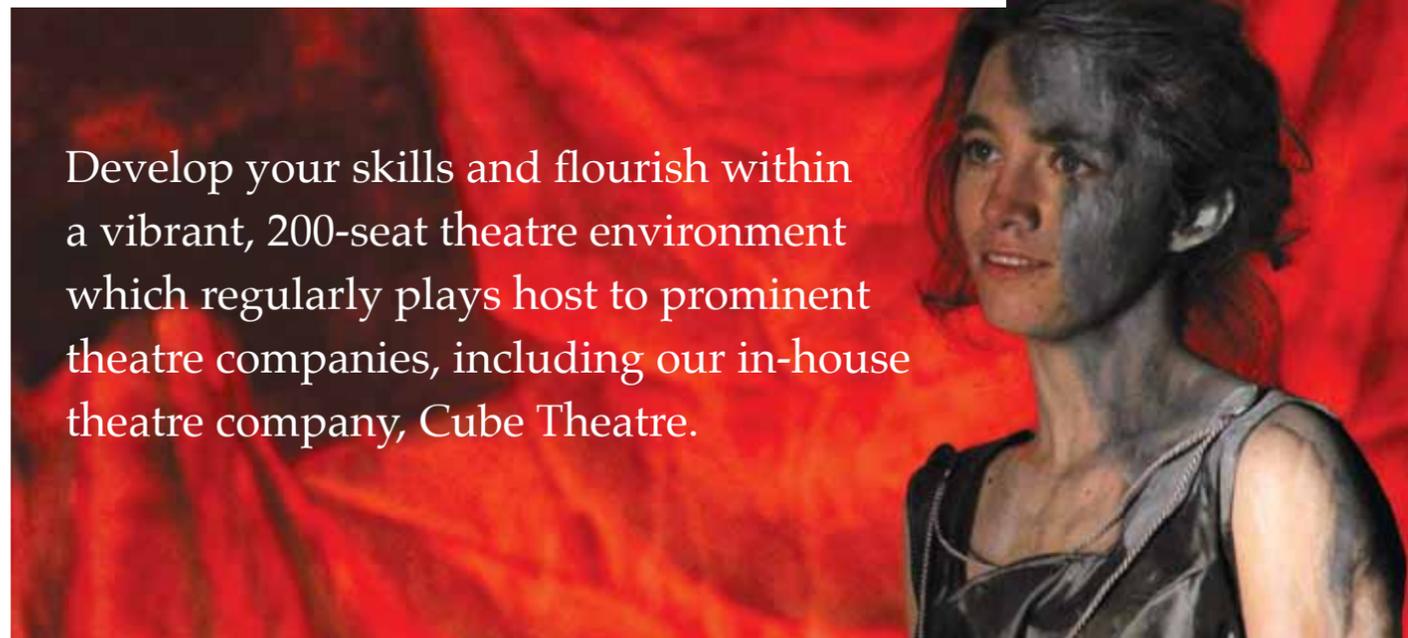


Drama & Theatre Studies



HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR OLDFIELD
EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

SPECIFICATION: 7262 DRAMA AND THEATRE
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL



Develop your skills and flourish within a vibrant, 200-seat theatre environment which regularly plays host to prominent theatre companies, including our in-house theatre company, Cube Theatre.

Both teachers in the department are drama specialists. Ben Oldfield worked extensively as an actor, director, theatre producer and playwright. He has worked in theatres across the country and in the USA and now has an MA in education. Jo Egar has worked as both a director and an actor, playing many significant roles and touring the country. She has over 17 years' experience as a teacher and has worked as an examiner for AQA Drama.

Supported by such outstanding and engaging staff, amazing facilities, and a talented and dedicated tech team, perhaps the high standard of work is not such a surprise, and it fills me with pride to work in such a professional department.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

Throughout the Lower Sixth you will be immersed in practical theatre, challenging preconceptions and exploring a range of styles. We will work on enhancing your performance skills through team activities, including a field trip to London. You will study a number of masterpieces and their influence on the world of theatre, performing key extracts from plays.

The set text you will study in the Lower Sixth is Ibsen's masterpiece 'Hedda Gabler'. This play is one of the all-time great modern plays. It is complex, profound, enigmatic and unpredictable, exploring the darkness of the human psyche, and it deals with universal

themes that are significant to a modern audience: the identity of women in society, the destructive and redemptive power of love, and the fundamental human need to be free.

From a stimulus of your own choosing, you will also create an original piece of theatre. You will work in a group and be responsible for researching, devising, rehearsing, designing, directing and performing the piece. Alongside the devising, you record your creative journey in a Working Notebook, documenting your research, your intentions, your process, and your evaluation of the finished piece.



UNRIVALLED RESOURCES

You will be working as part of a theatre company in a professionally run theatre fully equipped with lighting and sound, a wardrobe and props department, alongside professional practitioners – stage manager, technical manager, designers and directors.

The excitement and passion of the Truro School Drama Department as a whole is what makes the challenge of studying Theatre Studies such a delight. When it comes to choosing plays within the course, as much choice as possible is offered to students, so when we begin working on a play, we feel a sense of ownership over the final production that results in a higher standard of work.

LILLY



Inspiring teachers: Both Mr Oldfield and Ms Egar are professional actors trained at prestigious drama schools and they have many years' experience of directing, writing and teaching. Lessons don't feel like lessons; the emphasis is on operating as a professional theatre company.

WHAT IS AN A-LEVEL IN DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES USEFUL FOR?

Drama and Theatre Studies develops skills essential to just about any career as it requires you to think creatively and work collaboratively, skills that all employers are looking for. The course represents a unique blend of academic rigour and practical performance. It would certainly be an advantage for teaching, the creative industries, sales, public relations and politics, but the list is more or less endless.

Exciting opportunities: Perform in a specially commissioned play at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival; co-direct school productions; perform in the Sixth Form play; continue work with us in your gap year, developing your work and building skills.

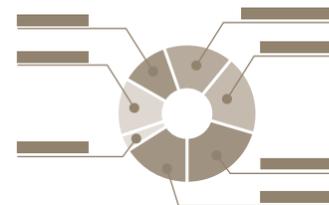
WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN UPPER SIXTH

At the start of Upper Sixth you will focus on set text, 'Metamorphosis' by Steven Berkoff. 'Metamorphosis' is based on a short story by Franz Kafka in which a young man turns into a beetle. The play has a highly surreal feel to it, and is an opportunity for students to explore Berkoff's unique physical style. It satirizes how society operates, depicting the common man being crushed by the oppressive constraints of the modern-day world.

As the year progresses, your projects become larger and more ambitious. It is at this stage that you will be given full control over your final showpiece. Working in a tight-knit team, you will bring your production to life in the style of a practitioner of your choice. Your performance will be assessed by a visiting examiner. A significant amount of time is given to ensuring that the performance is of the highest calibre.

In the Spring Term your main project is performed and your Reflective Report completed. The remainder of the year is dedicated to exam technique to ensure you are fully prepared for the written paper before study leave.





Economics

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR WHATLEY
EXAMINATION BOARD: EDEXCEL

SPECIFICATION: EDEXCEL ECONOMICS A
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL ECONOMICS

They say money makes the world go round — but how fast? And in what direction? And is it spinning off course? Studying Economics gives you a grasp of processes that affect every aspect of your life and helps you to understand different ways of organising business and the state.

Truro School's course is about evaluating opposing views, distinguishing valued judgements from facts, recognising bias and gaining the confidence to make your own financial decisions. We will challenge your political and economic assumptions, explore uncertainty and value diversity.

OUTSTANDING RESULTS

Economics students achieved

100%

A*-B

in the latest A-Level results

2020

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

The subject is split into two main sections, microeconomics and macroeconomics, and we devote half of the lessons to studying each of these. The Lower Sixth is split into two parts:

THEME 1: Markets and business behaviour. Topics include scarcity and choice, the basic economic problem, opportunity cost, specialisation and trade, supply and demand, market failure and government intervention.

THEME 2: The national and global economy. Topics include economic growth, inflation, unemployment and international trade. This part of the course also considers the effectiveness of different government policies for example interest rates, taxation and government spending.

The course has a real-world focus and each lesson aims to apply the economic theory you have learnt to recent news stories. There are constant opportunities for independent research, group tasks and presentations. For example, in the Lower Sixth you will be asked to:

Research the effects of the rise in long-term unemployment.

Consider you and your family's consumption behaviour and explain what you think are the main factors which determine how much someone spends.

Use the observatory of economic complexity to describe the UK's pattern of trade. Who do we trade with? What do we import? What do we export?

OUTSTANDING RESULTS

Economics students achieved 50% A*-A and 95% A*-B in the latest A-Level results (2019).

OUTSTANDING VALUE ADDED

In 2018, 6 students out of 14 achieved ALPS, 5 students exceeded ALPS by one grade, 3 students exceeded ALPS by 2 grades, no students performed below ALPS.

OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Small class sizes, 1:1 meetings, weekly clinic in the Upper Sixth and online resources and tests via moodle.

Studying Economics gives you a greater understanding of what is going on in the world, and provides useful skills and knowledge for your future. This year we have discussed topics as diverse as the impact of immigrant labour in the UK, if there is a future in bitcoins, and whether childcare costs should be tax deductible for working parents. We have also seen how hyperinflation led to starving billionaires in Zimbabwe and learnt how there would be no streetlights without government intervention!

SARITA

COMPREHENSIVE UCAS SUPPORT

1:1 guidance on building academic evidence and workshops on how to write excellent Economics personal statements.

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

The Economics department offers a real focus on developing the learning skills needed to succeed at university, for example debating, presenting and independent research. They also work collaboratively with other departments to deliver lectures on a range of relevant topics.

EXTENSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Royal Economics Essay Competition
Tanner Challenge
Student Investor Challenge



WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

In the Upper Sixth you build on the skills you have developed:

THEME 3: Business behaviour and the labour market. Topics include how competitive markets work, imperfect markets, for example monopoly and oligopoly, and the Labour market.

THEME 4: Global perspective. Topics include the theory of trade, inequality, development, the role of the financial sector and the role of the state.

There is also an emphasis on examination skills so you are fully prepared for the summer exams. Examples of tasks you will be asked to complete are:

Prepare a presentation on the economic arguments for and against leaving the EU. Do you judge that it was the correct decision for the UK economy?

WHERE WILL AN A-LEVEL IN ECONOMICS TAKE YOU?

Economics is well regarded by universities as a rigorous A-Level because of the analytical skills that it teaches.

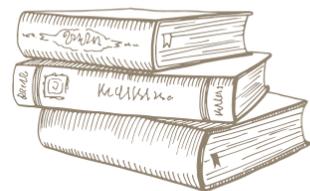
The most popular degree course choices for A-Level Economics students tend to be Economics, Business, Politics, International Relations, Law and Mathematics. Whilst A-Level Mathematics is not required to study A-Level Economics, students wishing to read for a degree in Economics will be disadvantaged if they do not have an A-Level in Mathematics.

Research real-world examples of monopoly, oligopoly and monopolistic competition. What do you think are main impacts on the consumer of the different types of market structure?

Research the minimum wage. What is it? How much is it? What are the benefits for the Cornish economy? Can you think of any negative impacts? Do you agree with the Labour Party that it should be raised?



English Literature



HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MRS SELVEY
EXAMINATION BOARD: EDUQAS
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL

If you choose to study English Literature, then you will already be a person who loves to read and write. But this course also takes this further, to develop your skills in literary criticism, evaluation and debate. You learn to question your own thinking and perceptions and those of others, whilst studying some of the greatest works written in the English language.

You will be guided by warm and supportive teachers, most of whose passion for Literature has led them to study to a Masters level or beyond.



WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

A-Level English Literature encourages learners to develop their interest in and enjoyment of literature and literary studies as they:

READ widely and independently both set texts and others that they have selected for themselves

ENGAGE critically and creatively with a substantial body of texts and ways of responding to them

DEVELOP and effectively apply their knowledge of literary analysis and evaluation

EXPLORE the contexts of the texts they are reading and others' interpretations of them

UNDERTAKE independent and sustained studies to deepen their appreciation and understanding of English literature, including its changing traditions.

This specification is based on a conviction that the study of literature should encourage enjoyment of literary studies based on an informed personal response to a range of texts. It provides learners with an introduction to the discipline of advanced literary studies and presents opportunities for reading widely and for making creative and informed responses to each of the major literary genres of poetry, prose and drama.

This specification offers three components in discrete genres of study (poetry, drama and prose), to allow learners to focus on the conventions and traditions of each genre in turn. A further component offers unseen prose and poetry to allow learners to focus separately on applying the skills of literary analysis acquired during the course as a whole.

WHY STUDY ENGLISH LITERATURE AT TRURO SCHOOL?

Enjoy an energetic and vibrant life beyond the classroom with regular theatre and cinema trips, including Shakespeare at Stratford Upon Avon and the Globe Theatre, London.

We are uniquely placed in a landscape that has inspired generations of writers: from Hardy, Lawrence, Causley, Du Maurier and Graham to contemporary writers living and working in Cornwall in a vibrant literary scene. We make the most of it, attending festivals, productions, lectures and workshops whenever we can.

You will be taught in small, seminar-style classes and will be known and supported as an individual.

We take as many opportunities as we can to work across academic departments, so you will collaborate with pupils studying Art, History, Philosophy etc. in your studies.

TRIPS, VISITS AND FIELD WORK

The year begins with a joint Art and English trip to Cape Cornwall. On this residential weekend, we work with the Art Department to offer a wide range of workshops interacting with the beautiful Cornish landscape, designed to inspire your creativity and introduce you to the enthusiasms of your fellow students and your teachers.

The academic year ends with a residential Shakespeare Trip to Stratford Upon Avon: you will watch two plays, participate in a workshop and have a back stage tour at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, as well as the opportunity to explore the lovely town of Shakespeare's birth.

Frequent theatre trips as opportunities arise: Minack, Hall for Cornwall, Theatre Royal, Plymouth and many live screenings from National Theatre and Royal Shakespeare Theatre at the Plaza Cinema in Truro.

English Literature at Truro school consists of a wide variety of challenging, thought-provoking texts. In our class reading, we deliberate and discuss a whole variety of themes and ideas, like morality vs. power, or gender confusion. However, one of the greatest things about English Literature at A-Level is the freedom to choose our own texts to discuss and explore for coursework. This allows us, as Sixth Formers, to develop our own writing styles and individual passions for certain authors and poets, whilst also feeling the immense support that is given by the English department.

MOLLY



WHERE WILL AN A LEVEL IN ENGLISH LITERATURE TAKE YOU?

Universities acknowledge that the skills developed on the English Literature course are the most highly transferable, with English graduates going on to develop the widest range of careers – publishing, broadcasting, marketing and pr, journalism, law, teaching and politics.

EXTENSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Universities acknowledge that English is a subject for the independently minded and our best students discover a world of reading journeys that only begin with their set texts. You will be encouraged to enter writing competitions and taken to talks, festivals and workshops as part of the vibrant local literary scene. We also shadow the TS Eliot Prize for contemporary poetry, and always buy the Man Booker Prize shortlisted novels, for loan and discussion.

We also have a thriving Debating Society which meets weekly for informal training

and debates, in house and with other local schools, leading to a series of competitive opportunities in the Spring Term. In recent years, Truro School Sixth Form debating teams have reached the national finals of both the Oxford and the Cambridge schools' competitions, as well as the prestigious Debating Matters finals in London. We also run a team in the Independent Schools Mock Trial competition: 10-15 students and staff (as barristers, witnesses, clerk, ushers and jury) and enact a mock trial in response to specially written criminal cases.





The Extended Project Qualification

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MRS THURLOW

SPECIFICATION: EDEXCEL EPQ

QUALIFICATION: EPQ (EQUIVALENT TO HALF AN A-LEVEL)

The Edexcel Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is an opportunity to complement your A-Levels by studying any subject or topic of your choosing and gain a recognised qualification (equivalent to half an A-Level). Over five terms you work towards the completion of a final product that could be a dissertation, an investigation, a performance or an artefact. The course is extremely popular with self-motivated students.



The EPQ provides an opportunity for self-motivated learners to go beyond the confines of the A-Level curriculum and be independent, confident learners who develop projects tailored to their personal interests and passions. There are opportunities to visit businesses and universities in order to develop the range in resources and obtain further feedback from specialists in the field.

The initial reason I chose to conduct a dissertation project was to improve skills that would be vital for university such as the ability to read challenging journals and learning to study independently.

ALANA

OUTSTANDING RESULTS

EPQ students achieved

100%

A*-B

in the latest A-Level results

2020

It results in a qualification that is highly regarded by universities and represents half an A-Level.



WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

Our unique approach to delivering the EPQ is extremely effective at developing skills that are highly valued by universities and future employers, such as research, evaluation and presentation.

The purpose of the EPQ is not to deliver a particular curriculum but to develop mature, independent learners who possess a range of thinking and study skills. Our experienced team of teaching staff offer expertise from a broad range of disciplines, and students are encouraged to collaborate with specialists in their chosen subject area from both inside and outside the school community.

The course starts in the Lower Sixth as follows:

- Developing professional relationships with experts in the field
- Formulating a focused title or project brief
- Identifying project objectives and rationale
- Developing a clear project plan
- Introduction to primary and secondary sources, including peer-reviewed journals
- Assessing the credibility of source material (dissertation projects only)
- Formatting a project
- Academic referencing of sources and composing a bibliography
- Developing and demonstrating skills in analysis and synthesis

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN UPPER SIXTH

- Writing a discussion section that includes arguments and counter-arguments (dissertation projects only)
- Tutorials where staff offer guidance on a one-to-one basis
- Evaluating your work
- Gaining experience in peer and self assessment
- Developing oral and visual presentation skills
- Rehearsing presentations in front of peers

WHAT IS THE EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION USEFUL FOR?

Anyone who has completed an Extended Project has had the opportunity to develop and demonstrate a wide range of key transferable skills that will be of great use at university and in the workplace.

Malcolm Trobe, deputy general secretary of the Association of School and College Leaders, says:

Extended projects are becoming more and more popular. They are liked by universities and can help to strengthen a candidate's application. They are phenomenally valuable in giving young people the opportunity to prepare themselves for university where they will spend much of their time studying and learning through their own research and reading.

(BBC report, August 2015).



Geography

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MRS WORMALD
EXAMINATION BOARD: EDUQAS

SPECIFICATION: GEOGRAPHY
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL



Geography is not only up-to-date and relevant, it is one of the most exciting, adventurous and valuable subjects to study today. So many of the world's current problems boil down to geography, and need the geographers of the future to help us understand them. Global warming, sustainable food production, natural disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis, the spread of disease, the reasons for migration and the future of energy resources are just some of the great challenges facing the next generation of geographers.

MICHAEL PALIN CBE

We believe Geography cuts right to the heart of the fundamental challenges facing our planet. Never has there been a more important time to study this subject. As David Attenborough recently highlighted, young people are poised to bring about a social and environmental revolution, which he likens to the abolition of slavery.

In our A-Level classes we will be placing current news stories in context and confronting all the most relevant and topical issues facing the planet today. Geography at Truro School is a strong facilitating subject that complements and enhances understanding across the curriculum.

This A-Level will enable you to understand physical processes, the need for humans to utilise natural resources and the importance of managing these processes and resources sustainably for future generations.

You will also acquire essential transferrable skills through the planning, research and completion of the independent investigation.

One of the Russell Group's eight facilitating subjects, Geography will open up options for you in your future. Employers and universities see it as a robust academic subject rich in skills, knowledge and understanding. As a subject linking the arts and the sciences it is highly flexible in terms of what you can combine it with at A-Level and beyond.

WHY STUDY GEOGRAPHY AT TRURO SCHOOL?

Tailored experiences:

We tailor fieldwork experience in the Lower Sixth to areas of specific student interest to allow a wide range of choice for the independent investigation.

Excellent support: You will have one-to-one mentoring for this investigation and this will include available departmental support before and after school in 38a, the Sixth Form Study Room.

Academic enrichment: Essay-writing skills are honed throughout this course and the examination board have commented on this being a particular feature of our teaching at Truro School.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

The human content of this year looks at how we perceive the notion of 'place' and how this changes over time due to factors such as levels of economic activity and technological advances. You examine your personal perceptions of various destinations and gain an insight of how this translates into how places are used and managed.

The physical aspect studies both the Water and Carbon Cycles in detail. This includes studying the processes at play within the hydrological cycle. The notion of equilibrium is integral to this topic, understanding the pressures of managing

drainage basins with seasonal changes and also in times of both flood and deficit. With regard to the Carbon Cycle, we focus on the role of carbon stores at different scales and the importance of feedback loops. The Coastal unit looks at processes and landforms in coastal zones and also how the coast provides opportunities for human activities and these actions can have both positive and negative impacts that require managing. We also develop your fieldwork skills so that by the end of the year you liaise with staff to plan your independent investigation and key questions.

OUTSTANDING RESULTS

Geography students achieved

100% A*-B

in the latest A-Level results

2020



WHERE WILL AN A LEVEL IN GEOGRAPHY TAKE YOU?

Anywhere you wish to go! Employers and universities prize the knowledge and skills that studying geography can provide, be it knowing how the world works, planning research and report writing, working in a team, using new technologies and communication skills – and much more.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN UPPER SIXTH

We study five topics: Ecosystems, Tectonic Hazards, Migration, Governing Global Oceans and Development in an African Context. Your project is also completed and written up in the format of the six stages of enquiry.

The Tectonic Hazards topic encompasses all the tectonic mechanisms surrounding the structure of the earth. It also considers human vulnerability to risk and strategies to increase resilience in countries of contrasting economic development.

There is a similar set of concepts in the Ecosystems unit as you will need to

understand not only their value, distribution and how their nutrient flows vary but also how they are at risk and need to be managed sustainably.

The Migration unit considers the causes and impacts for human migration patterns locally, nationally and internationally. You study a variety of types of migration from the impacts of rural-to-urban migration to the issues surrounding international refugees.

The Governing Global Oceans topic gives students more than an understanding of maritime law. It also considers topical issues such as ownership of Arctic resources,

TRIPS, VISITS AND FIELD WORK

Residential trip planned for Iceland

A residential trip to The Jurassic Coast to visit Old Harry's Rocks, Lulworth Cove, Durdle Door, Portland, Chiswell, Chesil Beach and West Bay

Urban studies in Plymouth

Day trips to local ecosystems such as sand dunes, woodlands and moorland (dependent on student choices)

EXTENSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

We are always keen to support and make strong connections with both the Sixth Form's Amnesty and Model United Nations groups

RGS essay-writing competition

Warwick University Global Sustainable Development essay competition

Geography Review journals in the Library



The best school Geology Department in the UK

Geology

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MISS HOPE
EXAMINATION BOARD: EDUQAS

SPECIFICATION: GEOLOGY
QUALIFICATION: AS AND A-LEVEL

As a student studying Geology you will be in safe hands; the department at Truro School has a combined experience of over 50 years of teaching Geology. Truro School's Geology course has a strong focus on teaching outside of the classroom, teaching you practical skills that are essential if you wish to enter a geology-related career. Our course is designed to make you think like a true geologist with a heavy focus on developing practical skills through field trips. The course is about applying your knowledge to more than just the completion of an exam paper.



WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

The Lower Sixth Geology course begins with a study of the Earth, its structures, evolution and dynamics. You learn about the materials that make up the Earth including minerals, a range of sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks and some of the more common fossils found worldwide.

The course then goes on to build upon that knowledge, investigating the

structure of the Earth and how it is affected by both surface and internal processes which shape the Earth as we know it. You will investigate sedimentary rocks and study fossils, developing your understanding of changes in the geological past. You will then study how the deformation of rocks result in response to lithospheric plate motions and delve into the study of global tectonics.

WHERE WILL AN A-LEVEL IN GEOLOGY TAKE YOU?

There is currently a world-wide shortage of well-qualified Geology graduates and employment opportunities in mining, engineering, geophysics, geotechnics, exploration, petroleum and environmental geology are widespread, offering considerable opportunity for world travel. Geology is a subject highly regarded by Universities for entrance to any science-based degree course.

EXTENSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The Geology department has strong links with many universities and benefits from visiting lectures who challenge and stretch our students.

In the Autumn Term we will be hosting a talk by Tony Bamforth titled "The Angry Earth" (An Tyr Serrys) Well Control and Blowout Prevention. There will be other opportunities for students to attend subject related talks.

TRIPS, VISITS AND FIELD WORK

Students spend four days completing fieldwork in Cornwall (a key component of the course), studying some of the finest Geology in the world. In addition, there is the opportunity to explore the awe-inspiring volcanic landscapes of Iceland with a residential field trip.

The department has strong links with United Downs Deep Geothermal Project in Redruth. Many of our students have visited the site during the past year and we are also part of the Raspberry Shake Hub which monitors earthquakes in Cornwall.

Students in the Lower Sixth have the opportunity to participate in the Geological Society's Geology Schools Competition. This involves researching a topic and presenting to other schools in the regional competition. In 2019, Truro School reached the national finals and were commended for their work.

More recently, Truro School has joined the Tevi Networking Hub based in Cornwall. Students attended a networking event with representatives from the mining extraction industry and learnt about a circular economy in Cornwall and innovations in mine waste management.

Every year the department take the Lower Sixth girls to Plymouth University for the Girls into Geoscience event where they attend lectures and workshops from prominent female Geoscientists.

Studying A-Level Geology has been the best experience I've had at Truro School, hands down! Studying Geology in Cornwall is very special with such varied and spectacular field locations as Millook Haven, Kennack Sands, Godrevy, Megiligar and Rinsey Cove enabling students to develop their practical skills.

MICHAL

OUTSTANDING RESULTS

Geology students achieved

100% A*-A

in the latest A-Level results

2020

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN UPPER SIXTH

The level of course detail builds in the Upper Sixth. You will further your knowledge in the study of rock forming processes and rock deformation, both particularly relevant to the geology of Cornwall. You will study fossils in more depth, understanding the context of geological time.

The topic of natural geohazards features in the Upper Sixth with an investigation on their worldwide impact on human populations. Using this knowledge,

you then learn about modern-day geohazard management techniques, including attempts to predict and manage hazardous geological events. During this significant aspect of the course you will also learn how engineering activities such as the quarrying and mining, waste disposal and contamination interfere with the environment and how civil engineering projects such as dams, tunnels and buildings should take into account geological factors.

In the geological map section of the course you will apply your knowledge and understanding from the Lower Sixth to 'real' geological maps. The study of geological maps is essential as it provides a database for the design of construction projects, geohazards and the location of resources such as ground water, fossil fuels and alternative energy sources.



History

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: DR. SPRING
EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR

SPECIFICATION: H505
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL



As a study of the record of human achievement and failure – including mankind’s propensity for cruelty and barbarity – History at Truro School provides a richly textured framework for understanding the human condition whilst grappling with moral questions and problems.

Over the course you will develop strong historical skills, including the abilities to analyse original documentary sources, to recognise, extract and evaluate the key evidence in those sources with reference to their provenance, and to weave this evidence together with contextual knowledge to form a convincing analysis of a historical issue.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

THE LOWER SIXTH SYLLABUS COMPRISES TWO COURSES, TAUGHT IN TANDEM.

The first course surveys eleventh-century and early twelfth-century England (Anglo-Saxon England and the Norman Conquest 1035–1087, with Norman England 1087–1107).

In the second course you will learn about The French Revolution and the rule of Napoleon 1774–1815.

FIRST COURSE

The turbulent three decades that preceded the Norman invasion

The dramatic events of 1066 (including three turning-point battles)

The long, grim consolidation of Norman power across England

The evolution of Norman government

An additional ‘enquiry’ element focuses on the controversial reign of the Conqueror’s ill-fated successor, William ‘Rufus’

SECOND COURSE

The causes of the French Revolution in 1789, which brought about the birth of modern Europe

The Revolution’s increasingly unstable, destructive course to 1799

The rise to power of the hungrily ambitious Napoleon Bonaparte

Napoleon’s domination of France as ‘First Consul’ and then ‘Emperor of the French’

The military campaigns that marked Napoleon out as one of history’s ‘great captains’, and his ultimate fall from power

EXCELLENT ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT

The teachers in the department are from highly academic backgrounds and have huge subject-specific expertise on the periods that they teach. In addition, the Head of History, Dr Matthew Spring, is an award-winning published historical author, Mrs Collinge is the school’s Oxbridge mentor, and Mrs Kenward is the school’s Head of Careers.

You will be taught in small groups, in which you and your peers will receive individualised attention and support. You will be challenged to do your very best. Outside of lessons, our generous teachers are willing to go the extra mile with additional contact time to help you succeed. This level of support is reflected in the excellent results that our students receive.

TOP-LEVEL FACILITIES

We have an enormous range of supporting texts and audio-visual material, which we use in our teaching in the Department or lend out to students on request. In undertaking the Upper Sixth coursework module, students will find everything they need within the Department to assemble their research materials – removing an enormous responsibility from their shoulders.

EXTENSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Outside of lessons, at lunchtimes and after school, we arrange viewings of documentaries and films that relate to the courses that we teach. We would most strongly encourage you to attend these.

Military affairs feature prominently in the History courses taught at Truro School. The Department’s vast array of resources includes various tactical, operational and strategic simulations that offer invaluable insights into many of the historical issues that the students study. For example, it is not uncommon to find Sixth Form students with Dr Spring on Friday evenings refighting Napoleon’s campaigns!



History not only immerses you in the cultures of some of the most fascinating societies in human history, but also develops and hones the analytical skills which are vital for success in most career paths. At Truro School the subject benefits from being taught by an excellent team of teachers, who bring passion and a huge depth of understanding to their areas of expertise.

OLIVER

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN UPPER SIXTH

With one teacher, you will study the key changes in warfare between 1792 (the beginning of the French Revolutionary Wars) and 1945 (the end of the Second World War). This ‘synoptic’ course involves the study of four key themes.

Leadership, manpower, strategy and tactics

Technological change

Planning

Domestic issues

You will study these areas through a trio of case studies: the French Revolutionary Wars, the American Civil War and the First World War’s Western Front.

The second teacher oversees the production of your coursework. In this part of the course, you will explore a historical controversy of your choice. The topic can be selected from the range of issues studied as part of either of the Lower Sixth courses, or from a period of particular personal interest to you.

WHERE WILL AN A-LEVEL IN HISTORY TAKE YOU?

Universities look very favourably on History A-Level because of its intellectual rigour and transferable skills. While History A-Level students at Truro School commonly go on to read humanities degrees – particularly History, English and Philosophy – we also educate future law students, scientists and medics. The study of history produces well-rounded thinkers; a report by the Institute for Employment Research in 1998 showed that History ranked fourth in a survey of the degrees held by the directors of FTSE 100 companies.

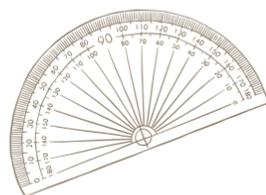


Mathematics, Further Mathematics

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR MCCABE

EXAMINATION BOARD: EDEXCEL
SPECIFICATION: MATHEMATICS
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL

EXAMINATION BOARD: EDEXCEL
SPECIFICATION: FURTHER MATHEMATICS
QUALIFICATION: AS OR A-LEVEL



Truro School has an excellent track record of exam success both for Mathematics and Further Mathematics. Take advantage of purposely designed small class sizes and one-to-one clinics for greater support from skilled Mathematics teachers who are on hand to get you the best grade possible.

COURSE DETAILS

The Mathematics staff are very aware of personal ability and will push, or support, to get the best result possible, helping the individual to find strategies that work for them. Beyond lessons there is endless support from the entire Department with daily clinics, where one-to-one assistance is always available to help solve those stubborn problems; no question is too stupid! If you are doing other science A-Levels, Mathematics will complement this subject combination, giving you the ability to think logically and analyse data, a useful skill both at school and university!

LIZZIE

Truro School's A-Level course has been designed to feature a greater emphasis on using maths in practical situations. The course covers pure (core) maths, mechanics and statistics.

When studying pure mathematics you will be advancing your knowledge of topics such as algebra, differentiation and trigonometry as well as meeting some new ideas like integration. If you enjoy the challenge of problem solving, then you should find the content of this course very appealing. Interesting in their own right, the ideas met in pure mathematics are also vital tools in the study of other branches of mathematics.

Mechanics looks at the interconnection of forces and motion and allows us to model the movement of objects. This includes the motion of everyday items right through to satellites orbiting a planet. The technique of mathematical modelling, turning a complicated

physical problem into a simpler one that can be manipulated using the skills learnt in pure mathematics, is essential for our understanding of the world around us. Many of the ideas that are met in the course are clearly important in the further study of Engineering and Physics but are also fundamental to subjects such as Oceanography, Robotics, Biomechanics and Sports Science. It is not necessary to study Physics to master and enjoy mechanics in Mathematics.

Statistical techniques allow us to summarise numerical data and then analyse it in order to arrive at conclusions about underlying trends and properties. Again the idea of mathematical modelling is fundamental and will provide many useful transferable skills. Much of this topic will be learnt through studying a large data set provided by the exam board which will provide students with a more realistic idea of how maths can be applied in the real world.

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Either a full A-Level or an AS is also available in Further Mathematics if you are studying Mathematics at A-Level. A full A-Level requires two years of study, but the AS can be started in the Lower Sixth or at the beginning of the Upper Sixth. We can be quite flexible with this course to suit your individual needs, so talk to Mr McCabe if you need clarification.

Further mathematicians will go into greater depth in all the areas outlined above and will also study decision mathematics, which will show you how to solve problems using networks, including the use of critical path analysis. Ideas from this module have many important applications to such differing problems as the design of circuits on microchips to the scheduling of tasks required to build a new supermarket.



UKMT SENIOR MATHS CHALLENGE

The UKMT Senior Maths Challenge is always held in November and sat by tens of thousands of students around the country. It is a genuine challenge of your ability to use fairly straightforward maths to solve unusual and often tricky problems – fun! The only preparation is to learn to really think and those who do well go on to extra rounds, which can

lead ultimately to selection for the British Maths Olympiad Team.

We also enter four keen students for the Team Challenge, which is always a good competition and one we will be aiming to win again next year having just missed out recently.



WHAT IS AN A-LEVEL IN MATHEMATICS USEFUL FOR?

A-Level Mathematics is a requirement for degrees in most Science subjects, particularly Engineering, Physics and Chemistry. A pure Mathematics Degree would most likely require an A-Level in Further Mathematics as well. Mathematics Degrees do not have to lead to careers in mathematics and science as an A-Level in Mathematics opens doors to many careers whilst closing none.

Mathematics is regarded as a strong academic indicator by both universities and employers. Truro School Mathematicians have previously gone on to prestigious universities including the University of Cambridge, University of Oxford, UCL and Imperial College London to study Mathematics, Engineering, Physics, Medicine, Computer Science and Geography.



Modern Languages



HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR N PILBOROUGH

HEAD OF FRENCH: MR N PILBOROUGH
HEAD OF GERMAN: MR N PILBOROUGH
HEAD OF SPANISH: MS J WRIGHT

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA
SPECIFICATIONS: FRENCH: 7652; GERMAN: 7662; SPANISH: 7692
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL

In post-Brexit Britain, a modern language is set to be not a luxury but a necessity. The top UK universities have already pledged to bolster provision for Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) at undergraduate level and to maintain and strengthen links with European universities to ensure that collaboration between Europe and the UK remains a priority.

Applications to study MFL at university are up some 25% in the last two years and linguists remain a much sought-after commodity whilst remaining in short supply. The same universities have bolstered their provision for the study of a foreign language as part of a Dual Honours Programme and many look very favourably upon students who have a modern language to A-Level standard. Through the gentle progression from GCSE to A-Level, Truro School has a long and successful history of producing confident and highly capable linguists, who are conversationally fluent across a broad spectrum of topics, including current affairs, history, literature and the cultural and political life in the respective country or countries of interest.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

The emphasis in Lower Sixth is on the continuation of GCSE studies, building confidence and fluency in spoken language and learning to express opinions and arguments at a deeper level. The topic areas include, such topics as: The changing nature of family, "cyber-society", social equality and integration, immigration, cultural heritage, music and cinema. You will also begin to analyse and interpret films and/or literary works, using a variety of materials and sources to produce well-informed opinions and insights.

All of Truro School's Modern Language courses teach you to do so much more than simply pass an exam paper. We produce linguists who understand how to construct and deconstruct a language through an in-depth understanding of the grammatical rules, which further aids accuracy.

Students are prepared thoroughly in the Lower Sixth via one-to-one sessions with our native speaker assistants. You will have ample access to online resources, as well as having access to our Modern Foreign Language subject clinics, which can be used to practice and polish any aspect of your language(s).

At the end of the Lower Sixth you will be encouraged and guided towards organising an overseas summer holiday work experience, either through personal contacts or those from the department. This will help you develop independence and is an outstanding way of giving you confidence and ownership of your language skills.



EXTENSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

All of your A-Level teachers are available for consultation at a mutually convenient time, should you require extra support outside of the classroom. There are also "extension" activities, such as the "Forum des Débats" in French, to assist you with structuring your ideas and arguments.

The department is also proud of its success rate with Oxbridge applicants and full support throughout the application process is provided by experts within the department.

In recent years the department has entered students in the national Juvenes Translatores competition, the Oxford University French, German and Spanish Olympiads and the Mock EU Council in London, as well as the UK Linguistics Olympiad.

WHERE WILL AN A-LEVEL IN MODERN LANGUAGES TAKE YOU?

Wherever you want to go! As well as learning vital language skills, you will be learning how to communicate confidently and competently, structure academic writing and debates, respond under pressure with a high degree of accuracy and enhance your research skills via the Independent Research Project, using technology and social media to augment your learning and organise your ideas.

All are attributes highly valued by employers. In terms of careers, linguists go on to work in anything from translation to interpreting, journalism, law, education, PR and marketing, international relations ... the list is, quite simply, endless! Why not have the career of your choice and be fluent in a second or third language? In the short term, you are demonstrating to universities that you are a multi-faceted, analytical, critical thinker, capable of organising your ideas and expressing them coherently.

There are lots of opportunities when studying a Modern Language at Truro School. This year in the Lower Sixth, I was part of the two-man team which had the opportunity to represent the school at the Mock European Union in London. Thanks to a solid grounding in GCSE French, the jump from GCSE to A Level was really manageable. What was noticeable were the lessons themselves which, partly due to smaller class sizes, felt more personal and tailored to our needs in a friendly and focused atmosphere.

SNEHA



WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN UPPER SIXTH

At the end of the Lower Sixth year, you will have looked at the Independent Research Project and given thought to your final area of interest. You will continue to build evidence and competency around this area, which will form part of your oral examination. In the Upper Sixth, with the guidance of one of your two teachers, you will continue to study a film or literary work from a prescribed list, or two literary works. Literary expertise prior to beginning this section of the course is not a requirement, as we teach and look

in detail at themes, character development, symbolism and structure.

You will continue to work with the language assistants on a weekly basis, practising factual and philosophical questions, stimulus cards, and discussing articles in your chosen language(s).

If you are considering studying languages at undergraduate level, either as a pure discipline or as a Combined Honours course, then guidance and advice is available from our highly experienced Sixth Form teaching team.

WHY STUDY A MODERN LANGUAGE AT TRURO SCHOOL?

Truro School's Modern Foreign Language teachers are all highly experienced at teaching A-Level and some are even markers or ex-markers from several different examination boards.

Class sizes allow for more focused work to support individual cathedral.

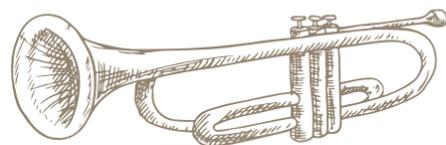
Throughout the course you have one-to-one speaking lessons with native speaking language assistants to perfect pronunciation and fluency and build confidence.

As highly experienced GCSE teachers, all our language teachers ensure a smooth transition between GCSE and post-16 study.

Our Sixth Form-only IT suite and designated Sixth Form teaching room are welcoming, well-equipped spaces with excellent ICT facilities to enhance your learning experience.



Music



HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR PALMER
EXAMINATION BOARD: WJEC

SPECIFICATION: EDUQAS MUSIC A-LEVEL
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL

Music A-Level offers pupils who play an instrument or sing the opportunity to develop their performing, composing and appraising skills within the school's busy, buzzing and vibrant Music Department.

With nearly 60 concerts each year, musicians at Truro School have a wealth of opportunities to rehearse, perform and succeed in many different styles of music.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

A key element of the course in Lower Sixth is embracing opportunities to perform in a variety of school ensembles, bands, choirs and orchestras. These can range from the traditional Senior Chamber Choir and Symphony Orchestra to the more contemporary Senior Jazz Orchestra and Samba Band. All styles of music are acceptable.

Composing also makes up a significant proportion of Truro School's A-Level music course. You will learn how to write a variety of compositions in different musical styles and, at the end of the year, your two favourite pieces will be handed in.

During your Lower Sixth year you will study the development of the symphony.

This involves detailed study of Haydn's Symphony No. 104, as well as further study and comparison with Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 4. You will also improve your listening skills by exploring the development and musical features of Musical Theatre.

Because of the academic requirements of Music A-Level, we strongly recommend that all students begin the course with the Grade 5 Theory qualification already under their belts. We begin the course with an in-depth study of the harmony and counterpoint required for the Grade 6 qualification. Many pupils then chose to go on and take the Grade 8 qualification in the Upper Sixth too. These examinations give our pupils a real advantage with A-Level and 1st Year university/Conservatoire work.

OUTSTANDING RESULTS

Music

100%

A*-A

in the latest A-Level results

2020



Attend masterclasses and workshops with the country's top visiting performers.

WHAT IS AN A-LEVEL IN MUSIC USEFUL FOR?

Truro School's Music Department is high achieving with former students now at some of the best universities and music colleges around the country, and indeed around the world.

The inclusion of Grade 6 (and above) theory work into the curriculum leaves our pupils ahead of the game should they wish to continue music at undergraduate level.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN UPPER SIXTH

In the Upper Sixth you will continue to develop your musical talents in the following three areas.

Performing: You will build upon your solo and ensemble performing skills. At the end of the course you will give a 10-minute recital to a visiting examiner (a minimum standard of Grade 6 is then required)

Composing: You will hone your composing skills. For the final examination you will produce a free choice composition and a traditional work based on a brief provided by the exam board in September. A minimum of four minutes' worth of music is required

Appraising: Study a wide range of Classical and Romantic Symphonies to build an understanding of general trends in symphonic writing during the period 1750 – 1900. Pupils will also study developments in music in the early part of the 20th Century, including Impressionism, Expressionism, Neo-Classicism and Jazz

30 TOP

INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL COACHES

give individual lessons to just under 300 students each week

giving students the chance to receive expert tuition in a wide variety of styles and standards.

Surround yourself with other high-achieving musicians, many of whom lead their sections in Cornwall Youth Orchestra and then go on to gain their performing diplomas before they leave school.

The highlight of my time in the Sixth Form has definitely been the performing opportunities that come with doing Music. With over 15 different choirs, orchestras and ensembles, and a huge variety of concerts throughout the year, I found I was always able to do exactly what I wanted to do, whether it be classical, jazz, musicals, or even song writing. Not only have I had the amazing experience of soloing in Truro Cathedral and the Hall for Cornwall, but I was also given the chance to professionally record a CD of six of my original songs!

TEGAN



Physical Education



HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MISS VIV COBNER

QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL

QUALIFICATION: CAMBRIDGE TECHNICALS: SPORT & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY LEVEL 3

Covering an extremely diverse field of study, the Physical Education department offers both an A-Level and CTEC option, allowing you to explore and enhance your own sporting ability, bridging the academic divide between the arts and sciences. Our team cares about nurturing everyone's talents regardless of ability, within the outstanding facilities which are on offer.

CAMBRIDGE TECHNICALS

The Cambridge Technicals are a great alternative for students wanting to study sport instead of following a traditional A-Level pathway, especially for students who are more suited to coursework and a modular approach, in contrast to the terminal exams of A-Levels. As well as developing their theoretical knowledge of sport, students will also develop practical skills in areas such as sports coaching, activity leadership, officiating and organising sports events.

There are different sizes of course available and dependent on the size chosen, the qualifications can work alongside studying A-Levels in other subjects. Students have the opportunity to study for an Extended Certificate (one A-Level equivalent), Diploma (two A-Level equivalent) or Extended Diploma (three A-Level equivalent). The Cambridge Technical qualification in Sport and Physical Activity is a natural extension from the GCSE with many similarities in the theoretical

components covered. It is not necessary for you to have previously studied GCSE Physical Education, but it is helpful.

COURSE DETAILS

The Cambridge Technicals are continually assessed throughout the course, with the majority of units being coursework based. There are also some exam units. You study a range of units including: anatomy and physiology, sports coaching, sports organisation and development, organisation of sports events and sports psychology. The number of units students take depends on the size of qualification they have chosen to study. Instead of traditional letter grades, students are graded Distinction* (A* equivalent), Distinction (A equivalent), Merit (C equivalent) and Pass (E equivalent). They are then awarded UCAS points: for example, a student achieving DD in the Diploma would receive 96 UCAS points which is the equivalent to 2 As at A-Level.



WHERE WILL A QUALIFICATION TAKE YOU?

Whether you want to study a sport-related course beyond at university or maximise your UCAS points in a subject you are passionate about this is a great choice. Sport is now such a huge industry that there are endless employment opportunities in coaching, teaching, biomechanics, sports rehabilitation, health, leisure and fitness, officiating, sports technology development, sports administration, sports management and media.



A-LEVEL

The A-Level in Physical Education is a natural extension from the GCSE with many similarities in the theoretical components covered. It is not necessary for you to have previously studied GCSE Physical Education, but it is recommended.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

At the start of Lower Sixth you will study applied anatomy and how skills in sport are learned effectively. You can then apply these teachings to the sports you play in and outside of school.

As the year progresses you will study exercise physiology, biomechanical movement and sports psychology, including what gives athletes like Usain Bolt the psychological

edge over other athletes. You will also study the role of technology in physical activity and impact of sport on society - why would one billion people watch a single sporting event? All students are given the opportunity and are encouraged to help coach junior sports teams throughout the school. This experience looks great on CVs and is particularly valuable should you wish to seek jobs in the industry further down the line.

WHY STUDY THIS AT TRURO SCHOOL?

You may have a passion for sport and want to develop your understanding of sport and how to improve the performance of yourself and others. You will be taught by different specialist teachers each year, all of whom are experts in their chosen areas of the syllabus. Sport at Truro School is inclusive, catering from participation to elite-level sport with one in seven of our athletes playing at county, regional, national or international level.



WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

The A2 year starts with further learning that you can practically apply to your chosen sports. Achievement motivation theory, injury prevention and the correct rehabilitation of injuries feature strongly. Further topics include energy systems, memory models and how to have self-confidence in key fixtures. The non-examined assessment (NEA) gives every student the opportunity to analyse, evaluate and improve performance through video

analysis. This will begin in the Lower Sixth year but will be submitted in the Upper Sixth and will contribute to your overall grade.

The year progresses with a look at the wider macro-environmental issues surrounding sport. Topics include ethics in sport, drugs in sport and legal issues. An element of media studies also features where you will examine the impact of commercialisation on sport.

EXTENSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

During the two years you will have the opportunity to expand your knowledge through reading PE review and have the opportunity to attend talks by professionals from different sporting backgrounds.

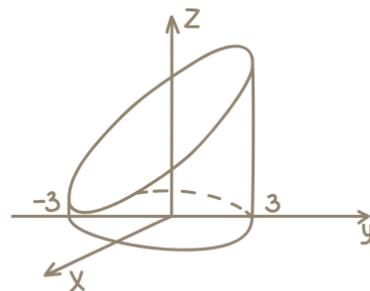
Most Physical Education students are actively involved in the sporting life of Truro School, representing our teams, helping with officiating and having the opportunity to obtain their Community Sports Leadership Award. There are numerous opportunities to get top-quality coaching in a wide range of sports as well as playing and training for recreation.



Physics

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR LAITY
EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR

SPECIFICATION: PHYSICS A
QUALIFICATION: A LEVEL AND AS LEVEL



The A-Level in Physics enables students to build on their knowledge of the laws of physics, applying their understanding to solve problems on topics ranging from subatomic particles to the entire universe. They also have the opportunity to develop all the relevant practical skills.

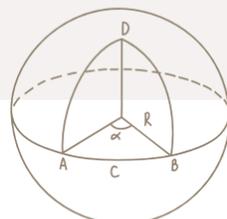
WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

In the Lower Sixth the teaching of the specification is shared between two members of the Physics Department. One teacher will lead you through further ideas behind electricity, including internal resistance, resistivity and potential dividers. They will then move on to more complex descriptions of wave motion including polarisation, interference and stationary waves. Meanwhile, your other teacher will cover ideas behind forces, motion and energy including projectile motion, systems in equilibrium and material science.

interpretations of the theory are still widely discussed but without which we would not be enjoying our digital world. Indeed, you will be taught the foundations that may well lead to quantum computers in your lifetime!

Both of your teachers will also lead you through the practical skills aspect of the course, where you will learn more advanced techniques when carrying out experimental work and in the analysis of the data that you have gathered. These experiments will bring the theory that you have learned to life!

You will then go on to the mysteries and wonders of quantum physics. This is a fascinating topic where the



I would say that studying A-Level Physics at Truro School is initially challenging but rewarding when it all comes together and makes sense, and is made much easier due to teachers helping in lessons and clinics.

JAMES

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN UPPER SIXTH

Once again the teaching is shared in the Upper Sixth. You will follow more ideas behind Newtonian mechanics including circular motion, oscillations and Newton's famous law of gravitation. You will then cover the popular topics of astrophysics and cosmology where you will discover that the light from stars tells us so much more about our universe.

The final topic covered by this teacher is nuclear and particle physics which will give you an introduction to the forces and particles that form our understanding that has been summarised by The Standard Model, the model that predicted the Higgs Boson! Your other

teacher will cover concepts in thermal physics in the first term which will help you to explain and predict the behaviour of gases.

You will then move on to the theory of electric fields and the subsequent applications of capacitors in electrical circuits. You will then meet the ideas of Michael Faraday and his explanation of the effects of electromagnetism and consequently understand how motors and generators work. In the final term you will look at interesting applications of physics in the realm of Medical Physics during which you will visit the relevant departments in the local hospital.

WHY STUDY PHYSICS AT TRURO SCHOOL?

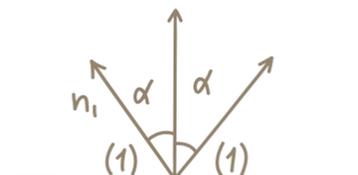
The physics department can provide you with a team of teachers that have both a breadth and depth of knowledge. Our five physics teachers have a combined 70 years of teaching experience. They can also bring particular expertise in such areas as engineering, astronomy, computing and electronics. Four members of the department work for the examination boards and so have a valuable insight into your assessment.

We are a founder member of the Ogden Trust group of schools in Cornwall which supports a range of initiatives, programmes and projects to promote the teaching and learning of physics.

TOP-LEVEL FACILITIES

We have up-to-date physics equipment for all aspects of practical work at A-Level. The department also enjoys two well-equipped prep rooms for completing practical work and for following courses in electronics.

We keep a number of telescopes in our observatory for use by the students and have fairly dark skies!



WHERE WILL AN A LEVEL IN PHYSICS TAKE YOU?

The Physics A-Level not only provides excellent preparation for further study in the Sciences and Engineering, but also in a host of other disciplines where analytical and problem-solving skills are required. Physics A-Level and degree courses provide you with excellent career opportunities in the sciences, engineering, computing industry and geology. salary statistics show that degrees in Physics have one of the biggest effects in increasing your earning power.



OLESIA

TRIPS, VISITS AND FIELD WORK

In recent years we have run the following Sixth Form trips:

CERN

Joint European Torus Nuclear Fusion Centre

Diamond Light Source, Oxford

Hinkley Point Nuclear Power Station

Summer School at Goonhilly Earth Station

Treliske Hospital, Medical Physics Department

EXTENSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Weekly physics clinics where you can go over difficult course material

Astronomy and electronics clubs are run weekly with access to a number of telescopes held in our observatory and a well-equipped electronics area

Participation in the British Physics Olympiad in both Lower and Upper Sixth.

Cambridge University's 'isaacphysics' problem-solving initiative

Participation in the Ogden Trust's Lower Sixth Humphry Davy Essay Competition

Attending lectures as a member school of the Institute of Physics

'Headstart' courses in Science and Engineering

Access to online resources through Kerboodle and Moodle

I really enjoyed studying A-Level Physics at Truro School. The lessons prepared us in both the theory and the practical use of physics. The lessons are delivered at such a high level that students often receive excellent results in British Physics Olympiads.



Psychology

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MRS STONE
EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

SPECIFICATION: N/A
QUALIFICATION: AS OR A-LEVEL



Psychology is the science of mind and behaviour – investigating and explaining why we think and do what we do. It is a superb choice to complement all your other A-Levels: it is a science as it relies on objective analysis of research evidence, it is a humanity as it about people, it gives a philosophical basis for interpretation of culture, art, music and literature.

It also offers a wide range of transferable skills critical thinking, time management, problem-solving, communication, increased general knowledge, numeracy and prioritising.

Small class sizes make me confident to ask questions and I feel I have a personal relationship with my teacher - she really knows me. It also means that I receive individual feedback and I can have a one-to-one conversation at any time which is especially useful after exams.

LILY

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

Approaches (different psychologists' ideas about why we behave as we do)

Research Methods (techniques and design for collecting evidence and analysis of the data)

Attachment (how bonds develop between infants and adults, animal research, Romanian orphan research)

Social Influence (conformity, obedience, resisting others' influence, how minorities can change society)

Memory (short- and long-term memory, why we forget, eye witness testimony, police interviews)

Psychopathology (defining abnormality, phobias, OCD, depression)

Biopsychology (function of the brain, plasticity, recovery from head injury, sleep patterns)



WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN THE UPPER SIXTH

Issues and debates (gender and culture bias, determinism/free will, reductionism/holism, nature/nurture)

Gender development (androgyny, stereotypes, how we develop our sense of gender, GID)

Schizophrenia (biological and psychological explanations, range of treatments, issues of diagnosis)

Forensic Psychology (what makes a criminal, offender profiling, does prison work and dealing with crime)

WHY STUDY THIS AT TRURO SCHOOL?

So much support: you are known and treated as an individual – amazing practical opportunities, encouragement to stretch yourself, enthusiasm celebrated

EXTRA OPPORTUNITIES

We go beyond the specification to help you to think like a psychologist

Creative, dynamic approach to delivering an A-Level with highly experienced and qualified staff, including examining experience

Reflective journal, brilliant for developing metacognition and also in the preparation of personal statements

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Class practicals at least once a fortnight on average

Opportunity for students to design and carry out their own research

Write a report in a scientific style like you will at university, including Harvard referencing

Best reports published as Truro School Psychology journal

Observational research skill development day at Newquay Zoo



EXTENSIONS

Psychology seminar - students have the opportunity to be stretched in a university-style seminar, meeting once a week to read and discuss original journal articles.

Psychology film club twice a term – watch movies that link to topics being studied eg "As Good As It Gets" - Jack Nicholson playing a character with OCD.

Social Science lecture twice a term – join with Economics and Philosophy to explore links between our subjects eg Issues in Online Gambling, The Enron Crisis.

Brain Awareness Week – a chance to share Psychology with the 1st-5th Years and an opportunity to take responsibility if you wish.

TRIPS, VISITS AND FIELD WORK

Observational research skill development day at Newquay Zoo

Trip to an A-Level conference – currently planning for March 2021, London to see Loftus (one of the most famous psychologists in the world and on your specification!)

The way the course is taught means that knowledge is embedded in a variety of ways. I wasn't sure about taking Psychology as I hadn't studied it before, but quickly it became my favourite subject: every lesson is different. I love being known and being stretched at the level I'm at.

ISSY

TOP-LEVEL FACILITIES

Range of textbooks in digital and hard copy, tailored to students' individual needs

Specialist classroom with DVD and fiction library tailored to Psychology – all students can borrow novels linked to the topics they are studying eg "The Shock of the Fall" – schizophrenia

Research equipment for use in practicals

Past paper work booklets and mark schemes provided

Model brains to handle and take apart

WHERE WILL AN A-LEVEL IN PSYCHOLOGY TAKE YOU?

Transferable skills to any career or degree: critical thinking, report writing, oral and written, presentation skills, deeper understanding of people and why they do what they do.

Common career paths include: nursing, midwifery, medicine, neuroscience, psychology, business, management, teaching. Many students find that in seemingly unrelated degrees they use their Psychology as it is all about people and behaviour; eg Geography, Biology, Law, Languages, Politics, Philosophy, English, Art.





Religious Studies Philosophy, Ethics and Religion

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MRS RICHARDS
EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR

SPECIFICATION: H573
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL

Religious Studies, encompassing Philosophy, Ethics and Religion, engages students with the wider, unanswered questions surrounding mankind's existence and the myriad roles of belief systems throughout centuries of cultural history.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN LOWER SIXTH

During this course you will learn how to critically analyse, construct arguments, skilfully debate and write with clarity and purpose to build an excellent platform for future studies and employment with a wide extent of transferable skills.

This course is a linear A-Level, which means that it has been designed to be taught continuously over the length of the course (two years). This course can only be studied as an A-Level.

PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

Ancient philosophical influences (Plato and Aristotle)

Arguments about the existence or non-existence of God

The nature and impact of religious experience

The challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil

The nature of the soul, mind and body

RELIGION AND ETHICS

Normative ethical theories (the study of ethical action); Natural Law, Situation ethics, Kantian ethics, Utilitarianism

The application of ethical theory to euthanasia and business ethics



DEVELOPMENTS IN CHRISTIAN THOUGHT

St Augustine and human nature

Death and the afterlife

Election

Knowledge of God's existence

The person of Jesus Christ

Christian moral principles

Christian moral action

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN THE UPPER SIXTH

PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

The possibility of life after death

Ideas about the nature of God

Issues in religious language

RELIGION AND ETHICS

Ethical language and thought (what do we mean by right and wrong?)

Debates surrounding the significant ideas of conscience and free will

The influence on ethical thought and its developments in religious beliefs and the philosophy of religion

The application of ethical theory to sexual ethics

DEVELOPMENTS IN CHRISTIAN THOUGHT

Religious pluralism and theology

Religious pluralism and society

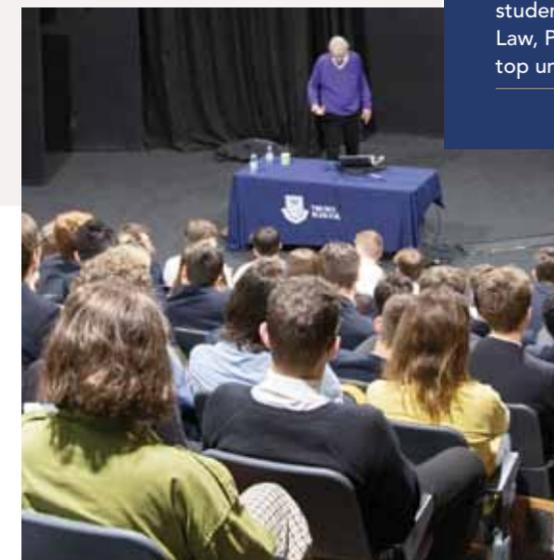
Gender and society

Gender and theology

The challenge of secularism

Liberation theology and Marx

Issues in religious language



WHERE WILL AN A LEVEL IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES TAKE YOU?

Our students enjoy the subject for its own sake, relishing in the opportunity to immerse themselves in deep philosophical, ethical and theological debate. For some students Religious Studies is a natural choice because it complements other areas of chosen study such as Psychology, History, English and Economics. A large number of our students go on to study Philosophy or Theology as well as a wide range of other degrees including Medicine, PPE, Law, Journalism, Business, Management, Accounting and Finance to Marketing, Public Relations, Criminology, and Psychology.

Students who have studied this A-Level have commented on how the discussions in class and the analytical skills acquired have helped them in their university interviews and opened doors to future careers.

EXTENSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Students are encouraged to read widely around the subject. In particular, to develop a deeper understanding of key scholars and their philosophy/theology to support their understanding of their contribution to different parts of the course.

TOP-LEVEL FACILITIES

Religious studies is taught in purpose-built rooms equipped with a wide range of resources including wider reading texts and stunning views. Our Chapel is an excellent resource and visited regularly by our Sixth Form students.

WHY STUDY THIS AT TRURO SCHOOL?

Outstanding teachers who are specialists in their field and a strong track record of supporting students to achieve success at A level

Enjoy developing your critical thinking skills through disciplined, logical, reason-based debate and discussion

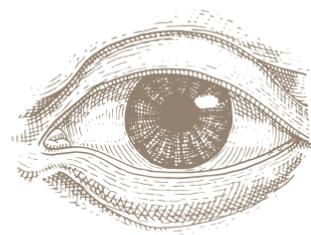
The opportunity to attend national conferences led by distinguished academics in the field of theology, philosophy and ethics

We promote a strong emphasis on academic achievement. Truro School has an excellent track record of students going on to read Philosophy, Law, Politics, and Theology at top universities





The Medical Pathways Programme



Medical Pathways is Truro School's personalised programme that prepares students for success at securing an interview and a place at medical, dental or veterinary school.

You will gain insight into your prospective career and be thoroughly supported in developing the skills you need to evidence on your personal statement, in application tests and at interview. You will be guided every step of the way, record your progress in a reflective logbook and have review meetings each term of the Sixth Form to check your progress towards securing a place.



AUTUMN TERM OF LOWER SIXTH

The first step in Truro School's Medical Pathways programme is an introductory talk for interested students and their parents to outline the steps in the journey so that they are armed for what lies ahead. Students will be assisted with finding work experience and there is a series of industry-related business lunches that take place before the Christmas holidays. Those who remain interested will then have the first of their termly one-to-one meetings with Sarah Finnegan, Truro School's Medical Pathways programme co-ordinator, to ensure they are on the right track.



SPRING TERM OF LOWER SIXTH

This term will be centred around workshops to give students an insight into their chosen vocation. This will include discussions with medical professionals at various stages of the course or career, debates on current medical affairs and a medical ethics workshop.



SUMMER TERM OF LOWER SIXTH

Students will gain an early experience of multi-mini interview (MMI) stations, using medical students and local health professionals to make the experience as realistic as possible. As the opening dates for entering BioMedical Admissions Test (BMAT) and University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT) draw close, pupils will have workshops

preparing them for the various question types. Ms Finnegan will lead a dedicated medical pathways session during the school's annual UCAS day which will include specialist advice on writing personal statements for all medics, dentists and veterinary courses at this stage. A suggested reading list is supplied for the summer holidays.

THE UPPER SIXTH FORM

Upon entering the Upper Sixth, applications should be well on the way so the focus is very much on one-to-one support to finalise your personal statement, make university choices to optimise your success and work on areas for development in application tests and at interview as identified during Lower Sixth reviews. There will be sessions on the entry requirements at different universities to help pupils identify which courses they are most qualified for and further hot topics discussions to ensure students are up to date for interview. Truro School offers mock interviews delivered by doctors, dentists and vets.



Next Steps...

If you would like to find out more about Truro School Sixth Form, whether you are first-time visitor or currently studying your GCSEs at Truro School, there are plenty more open events to help you make a decision.

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

An opportunity to find out more about the Sixth Form at Truro School, including speaking to staff and students about your possible subject choices, looking at the co-curricular opportunities and finding out what life in the Sixth Form is like.

SIXTH FORM TASTER DAYS

There's no better way to get a feel for Sixth Form life than to enjoy a taster day. Take part in lessons, explore the Sixth Form facilities and see how Truro School Sixth Form can help you succeed.

A-LEVEL OPTIONS EVENING

Talk to senior academic and pastoral staff about how to choose your A-Level subjects in light of your future degree and career aspirations.

SUBJECT CONSULTATION EVENING

Prior to the deadline for A-Level subject choices, you and your parents have the opportunity to meet with subject staff to finalise A-Level subjects.

OXBRIDGE EVENING

Like to plan ahead? You and your parents can talk to our staff who are specialists in Oxbridge applications and entries as well as to current students and staff from Oxford and Cambridge.

The Sixth Form is a unique and crucial time in your life. Becoming who you want to be and establishing the platform you wish to launch from into your life beyond school, is an exciting and daunting opportunity. Your own choices about how you learn, pursue wider interests, and socialise, will shape your future. Truro School Sixth Form offers you the right balance of high expectations, active challenge and support, and enhanced independence. We give you access to expert teachers who already know you well (or get to know you quickly) without treating you like GCSE pupils. We increase your freedom, giving you leadership skills and opportunities, without lowering our expectation of you to be ambitious and engaged. We offer you a vast range of accessible co-curricular opportunities, advice,

and challenges, without pre-determining your career or higher education pathway for you. From September 2021 we will offer this within a flexible and choice driven Truro School Diploma framework that we look forward to designing and enjoying with you.

ANDY JOHNSON
HEAD

Truro School is part of the Methodist Independent Schools Trust. Registered Office: Methodist Church House, 25 Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5JR. Charity No. 1142794. Company No. 7649422.





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