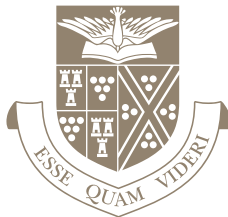




**TRURO
SCHOOL
SIXTH**

SIXTH

COURSE GUIDE **2026**



Truro School Sixth Form

TO BE, RATHER THAN TO SEEM TO BE

TRURO
SCHOOL
SIXTH

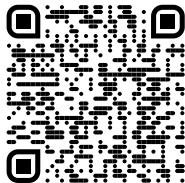


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“
I chose Truro School for Sixth Form because of the teachers and my decision always felt like the right choice. I wouldn't have got the results I did without the teachers.
”

THEO, STUDENT



Scan the QR code to view all courses online

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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.

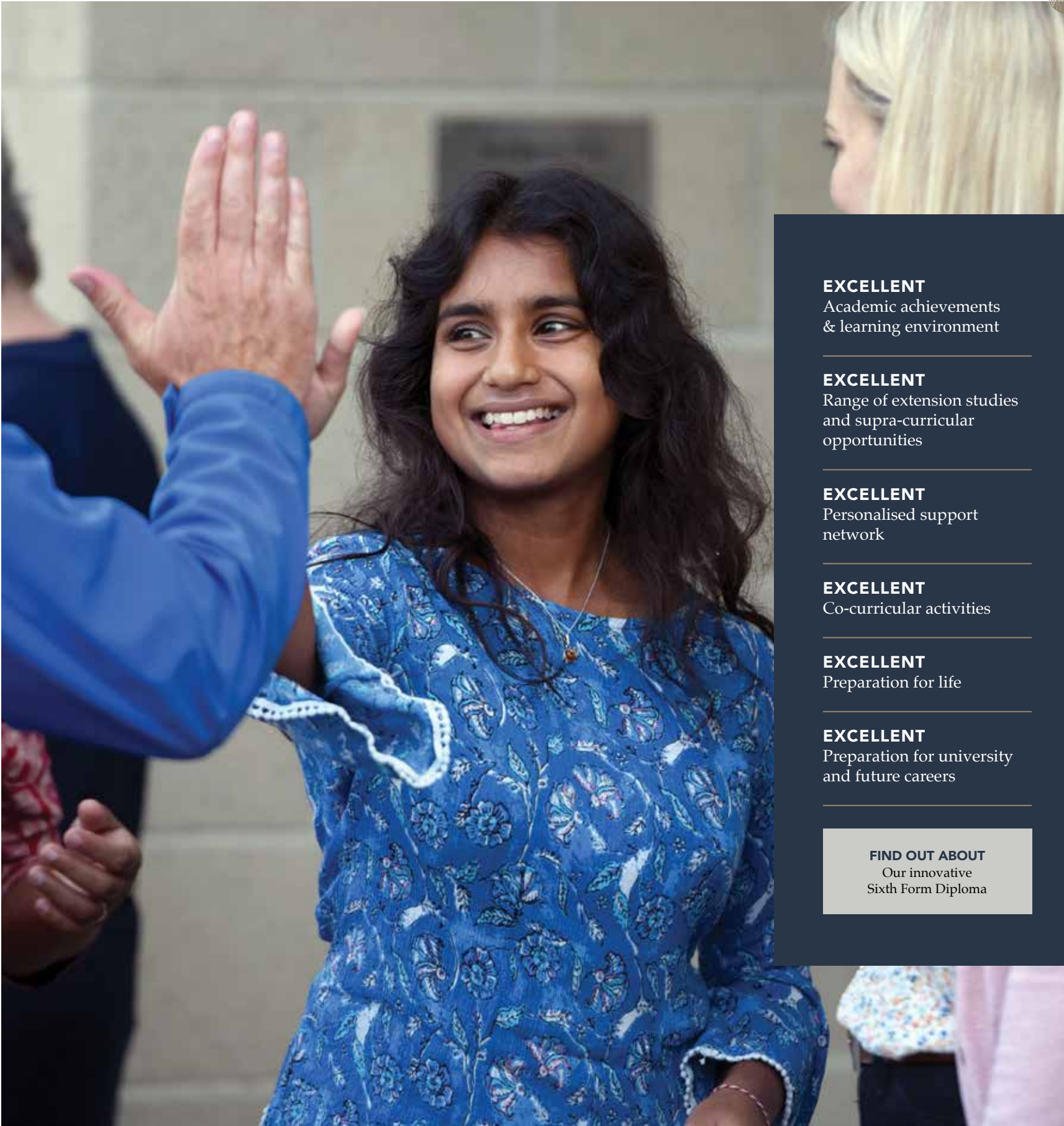
That is why our Sixth Form delivers excellent academic standards alongside a personalised support network and innovative Sixth Form Diploma programme with a strong focus on leadership and employability skills to provide students with a truly ‘balanced’ education.

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



EXCELLENT

Academic achievements
& 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

FIND OUT ABOUT

Our innovative
Sixth Form Diploma



EXCELLENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

OVER
99%

secured or reached destinations of choice within less than a day of results.



50%
A*/A
at A-Level

80%
A*-B
at A-Level

EXCELLENT VALUE-ADDED

ALPS grade 2 scores in the top 10% nationally

EXCELLENT TEACHING

Awarded 'Double Excellent' status by the Independent Schools Inspectorate

Excellent academic and other achievements

Excellent personal development

At Truro School Sixth Form you can rest assured that we have excellent teaching staff. Inspectors 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.

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 TUTOR

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



Pupils are encouraged and celebrated for working hard and engaging in lessons, and they really do. The level of enthusiasm and eloquence from pupils throughout the lessons we sat in was striking, made easier by inspirational and upbeat teachers.

GOOD SCHOOL GUIDE



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.

Throughout Year 13, 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.

OVERSEAS UNIVERSITIES

An increasing number of our students look to expand their horizons by undertaking undergraduate study overseas. In recent years we have helped students to get places across Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the USA.

There is specialist support available to help students who aspire to undertake the student-athlete route with several getting generous sports scholarships or full rides, and we have been delighted to see our students attend US colleges both mid ranked and Ivy League.

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.



“
Truro School has been amazing for me. I definitely wouldn't have got into Medicine without the school's support, or the help from the Medical Pathway Programme here led by Mrs Havis. The teachers put in so much time to help us when we're confused or struggling emotionally or academically. They make such an effort to go the extra mile
”

REUBEN, STUDENT

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.

GREATER INDEPENDENCE

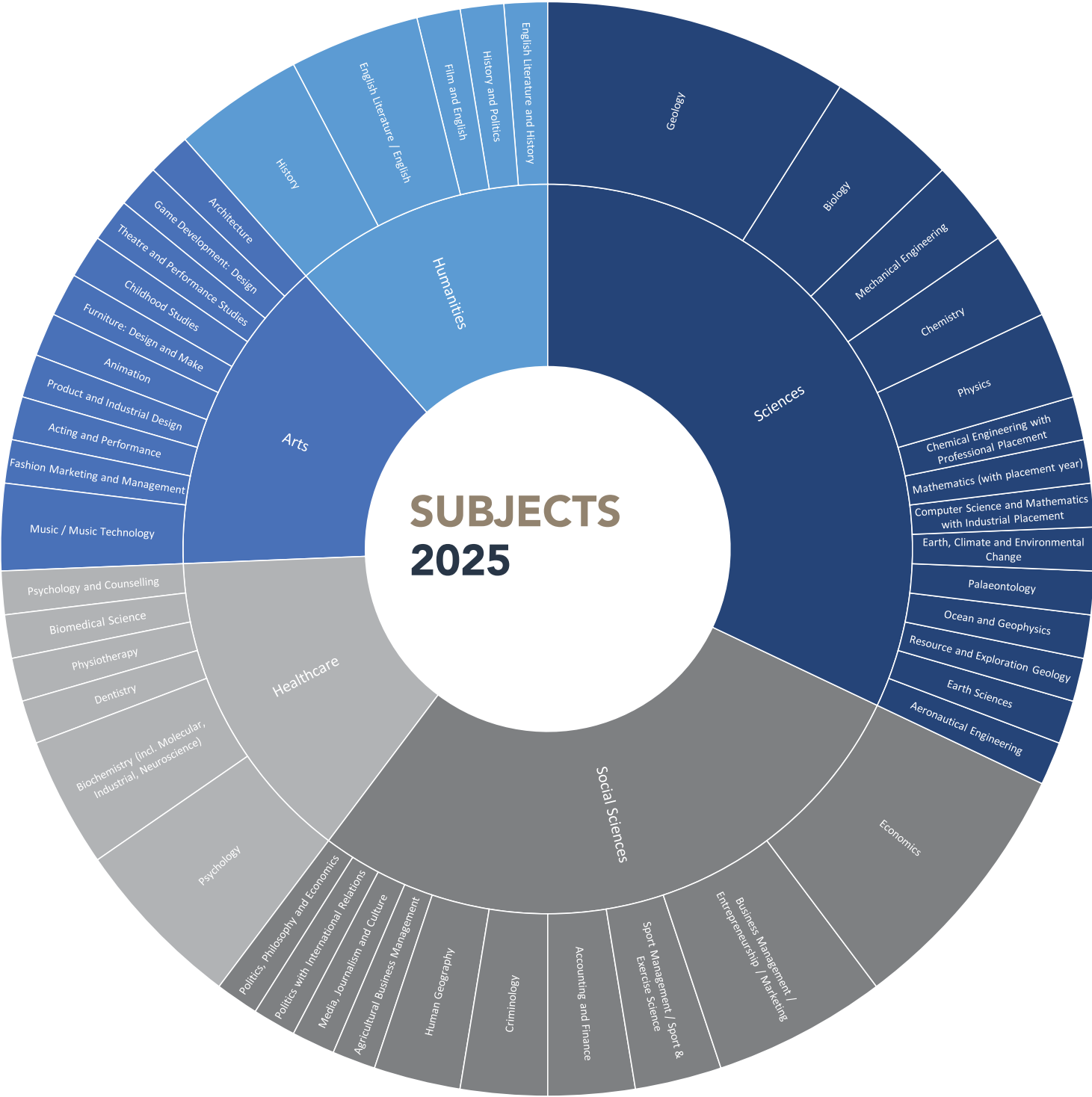
Developing a healthy work-life balance is an essential ingredient to success at A-Level and beyond.

In Year 12, 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 Hub, 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.

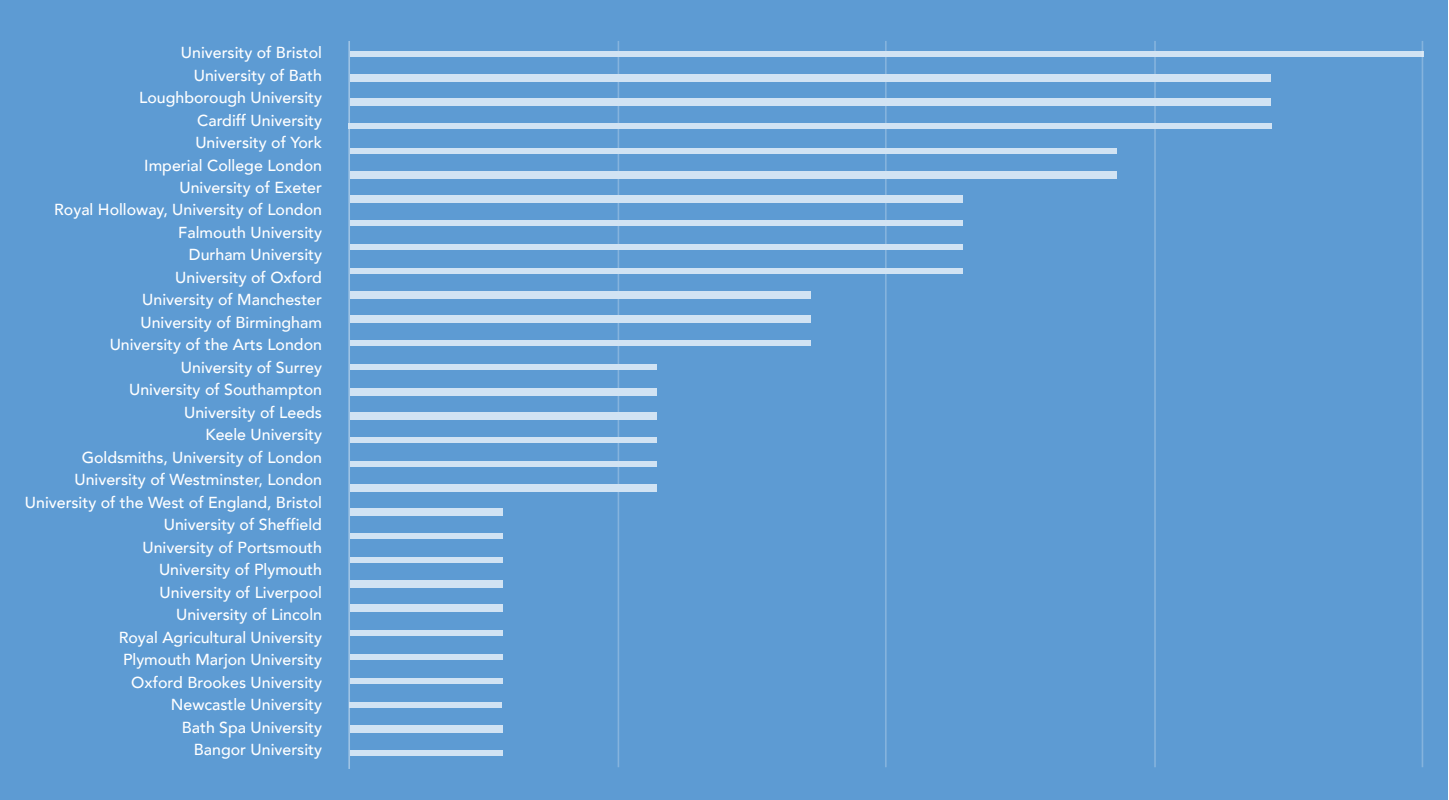
Throughout Year 13, if on track, students can gain additional independence. You can leave campus or sign out in the afternoon if you have no further commitments that day. There is also a designated Sixth Form parking area.



UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS



DESTINATIONS 2025



Truro School has a strong track record in supporting students to find a pathway that fits their ambitions and aspirations.

Throughout Year 13, extensive and highly personalised support is provided with every aspect of your UCAS application, including preparing for interviews and making informed decision about which offers to accept. Our Sixth Form team are there to advise on UCAS Extra, and, after results day, to help those who require guidance in successfully navigating Clearing.

As part of the Post 18 Options days for Year 12 students in June each year, Mrs Kenward and Mr Williamson provide various sessions looking at pathways outside of UK

universities such as apprenticeships, degree apprenticeships, gap years and much more. This aspect of our provision will continue to grow as the Post 18 landscape changes in future years.

In 2025, 99% of the cohort secured or reached destinations of their choice within less than a day of their results. Popular destinations for our leavers include Bristol and Bath. Other favoured university choices included Cardiff, York, Imperial College London, Loughborough and Exeter.



CAREERS CONVENTION
One of the most popular events on the School's calendar is the biennial Careers Convention which offers an opportunity for students to meet professionals working in a wide variety of careers and industries.



“
The culture here is that everyone wants and tries to do well.
”

BENJI, STUDENT



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 through the Truro School Connected community.

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.

Established and organised by the Development and Alumni Relations office, this professional and social network encourages 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.

- 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
 - 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 Old Truronians return to visit the Sixth Form, ready to inspire our current students through talks and workshops, often offering personalised advice whilst here. Our Old Truronians 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 Old Truronians are encouraged to make use of Truro School Connected 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.

“
Truro School is creating valuable members of society. Companies are looking for more than just qualifications in their interviews. They want drive and ambition and a well-rounded team player. That is what this school gives to pupils here.
”

PARENT



SIXTHFORMDIPLOMA

We are pleased to introduce our innovative Sixth Form Diploma, a guided framework of exciting opportunities within supra-curricular, personal growth and leadership and service, built around our core A-Level offering.

As a school, we are very excited by this initiative. The Diploma is designed to be a choice-driven, well supported and bespoke framework that empowers students to develop skills of value beyond schooling or qualifications, and to be able to evidence their achievements and development better.

A-Level success remains at the core of the Sixth Form journey but it has never been more important to ensure that young adults develop values and skills via experiences and opportunities that go far beyond their academic qualifications, and in a way that supports ambition, success and wellbeing for the students’ futures beyond school.

WE’VE GOT YOU

BE SUPPORTED ON YOUR BESPOKE JOURNEY

Supported by subject teachers, tutors and the Sixth Form team, the Diploma builds on the excellent academic, pastoral and co-curricular offering to create a guided framework from which you can develop your individual pathway.





DIPLOMA FRAMEWORK

The Diploma runs across the Autumn, Spring and Summer Term in Year 12 and the Autumn and Spring Term in Year 13 with one contact lesson and one timetabled lesson a fortnight during Year 12.

Within the Diploma framework, you are required to complete the core component section alongside your chosen electives. All students need to complete 150 credits and we recommend that electives are split evenly across supra-curricular, personal growth and leadership and service. Support is given when choosing your electives in order to maximise your success through a cohesive approach.

Electives will be logged and tracked through Unifrog, with credits assigned towards the gold, silver or bronze certificate.

150
CREDITS
split across the three electives

YEAR 12
AUTUMN / SPRING / SUMMER

YEAR 13
AUTUMN / SPRING

CERTIFICATES
GOLD / SILVER / BRONZE

CORE COMPONENT

Core Component

*Delivered in
timetabled lesson*

Year 12:

Autumn

Components focus on an introduction to sixth form life and developing soft skills to thrive during A-levels and beyond.

Spring and Summer

Components focus on using research tools on Unifrog to support post 18 applications and dedicated times to undertake a MOOC.

Year 13:

Autumn

Components focus on the completion of MOOC and supra-curricular work and dedicated post 18 application support.

Spring and Summer

Components focus on looking to the future, including student finance, car maintenance and surviving university.

ELECTIVES

Leadership and Service Electives (50 credits)

ACHE Peer Mentoring Course (20 credits)

ACHE Mentors (10 credits)

Internal Leadership Role (10 credits)

Volunteering (5-10 credits)

*Running alongside
timetabled lessons*

Leadership day (5 credits)

Prefecture (department) (30 credits)

Prefecture (Senior) (20 credits)

Youth Mental Health First Aid Aware course (10 credits)

Committees (10 credits)

Volunteering (10 credits)

Internal leadership role (eg sports captain, assistant coach, referee, head chorister, ensemble lead, team leader, lead part) (5 credits)

Charity Concert organiser (10 credits)

ELECTIVES

Personal Growth Electives (50 credits)

Leiths (30 credits) *Running alongside timetabled lessons*

Seasonaires certificate in ski chalet/yacht cookery course (30 credits) Additional cost Thursday 4 – 6pm

Beach lifesaving qualification (30 credits) £30 Monday after school

Free diving (10 credits)

Self defence - eight sessions (15 credits)

Discovery scuba diving (10 credits)

Music Department:

National level (30 credits)

Regional/County level (20 credits)

School level (5-10 credits)

Various solo/ensemble on a case-by-case basis (5-20 credits)

Drama/Tech Team Department:

Whole School Production (5-20 credits)

Senior School play main role (5-20 credits)

Drama Ensemble (10 credits)

Tech Team (5-10 credits)

Sports Department:

International/National level (50 credits)

Regional/County level (20 credits)

School Team Sport (10 credits)

School Club (5 credits)

Saints South West (5-20 credits)

Outdoor Pursuits:

DofE, Ten Tors, Slovenia, Navigational skills (20 credits)

Art Department:

Life drawing (10 credits)

Open studio (5 credits)

City of Lights (5 credits)

Other:

Yoga (5 credits)

Spin class/fitness/gym (10 credits)

Beginners fencing (5 credits)

Swimming (10 credits)

ELECTIVES

Supra-Curricular Electives (50 credits)

EPQ (30 credits)

Additional A-level (50 credits)

Core Maths (25 credits)

Work Experience (2-20 credits)

*Running alongside
timetabled lessons*

MOOCS, additional to the MOOC in the core units (30 credits)

Burrell Society Lectures (2 credits each)

Pathways, Careers and subject based talks (2 credits each)

Public Speaking opportunity (5 credits)

Academic competitions (10 credits)

Post 18 webinars (5 credits)

The Sixth Form Diploma has introduced me to so many new activities that I would never have dreamed of attempting before, for example scuba diving and mandarin courses, as well as volunteering at local charity shops and applying for prefect roles within school. The supra/extra-curricular activities have given me a well-needed break from my studies, allowing me to think past studies for a bit!

OLIVER



YOUR FUTURE
YOUR CHOICE
YOUR DIPLOMA

Support will
be given when
choosing your
electives.



To truly help you be the best that you can be, and to fully prepare you for life after A-Levels, our Sixth Form Diploma focuses 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.



“
While Truro School helped Alicia to bridge a gap in her academic studies, the school has developed her potential more fully and helped her to flourish as an individual. Truro School isn't singularly focused on the academic but looks at the development of each individual as a whole person. The School Diploma is brilliant. That it can sit alongside other interests like the Duke of Edinburgh Award is fantastic
”

PARENT



DIPLOMA SKILLS

Our Life Skills programme runs throughout Year 12 and 13. 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 provides a family, strong values, friendship and support. The teachers have gone above and beyond to help these students achieve, but it's about ethos too and the values and life-long friends they develop here. Truro School changes young people into adults.*”

PARENT

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 Year 13, you will take on the responsibility of running the peer-mentoring drop-in sessions, working with the younger members of our school community.





We know each and every one of you is unique, and the bespoke framework offers both breadth and flexibility to support and develop each personalised pathway. Within the framework there are opportunities to...

EXPLORE
dynamic & inspiring
opportunities

BE SUPPORTED
on your bespoke journey

BUILD & DEVELOP
a bank of evidenced
activities

BE CURIOUS

Enjoy discovering and developing your knowledge and understanding through dynamic and inspiring opportunities

BE COMPASSIONATE

Through our Diploma, you will be given opportunities to understand and to champion the needs of others, to lead and to serve, with compassion

BE COURAGEOUS

With electives in personal growth, the Sixth Form Diploma will guide you to become the very best of who you are, examining and discovering your own beliefs to bravely guide you into your future

BE CREATIVE

Search for new ideas and shape your future in a sustainable manner

BE CONFIDENT

Explore intellectual and wider challenges and build resilience by learning from both success and failure alike

“
The support from the teachers has been amazing. Truro School is so good at preparing you for everything.
”

MAYA, STUDENT

NEXT STEPS

FIND OUT MORE:

Mr Ross Williamson, Head of Sixth Form rmw@truroschoo.com

Mrs Lucy Jupp, Head of Year 12 lrj@truroschoo.com

Mrs Bernie Richards, Head of Year 13 bri@truroschoo.com



“
Truro School has been amazing.
All of the support from the
teachers has been incredible
”
AIMEE, STUDENT





ART

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR MEADS
HEAD OF SIXTH FORM COURSE: MRS CUCKNELL
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 Year 12. 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: The course starts with the residential art trip from which all work for this unit is developed from. 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 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 are all practising artists. Due to the small class size, students have a lot more one-to-one time with their teachers.

Having four different teachers teaching during Year 12 gives the students a much wider skill base and greater depth of advice.

All 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, ceramics and exhibition curation.

The students can also work with our ceramic's technician and artist in residence 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

All students will have a chance to work with artists who exhibit in the Heseltine Gallery, enter into national art competitions, develop work for around the site.

SUBJECT EXTENSIONS

LIFE DRAWING
THE CHANCE TO WORK WITH ARTISTS
VISITS TO PRINT AND ARTIST STUDIOS

Students are offered outside workshops and are lucky enough to have our huge collection of Cornish Art (over 300 originals ranging from Peter Lanyon to Sandra Blow) housed in the school's purpose-built art gallery.

The Heseltine Gallery has an exciting programme of exhibitions and the students are given workshops and talks by the visiting artists. A two-hour life drawing class is offered for free once a week throughout the year.

TRIPS, VISITS AND FIELD WORK

It is vital that students can learn to work outside of the classroom. We take them on a residential two-day art trip to West Cornwall where they can immerse themselves into the landscape, visiting galleries and working 'en plein air'. In Year 13 they have chance to take part in a two-day London art trip which includes a West End Show.

TOP-LEVEL FACILITIES

ART STUDIO
In Year 13 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.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE
We are lucky enough to have an Artist in Residence who will work with students, talk through their ideas and be a resource to learn from.

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: MS SUSAN HAVIS
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 YEAR 12

Year 12 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 Year 12 to study succession and to carry out practical project work.

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.

Pupils will have the opportunity to attend a range of relevant online and in person lectures during their A-Level studies.

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



WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN YEAR 13

Year 13 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 Year 13. 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 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.



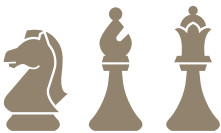
BUSINESS STUDIES

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR WHATLEY
EXAMINATION BOARD: EDUQAS

SPECIFICATION: EDUQAS BUSINESS
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL BUSINESS

Do you want to find out why companies like Tesla thrive while others struggle? Ever wondered how businesses like Apple determine their pricing strategies? Curious about how global giants like Coca-Cola navigate international markets? Interested in understanding why brands like Nike are so influential in consumer behavior? 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 YEAR 12

Year 12 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 Year 12 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 Year 12 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 AND A-LEVEL RESULTS

In 2025, students achieved 50% A*-A, 85% A*-B, 100% A*-C.

In 2025, all students achieved or exceeded their ALPS.

OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC SUPPORT

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

COMPREHENSIVE UCAS SUPPORT

1:1 guidance on building academic evidence.

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

Essay competitions such as The Royal Economics Essay Competition and King’s Entrepreneurship Lab.

We also welcome visiting entrepreneurs who talk about their experience of running a business, with one Old Truronian sharing the financial data used to make a recent business acquisition. Students are given the same data to create their own valuations to simulate the acquisition process.

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, undertake an apprenticeship or start their own business

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 YEAR 13

During Year 13 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 Year 13 but there will also be much more focus on developing exam technique in readiness for the summer exams.

For example, in Year 13 you will be asked to:

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

Assess the impact of interest rates, inflation and unemployment on businesses.

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 OLDER

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 YEAR 12

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

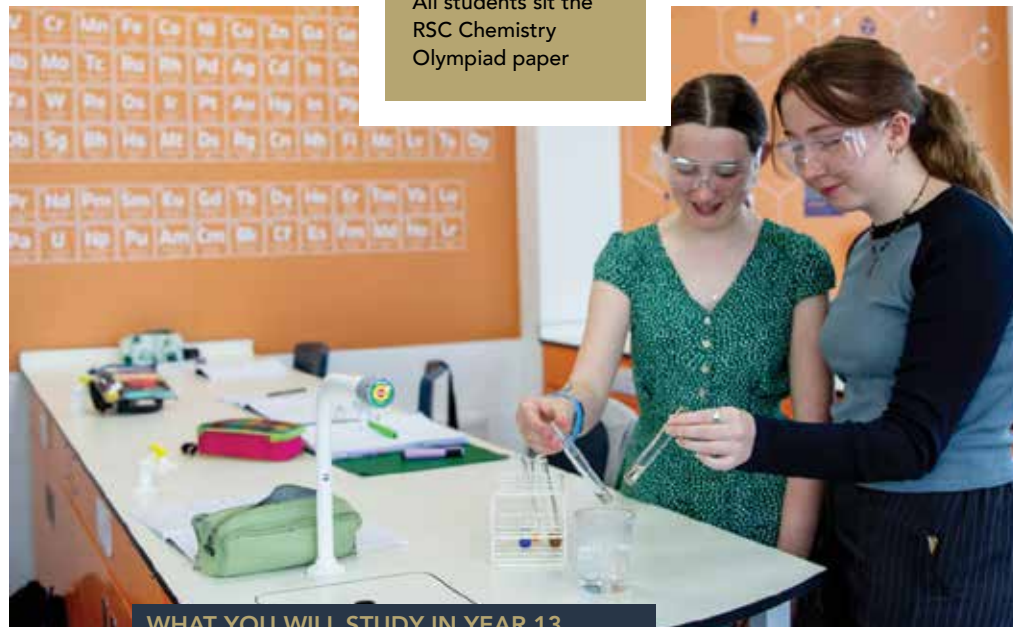
We offer an A-Level Chemistry Extension class to teach very able students how to answer Olympiad style questions. Ultimately, the students attending this club will be coached to problem solve effectively using their course knowledge. This could mean the difference between an A and an A* grade at A-Level.

Year 12 students sit the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge

TOP-LEVEL FACILITIES

We have four newly refurbished 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.

All students sit the RSC Chemistry Olympiad paper



WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN YEAR 13

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

Chemistry A-level has been a really exciting course, inspiring all of us to study chemistry at degree level. The teachers at Truro School have supported us so well, offering to help us whenever we want especially with post-18 options. One of our favourite parts has been the amazing practical facilities which let us apply the theory we've learnt to real life, like when we synthesised aspirin. We have enjoyed the opportunity to get involved with extension lectures and lead lectures for younger students.

SOUMYA, MAYA AND ANGELO

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, we run Chemistry clinics which students can use 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 VANSTONE
EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR

SPECIFICATION: A-LEVEL COMPUTER SCIENCE H446
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 Vanstone and Ms Lobb. Mr Vanstone is a Geology graduate with seven years industrial experience processing scientific data and computer modelling in scientific and civil engineering consultancies, before entering teaching. He contributed his Python coding and scientific skills to a 2020 paper in the journal Science on the seismic quietening in lockdown and is keen to build interest in scientific computing within the school. Ms Lobb has a degree in digital media and computing, having also worked as a digital artist and programmer in computer games development and advertising, before qualifying as a computer science teacher and joining Truro School in 2020.



WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN YEAR 12

In Year 12 a large emphasis is placed on developing your computational thinking and programming skills using Python, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Assembly Language and SQL.

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, legal, moral, cultural and ethical 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 will generally be a solution to a real life problem, developed in a programming language of your choice, using an Agile methodology.

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 Vanstone and Ms Lobb have many years of industrial experience in scientific, engineering and game-development industries, having worked for a range of companies applying the full range of skills required for success at A-Level, as well as having many years' combined experience in teaching.

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 a company in the digital sector. 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 and close collaboration with other departments.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN YEAR 13

In Year 13 you dedicate your time to project work, whilst building on practical skills in the programming language of your choice, Python, JavaScript, CSS, HTML and SQL.

The theoretical elements of the course are studied in greater depth, with opportunities to build on your knowledge of every aspect of the course.

The NEA project follows an Agile methodology in a language of your choice and includes a Graphical User

Interface. In the NEA project, you will produce a significant piece of work, which is a solution to a real-world problem.

You will take two end-of year exams, one covering computer systems and the other covering algorithms and programming. The algorithms and programming paper will allow you to show off your knowledge of programming constructs and techniques without being tied to one specific programming language.

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.

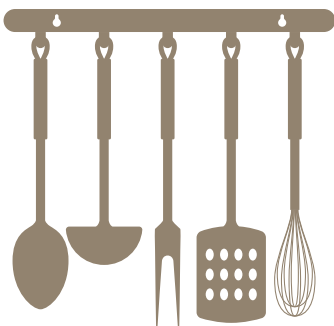
JOZEF



COOKERY

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MRS PETTY
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.



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.

We are the only Leiths Academy school in Cornwall and offer a Level 3 Extended Certificate in Professional Cookery, written and run by Leiths Education and accredited by the Confederation of Tourism and Hospitality (CTH)

In addition to the Level 3 Certificate, we also offer co-curricular courses to Sixth Form pupils, such as 'Seasonaires', 'Cooking for Life' and 'Patisserie'.

The Level 3 Extended Certificate in Professional Cookery, is an A-Level style course worth 12-36 UCAS points. It is a five-term course based on 42 core weeks of practical menus which will develop a wide range of culinary skills.

The qualification enhances a personal statement and UCAS application and can play a pivotal role in opening the door to careers in food and drink from cheffing to food teaching; cookery writing to food photography and journalism; recipe design and development to marketing and advertising.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN YEAR 12

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 essential for mastering the fundamentals of professional cooking. Starting with foundational skills in preparing soups, sauces, pastry, bread and cakes, you will progress to creating more complex dishes like sticky soy-glazed guinea fowl breasts accompanied by chilli and garlic tenderstem broccoli. The course will also cover culinary creations, such as tandoori prawns with flatbreads and coriander chutney, profiteroles, pavlova, and traditional roast chicken with all the trimmings.



WHAT IS THE LEITHS INTRODUCTORY CERTIFICATE USEFUL FOR?
You will learn how to cook delicious, healthy meals for when you move away from home. You will also perfect higher culinary skills required to rustle up more elaborate meals for your housemates at university like a Sunday roast or how to prepare a celebratory meal to impress your family and friends. In addition, there are some other benefits to studying the course...

THE LEITHS LIST
If you receive a top grade upon completion of the course, you will be eligible to apply for positions advertised on Leiths List, where private clients and employers source chefs and staff for a variety of catering requirements. With Leiths List, opportunities arise in both the UK and overseas. The qualification will open the door to entry level, casual and full-time employment including seasonal work. You will need to provide a CV, evidence of your qualification and any appropriate references as part of the application process.

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 YEAR 13

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 first term of the second year you will all be challenged 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 duck breast with bramble sauce, Dauphinoise potatoes and grilled hispi cabbage; pan-fried sirloin steak with Béarnaise sauce; sea bream with fennel and orange salad with seaweed hasselback potatoes; and a delectable caramel soufflé with a raspberry sorbet.

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.



I have thoroughly enjoyed the practical lessons with the 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.



DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR BAKER
EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR

SPECIFICATION: ART AND DESIGN – 3D DESIGN
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL

This is a design course, not an art course. During this course you will develop a deeper understanding of design and manufacture in order to generate creative and commercial concepts. You will undergo a period of ‘up-skilling’ through a series of design challenges, where the focus will be in developing new skills and understanding how to look into the work of past and present designers as well as other sources of inspiration.

Your main project will be a ‘Personal Investigation’ of your choosing, followed by an externally set design task provided by the exam board. While there is no written ‘theory’ exam, candidates are required to write a short ‘related study’.

This course develops invaluable skills for your journey into higher education and beyond. At the end of the two years you will be a highly creative and analytical thinker, armed with a combination of hand, digital and practical skills.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN YEAR 12

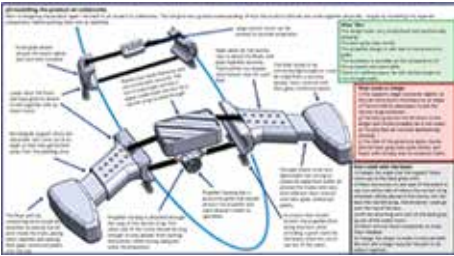
The course starts with a period of ‘up-skilling’ delivered through a series of short DMT’s (design and make tasks). These tasks are aimed at improving your designing and making skills as well as your ability to undertake effective research and analysis and will run until February. The focus and duration of each will change but in essence will include the following:

- 1) Developing CAD / CAM skills including SolidWorks
- 2) Analysing the work of other designers and improving and developing new products
- 3) Architecture and the built environment
- 4) Biomimicry and its impact on design

In February you will start your Personal Investigation Project. You will need to prepare a portfolio of work, which responds to a design ‘context’ of your choosing. The nature of this portfolio will be defined by your interests and creativity but could include:

- 3D Product Design
- Engineering (both product and mechanical)
- Architectural / Interior design
- 3D Digital design
- Furniture design
- Ceramics
- Sculpture
- Jewellery
- Stage / Exhibition / Production design
- Environmental design

You will explore a variety of design approaches in order develop a ‘Final solution’ which could be in response to a real-world problem or simply presented as a conclusion to your context investigation. The focus of the Personal Investigation is creativity and productivity. You will be expected to fully explore your design ideas through extensive sketching, modelling and making.



Sean Heaney – Brunel University – Industrial Product Design

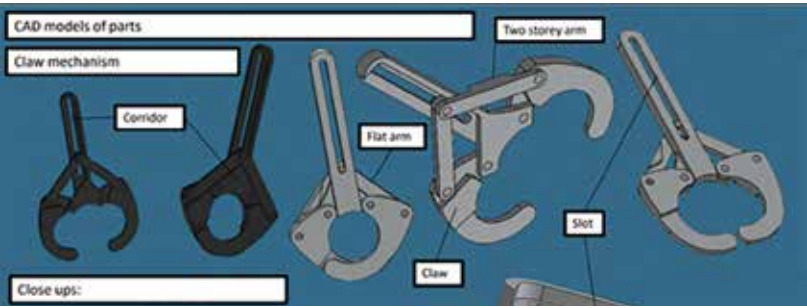
THREE REASONS TO STUDY DESIGN TECHNOLOGY AT TRURO SCHOOL

Having all been ‘heads of department’ our collective teaching team experience puts us in a position to help pupils develop and manufacture designs to a very high level.

Our growing and considerable list of contacts and alumni facilitate an extensive support network, providing opportunities for both projects and careers experience.

The departments resources are some of the best in the Southwest, and we place trust in our pupils to enjoy it independently, while having access to all the support they require.

Context ‘Mutifunctional’ - ‘working and seating area’ inspired by architect Frank Gehry. Henry, current student



Ollie Newman - Loughborough University – Industrial Product Design

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN YEAR 13

Your ‘Personal Investigation will continue until February and will culminate with the writing of a ‘Related study. This is a short written piece (minimum 1000 words) supported by illustrations and images, which relates to your chosen context, and will help to provide further insight into elements of your portfolio. After this, you will start preparing for the ‘Externally set task’. Candidates will be required to prepare a second portfolio of work which responds to one of a number of ‘start points’

provided by the exam board. The candidate response will include elements of research, designing, modelling and preparation for a 15 hour practical assessment, during which they will manufacture their developed idea.

Unlike GSCE Design and Technology, which is very linear in its delivery, this course follows a more organic and natural pathway, and as such pupils enjoy a significant amount of design freedom.

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

WHO SHOULD CONSIDER THIS COURSE?

This course will benefit candidates with a keen interest in and curiosity for design and manufacture. You will benefit from possessing critical and analytical thinking skills and a comfortable attitude to communicating and sharing ideas.

Pupils who are successful in this course will need to demonstrate creativity, independence and initiative. This course will accommodate pupils who prefer digital based technology including CAD, as well as those who prefer working in a more ‘hands on’ way.

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

Component 1 – ‘Personal Investigation’ 12 months duration worth 60% of qualification (including the related study)

Component 2 – Externally set task’ 3 months 40 % (including 15hr practical exam)



DRAMA & THEATRE STUDIES

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR OLDFIELD
EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

SPECIFICATION: 7262 DRAMA AND THEATRE
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL



Develop your performance skills in our splendid Burrell theatre, experiencing what it is like to work in a professional setting, with professional practitioners.

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. Johanna 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 YEAR 12

Throughout Year 12 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.

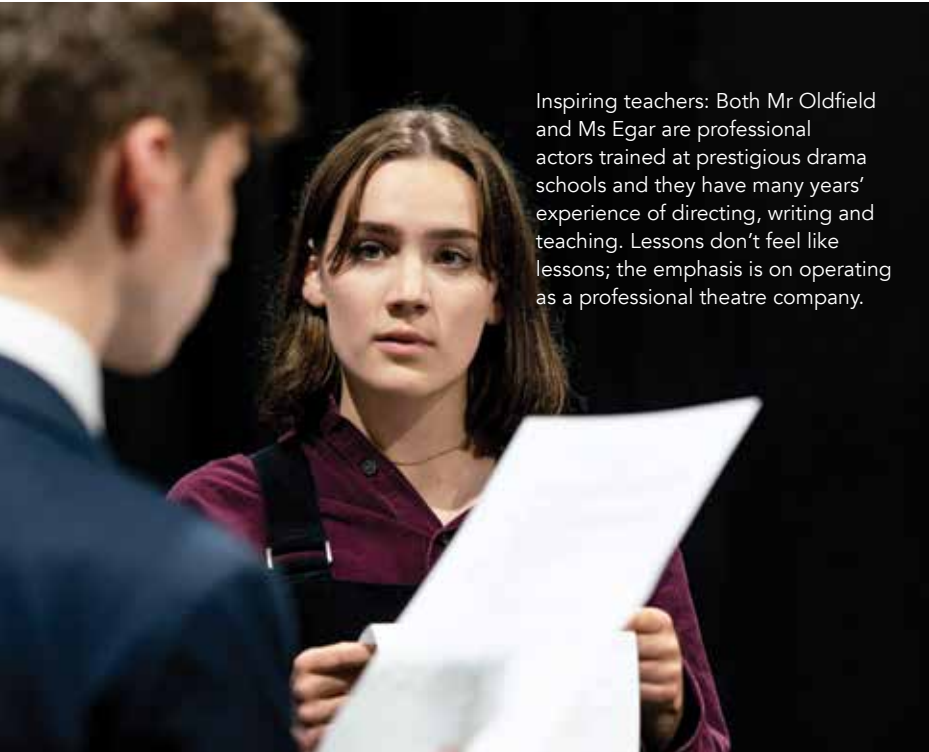
The set text you will study in Year 12 is Ibsen's masterpiece 'Hedda Gabler'. This play is one of the all-time great modern plays. It is complex, profound, enigmatic and unpredictable, exploring the darkness of the human psyche, and it deals with universal themes that

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.



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 YOU WILL STUDY IN YEAR 13

At the start of Year 13 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.

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

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; continuing to work with us in your gap year, developing your work and building skills.

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.

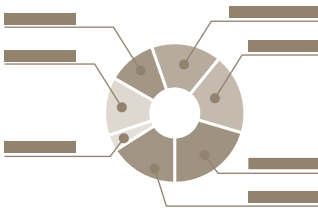




ECONOMICS

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.

Students are required to get a Grade 7 or
above at GCSE Maths to study an A-Level
in Economics.

2025 OUTSTANDING RESULTS

A*-B

100%

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN YEAR 12

The subject is split into two main
sections, microeconomics and
macroeconomics, and we devote half of
the lessons to studying each of these.
Year 12 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 Year
12 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
2025 A-Level Economics
students achieved
outstanding results A*/A 67%
and 100% A*- B.

**OUTSTANDING
VALUE ADDED**
Top 10% Nationally.

**OUTSTANDING
ACADEMIC SUPPORT**
Small class sizes, 1:1
meetings, weekly clinic in
Year 13 and online resources
and tests via moodle.
Students also receive
access to Up Learn which
provides interactive videos,
personalised revision and
exam practice for A-Levels.

*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 and
King’s Entrepreneurship Lab.

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.

While A-Level Mathematics is not
a prerequisite for studying A-Level
Economics, students who plan to pursue a
degree in Economics will most likely need
to have A-Level Mathematics.



WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN YEAR 12

In Year 13 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?

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.



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.

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.





THE EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MRS ELLISON
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.

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.



EPQ STUDENTS ARE BETTER PREPARED FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
Research conducted by Cambridge University Press found that EPQ students were better prepared for higher education, “Taking the EPQ was associated with a higher likelihood of progressing to higher education, a lower likelihood of dropping out of higher education, and a higher probability of achieving a first (or at least an upper second) in their degree.”

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN YEAR 12

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 Year 12 as follows:

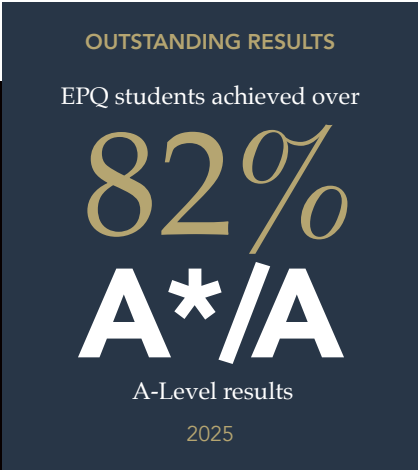
- Developing professional relationships with experts in the field
- Formulating a focused title or project brief
- Identifying project objectives and rationale
- Developing a clear project plan
- Introduction to primary and secondary sources, including peer-reviewed journals
- Assessing the credibility 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



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



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



WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN YEAR 13

- 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?
Russell Group universities place great value on the EPQ, with the University of Cambridge stating that they encourage applicants to take it as ‘it will help to develop independent study and research skills, which are valuable for higher education.’

(University of Cambridge, September 2024)

In addition to the EPQ being worth up to 28 UCAS points (half an A Level), a significant number of universities will also lower required A Level grades for a course when an applicant achieves a high grade in their EPQ.



FOOTBALL PROGRAMME

TRURO SCHOOL'S FOOTBALL PROGRAMME IN CONJUNCTION WITH SAINTS SOUTH WEST
LEAD COACH: RHYS SULLIVAN

Truro School has partnered with leading football development centre, Saints South West, to provide Sixth Form students with a unique football programme.

The programme has been designed to offer first-class football coaching alongside theoretical sessions, enabling boys and girls to further their footballing journey and gain professional football qualifications alongside their A-Levels or associated courses.

The Truro School Football Programme delivers coaching and medical qualifications, leadership experience opportunities, a chance to earn in the holidays and a high-quality practical footballing experience, on and off the pitch.

The flexibility it offers ensures that a good balance between this programme and the student's academic studies is attainable and sustainable.

PROGRAMME

In designing this programme, we put our students' academic commitments at the forefront of our thinking. The programme is flexible and can be adapted to fit each individual's needs, especially around the mock exam and exam months.

There are 5 Periods allocated for the programme over the school's two-week timetable, in addition to after school sessions and during Wednesday Afternoon Activities.



The programme offers a strong practical element, with two-thirds of the time given to practical elements (analysis, one-to-one coaching, strength and conditioning, nutritional help and mentoring), which will all sit alongside the time on the pitch, crafting new skills and techniques. Again, this has been designed to be flexible to help support our students' academic needs if required.



SAINTS SOUTH WEST

Saints South West, an official club partner of Southampton Football Club, shares Truro School's strong ethos towards education and personal improvement. They have a strong record of producing fantastic football experiences and programmes, whilst delivering and promoting the need for a strong education. Furthermore, working with Saints South West will give those who choose the football programme an understanding into how a high-quality sporting programme is managed and delivered. There will be opportunities to help with the delivery of festivals and tournaments, mentoring other students and, in the school holidays, a chance to put their qualifications to use and earn money during camps and activities.

COMBINATIONS

The football programme can be chosen alongside a range of academic options. A-Levels, CTECH in Sport and Physical Activity and the Leiths Introductory Certificate all complement this programme.

QUALIFICATIONS

The qualifications students will receive alongside the coaching include:

- FA Level 1 and 2 Coaching
- Refereeing Course
- Level 1 and Level 2 First Aid

The courses are flexible in their timing and can be paused at any time, to allow balance for the students, if needed.

The football programme will re-enforce the core values and standards of the school. Excellent programmes will ensure players and students enjoy themselves and that students have the expertise to stay in football after they leave school.

RHYS SULLIVAN, LEAD COACH



THREE REASONS TO CHOOSE THE FOOTBALL PROGRAMME

- Gain coaching and medical qualifications
- Evidence to interviewers that you have strong leadership and technical skills and that you can work well with others
- Open the door to future job opportunities in the football industry in the UK and beyond

PROFESSIONAL COACHING

Lead Coach, Rhys Sullivan will be leading the delivery of the programme. Overseeing Rhys and the programme, will be Truro School's Head of Football, Glynn Hooper and Dan Sanderson, Director of Sport.

Rhys Sullivan - Lead Coach

Mr Sullivan joins us from Plymouth Argyle, where he most recently coached the women's team. He brings over 20 years of coaching experience to the School and will divide his time between running the football programme at Truro School and the Saints Southwest (SSW) Regional Programme, supporting players transitioning from grassroots football to regional centres of excellence and beyond.

Glynn Hooper - Head of Football

Mr Hooper is Truro School's Head of Football, a Head of Year and Senior Pastoral Lead. Mr Hooper also works for the Football Association as a Coach Educator and offers his time to run the Cornwall Senior, U18 and U16 squads. He also played for Ipswich Town FC before becoming a PE teacher.

Dan Sanderson – Director of Sport

Mr Sanderson joined Truro School in 2018 after retiring from professional rugby in the same year. Over a 9-year playing career, he represented Northampton Saints, Rotherham Titans, Worcester Warriors and Leeds. A qualified RFU coach, Mr Sanderson also played semi-professional football, as a goalkeeper, and was involved with the sporting giants' programme for the 2012 Olympics in Volleyball.



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 Year 12 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.

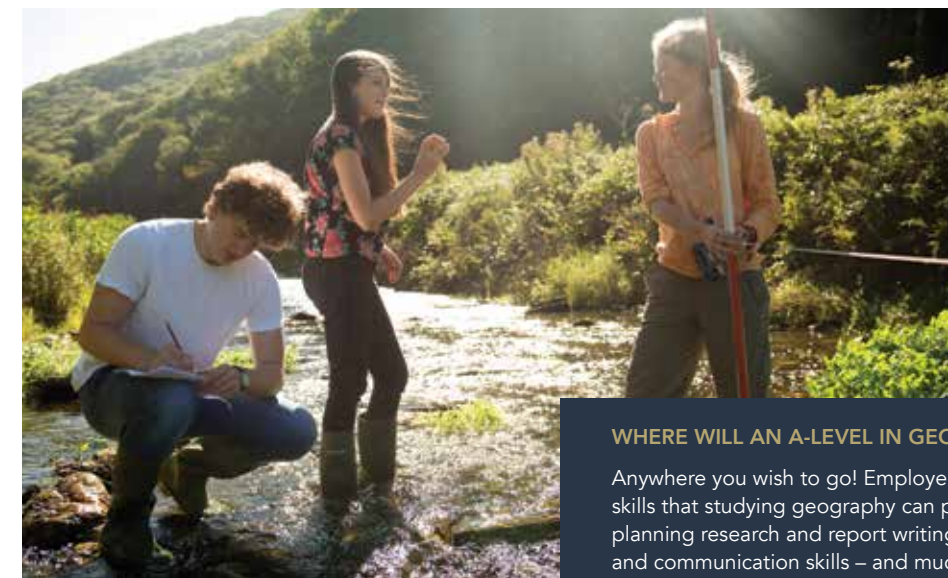
Academic enrichment: Essay-writing skills are honed throughout this course and the examination board have commented on this being a particular feature of our teaching at Truro School.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN YEAR 12

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.



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 YEAR 13

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 to The Field Study Centre at Nettlecombe. Visiting Watchet, Minehead and Porlock in order to complete a variety of field work techniques.

Urban studies in Plymouth

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

NON EXAMINED ASSESSMENT (NEA)

This constitutes 20% of the entire A Level. The Department has been commended by the Exam Board for the high quality and level of individuality, creativity and independence displayed in the work of recent cohorts.

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

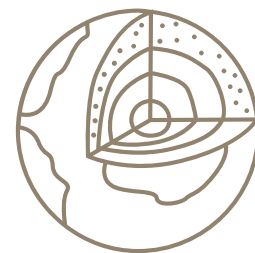
Geography Review journals in the Library



GEOLOGY

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MISS HOPE
EXAMINATION BOARD: EDUQAS

SPECIFICATION: GEOLOGY
QUALIFICATION: AS AND A-LEVEL



Our students reached the final of the 2024 School Geology Challenge hosted by the Geological Society of London.

By studying Geology, you can study Earth's fascinating 4.5 billion year history to predict and protect its future. In A-Level Geology we ask the important questions in society today, including how to find Earth's resources and use them sustainably, how life on Earth has responded to climate change and how to mitigate natural hazards such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides and tsunamis.

The course is designed to reflect the geologists in the world today. There is a strong 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 YEAR 12

Year 12 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.

VALUE ADDED

In 2024 and 2025
The Geology department
achieved

Grade 1

which places the department
in the top 5% in the country

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 lecturers who challenge and stretch our students.

TRIPS, VISITS AND FIELD WORK

Students spend a minimum of four days completing fieldwork in Cornwall (a key component of the course), studying some of the finest Geology in the world. In Year 13 there is a three-day residential trip to North Somerset. In addition, there is the opportunity to explore the awe-inspiring volcanic landscapes of Iceland with a residential field trip.

Students in Year 12 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.

In 2025, the Geology department achieved a grade 1 for value added which places the department in the top 5% in the country.

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, Megilgar and Rinsey Cove enabling students to develop their practical skills.

MICHAL



OUTSTANDING RESULTS
Geology students achieved

85%

A*-A

A-Level results
2025

TOP-LEVEL FACILITIES

Practical work is an intrinsic part of the course, and here at Truro School the Geology department is well stocked with hundreds of museum-quality teaching specimens including the minerals, rocks and fossils found in the specification along with many others that contribute to the quality and depth of learning, enriching the subject.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN YEAR 13

The level of course detail builds in Year 13. 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 Year 13 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 Year 12 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 YEAR 12

YEAR 12 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).

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’

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

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 Head of EPQ, 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 Year 13 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 YEAR 13

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 Year 12 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.



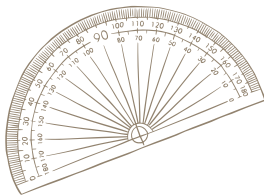
MATHEMATICS, FURTHER MATHEMATICS

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR BUTTERWORTH

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, enrichment opportunities and personalised support from skilled Mathematics teachers who are on hand to get you the best grade possible.



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 or Economics A-Level, 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

COURSE DETAILS

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 Year 12 or at the beginning of Year 13. We can be quite flexible with this course to suit your individual needs, so talk to Mr Butterworth if you need clarification.

These areas introduce advanced mathematical techniques such as complex numbers, used in engineering and signal processing; matrices, which are essential for solving systems of equations and modelling transformations; and differential equations, which describe how quantities change and are fundamental in fields like physics and biology. Alongside this, students will explore the modelling of real-world problems, including the analysis of forces and motion in mechanics, and the interpretation of probability distributions, statistical tests, and data trends in statistics. Together, these skills form a powerful toolkit for tackling complex problems across a wide range of disciplines.



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. It is also highly sought after for degrees in Economics, Computer Science and Psychology. 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, Economics, Physics, Medicine, Computer Science and Geography.

A-Level Further Mathematics is highly recommended, and in some cases required, for degrees in Mathematics, Engineering, Physics, and Computer Science, especially at top universities. It provides an excellent foundation in advanced topics such as complex numbers, matrices, and mechanics, helping students transition more smoothly into mathematically demanding courses. While a Further Mathematics A-Level is essential for those aiming to study pure Mathematics at the highest level, it is also a valuable asset for degrees in Economics, Data Science, and Finance. Further Maths showcases strong analytical ability and is highly regarded by both universities and employers.

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.

Each year a team of four students is entered into the Team Challenge, which always proves to be a fun and interesting competition.

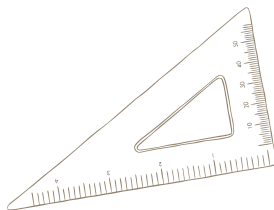




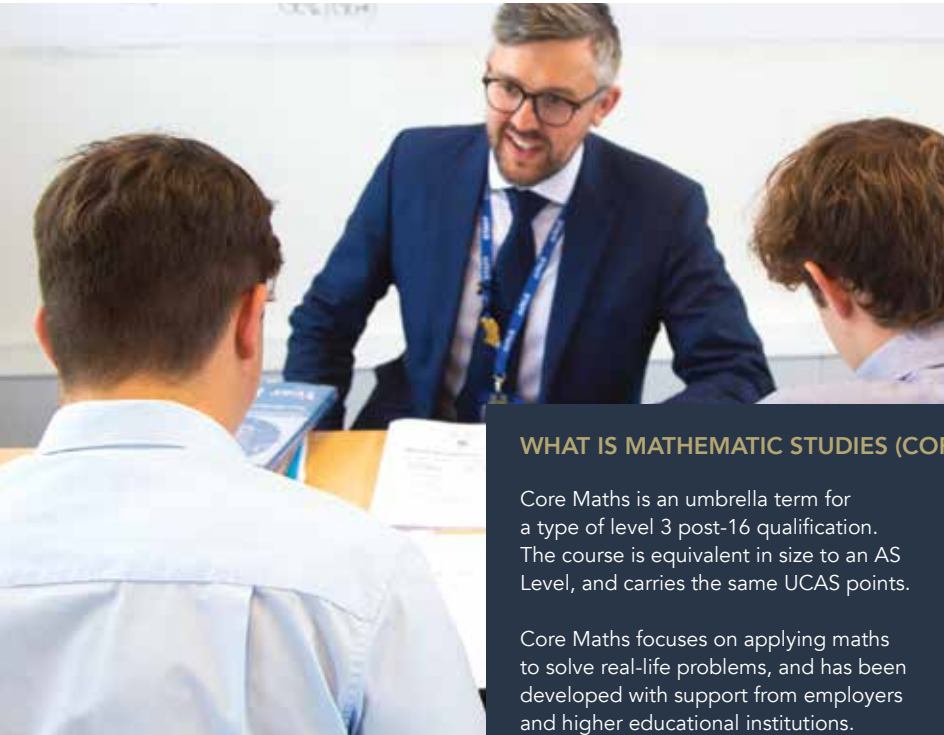
MATHEMATICAL STUDIES (CORE MATHS)

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR BUTTERWORTH

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA
SPECIFICATION: MATHEMATICS
QUALIFICATION: AS-LEVEL



At Truro School we believe that Maths is for everyone. It is diverse, engaging and essential in equipping students with the right skills to reach their future destination, whatever that may be. This course focuses on using and applying maths to address authentic problems drawn from study, work and life.



WHAT IS MATHEMATIC STUDIES (CORE MATHS)?

Core Maths is an umbrella term for a type of level 3 post-16 qualification. The course is equivalent in size to an AS Level, and carries the same UCAS points.

Core Maths focuses on applying maths to solve real-life problems, and has been developed with support from employers and higher educational institutions.

The course is designed to: consolidate and build mathematical understanding; foster the ability to think mathematically and apply maths in unfamiliar situations; support students' learning in other subjects requiring quantitative skills; prepare students for the real-life mathematical demands of further study and employment.



COURSE DETAILS

Mathematical Studies aims to prepare students for the mathematical demands of higher education and work where there is a distinct mathematical or statistical element, but where the mathematical demands do not stretch to a requirement for A-Level mathematics.

Students are assessed through two 1 hour 30-minute exams including:

PAPER 1

- Analysis of Data
- Personal Finance
- Modelling and Estimation

PAPER 2A

- Normal Distribution
- Confidence Intervals
- Correlation and Regression
- Critical Analysis



WHO IS CORE MATHS FOR?

Core Maths is designed to support students who achieve a grade 4 or above in GCSE Mathematics, but decide not to study AS or A-Level Mathematics.

It is aimed at students that are taking A-Level subjects which have some mathematical requirements. This includes, but is not limited to Business, PE and Sport, Geography, Design and Technology, and all the science subjects. Studying this qualification enhances students' abilities with the mathematical skills and the quantitative reasoning crucial for careers using mathematics.

Students really enjoy the 'real-life' element of the course, especially the finance section where they calculate income tax and national insurance as well as mortgages and loans; they can see the practical uses of the skills they are learning which motivates them to delve deeper into the topic areas.

The links to other subjects also helps our students as they can amalgamate the skills and methods from Core Maths into other areas of their studies - subject teachers have noted that this has helped the teaching of their own lessons as students have a stronger baseline in their mathematical understanding and are much more confident than they previously had been.



MODERN LANGUAGES

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MRS LE BIHAN MURPHY

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

A modern language is not a luxury but a necessity.

The top UK universities have 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.

HAVING A LANGUAGE INCREASES YOUR EMPLOYABILITY.

We are the most connected generation of all time, and languages are at the forefront of global partnerships, trade and cultural exchange.

Needless to say that learning a language also contributes to soft skills: as students enter the working world, they need more than ever to develop attributes, such as communication, critical thinking, teamwork and problem solving.

Through a carefully planned progression from iGCSE 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, cinema study and cultural and political life.

Truro School's Modern Language courses teach you to do so much more than simply pass an exam paper. Our students are known for showing resilience, independence and initiative. We produce linguists who know how to construct and deconstruct a language through an in-depth understanding of grammatical principles and high level linguistic skills.

The topic areas include the changing nature of the family, cyber-society, social equality and integration, immigration, political and cultural heritage, music, art and cinema. Students learn to analyse and interpret films and literary works, using a variety of materials and sources to produce well-informed opinions and insights.

We provide ample access to online resources, and students are guided on how to use them appropriately.

WHY STUDY A MODERN LANGUAGE AT TRURO SCHOOL?

At Truro School, we provide an exciting A-Level curriculum that will challenge students to think about themselves, society and their influence in the world around them all within the target language.

Small class sizes allow for more focused work to support individual needs.

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

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

Our Sixth Form-only ICT suite and designated undergraduate seminar-style teaching rooms are well-equipped for teaching at this level and beyond.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN YEAR 12 & YEAR 13

At the end of Year 12, students must choose a key question which relates to the country or countries where the target language is spoken. This Independent Research Project (IRP) is an exciting way to explore an area of interest. Students build evidence and competency around this area, which will form part of their oral examination. In Year 13, students study a film and a literary work from an exciting and wide-ranging list. 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.



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

Wherever you want to go! A well as learning vital language skills, students will learn how to communicate confidently and competently, to structure academic writing and debates, respond under pressure with a high degree of accuracy and enhance their research skills via the Independent Research Project. This piece of work will encourage students to use academic research papers, the news, along with new technology and social media. This will give them a taster on how to write a thesis and develop their critical skills. So much more than learning a language, the A-Level course is designed to develop skills which are 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! With hundreds of undergraduate courses on offer which combine a language element, students can have the career of their choice and be fluent in a second or third language. If students are considering studying languages at undergraduate level, either as a single or joint Honours, guidance and advice are available from our highly experienced Sixth Form teaching team.

EXTENSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Students have additional one-to-one sessions with our native speakers. Spending time with the assistants is a valuable way to immerse oneself in the language and its culture.

As a Department, we aim to organise foreign trips annually to enable our learners to broaden their cultural awareness and use their language in authentic settings.

We offer an exciting range of extension activities to help widen students' appreciation of their chosen

There are many opportunities when studying a Modern Language at Truro School. Thanks to the individual support of my teachers including the Assistant, the jump from iGCSE to A-Level was really manageable. What was noticeable were the lessons themselves which, partly due to smaller class sizes, felt personal and tailored to our needs in a friendly and focused atmosphere. Feeling already more confident with my fluency and accuracy, I look forward to our coming trip to the South of France to be immersed in the culture, the language and the gastronomy!

ORIEL, FRENCH YEAR 13 STUDENT.



language and country. Providing these opportunities for our students to access supra-curricular extension helps strengthen the work done within the classroom as well as broadening their curiosity.

In recent years the department has entered students in the national Juvenes Translatores competition, the Oxford University French, German and Spanish Olympiads, as well as the UK Linguistics Olympiad. In addition we enjoy foreign language plays, art and debate.

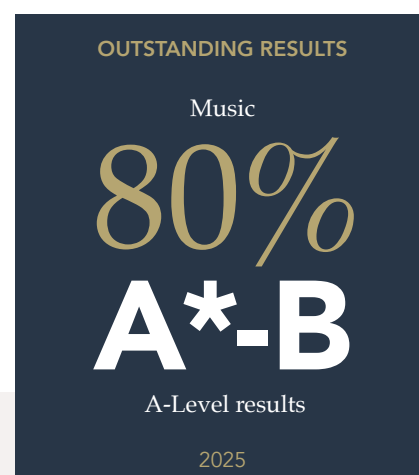
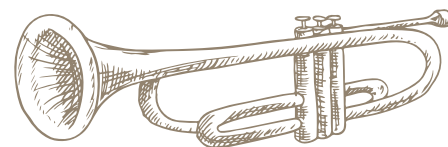


MUSIC

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR OSMOND
EXAMINATION BOARD: EDUQAS

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.



WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN YEAR 12

A key element of the course in Year 12 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 Year 12 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 Year 13 too. These examinations give our pupils a real advantage with A-Level and 1st Year University/Conservatoire work.



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 YEAR 13

In Year 13 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!

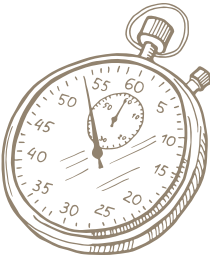
TEGAN



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MISS VIV COBNER

QUALIFICATION: CAMBRIDGE TECHNICALS: SPORT & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY LEVEL 3



Covering an extremely diverse course within the field of sport, the Cambridge Technicals provides a practical applied approach to learning. Alongside a strong theoretical grounding in different aspects of sport, students develop transferable skills which are highly sought after by employers, including communication, teamwork, leadership, adaptability and planning.

Our team takes great pride in understanding how to help each student reach their goals within the setting of the outstanding facilities at Truro School.

CAMBRIDGE TECHNICALS (CTEC)

The Cambridge Technicals provide a great alternative to A-Levels, which are heavily exam focused. There are mixed assessment methods, including written assignments, practical tasks, case studies and external exams. This approach can help reduce exam pressure and is a great option for students who are more suited to coursework.

The Cambridge Technicals work well alongside A-Level subjects. In the Upper Sixth, students who have completed all of the Cambridge Technicals units are able to focus on their remaining A-Level subjects and have less terminal exams to sit. This has helped facilitate students to achieving some outstanding results in A-Level subjects alongside their Cambridge Technicals qualification.

The courses are also well suited to students who have significant sports commitments, as it offers self paced learning and flexible study which is invaluable in helping students to achieve balance during the Sixth Form.

PATHWAYS AND OPTIONS FOR LEVEL 3 CAMBRIDGE TECHNICALS IN SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY							
M = Mandatory O = Optional				Extended Certificate 360 GLH	Foundation Diploma 540 GLH	Diploma 720 GLH	Extended Diploma 1080 GLH
Unit number	Unit title	GLH	Assessment method		Activity Leadership	Sports Coaching	Sport and Physical Activity Development
1	Body Systems and the Effects of Physical Activity	90	E	M	M	M	M
2	Sports Coaching and Activity Leadership	90	I	M	M	M	M
3	Sports Organisation and Development	60	E	M	M	M	M
4	Working Safely in Sport, Exercise, Health and Leisure	90	E	-	M	M	M
5	Performance Analysis in Sport and Exercise	60	I	O	-	M	M
6	Group Exercise to Music	60	I	-	-	-	O
7	Improving Fitness for Sport and Physical Activity	60	I	-	-	-	M
8	Organisation of Sports Events	60	I	O	O	M	M
10	Biomechanics and Movement Analysis	60	I	O	-	O	O
11	Physical Activity for Specific Groups	30	I	O	M	M	M
12	Nutrition and Diet for Sport and Exercise	30	I	O	O	O	M
13	Health and Fitness Testing for Sport and Exercise	60	I	-	-	O	O
14	Working in Active Leisure Facilities	60	I	-	-	-	M
17	Sports Injuries and Rehabilitation	60	I	O	O	M	M
18	Practical Skills in Sport and Physical Activities	60	I	O	O	M	M
19	Sport and Exercise Psychology	60	I	O	-	O	O
20	Sport and Exercise Sociology	60	I	O	-	-	O
21	The Business of Sport	90	E	-	-	-	M

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. However, it is not necessary for you to have previously studied GCSE Physical Education.

COURSE DETAILS

The Cambridge Technicals are continually assessed throughout the course, with the majority of units being internally assessed coursework units. There are also some exam units which are sat in January, with the opportunity available to retake them if necessary, in the summer.

All students complete compulsory units in Anatomy and Physiology, Sports Coaching and Sports Organisation and Development as well as additional units to complete the required guided learning hours for their qualification. You will be taught by different specialist teachers each year from a variety of different sporting backgrounds.



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.

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

Sophia achieved D*D* in her Cambridge Technicals Diploma equivalent to two A*s. She chose to come to Truro School Sixth Form because of the Cambridge Technicals, which she felt better suited her interests and learning style.

“I’m not very good at exams, but the Cambridge Technicals are mainly coursework-based, so you can work at your own pace. The PE team has supported me amazingly well and I know I couldn’t have got these results elsewhere. Starting at Sixth Form was tough, but it has helped me to grow a lot in confidence and see where I want to go. I’m now going to Oxford Brooks University to study Sports Coaching and Physical Education.”

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 D*D* in the Diploma would receive 112 UCAS points which is the equivalent to 2 A*s at A-Level.



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.



EXTENSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Our students are actively involved in the sporting life of Truro School, representing our teams, helping with officiating and developing their leadership skills through helping to coach junior sports teams. There are numerous opportunities to get top quality coaching in a wide range of sports as well as playing and training for recreation. 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.

There are also opportunities to learn from industry specialists through guest lectures in areas such as strength and conditioning, sports injury, First Aid, nutrition and sports coaching. Where possible we look at the ambitions of our cohort to find extension opportunities in their areas of interest.

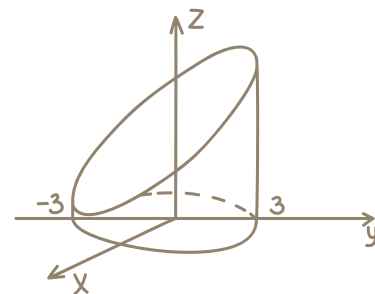


PHYSICS

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.



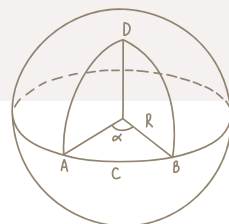
WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN YEAR 12

In Year 12 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.

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

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!



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 YEAR 13

Once again the teaching is shared in Year 13. 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?

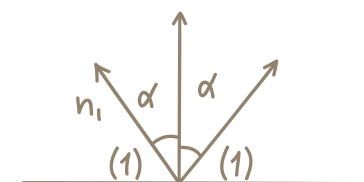
The physics department can provide you with a team of teachers that have both a breadth and depth of knowledge. Our five physics teachers have a combined 80 years of teaching experience. They can also bring particular expertise in such areas as engineering, astronomy, computing and electronics. Four 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.



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 Year 12 and Year 13.

Cambridge University's 'isaacphysics' problem-solving initiative

Participation in the Ogden Trust's Year 12 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.

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



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 YEAR 12

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 YEAR 13

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 identities)

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)



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 papers 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, Business, Computer Science and Economics.



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 tasks, 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

A trip to London to visit the Freud Museum London, Bethlem Museum of the Mind and the Science Museum is currently being planned for 2026.



RELIGIOUS STUDIES PHILOSOPHY, ETHICS AND RELIGION

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR CHAMBERLAIN
EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR

SPECIFICATION: H573
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL

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

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.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY IN YEAR 12

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 YEAR 13

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. Others find the study of logic through Philosophy a particular draw, complementing their studies Mathematics or the Sciences. 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



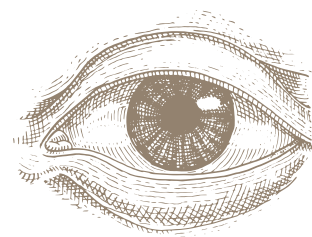
TRIPS, VISITS AND FIELD WORK

Every year we host an A-Level Religious Studies day with an academic who delivers engaging seminars on aspects of the A-Level course. In recent years guest speakers have include Dr Peter Vardy, Dr Robert Bowie and Peter Baron.

Annually we attend Candle Conferences, led by Dr Vardy, to develop further subject knowledge and engage in meaningful debate about the A-Level topics studied. We are fortunate to have Truro Cathedral close by and ensure that we visit with our Year 12 to explore Christian belief in practice.



THE MEDICAL PATHWAYS PROGRAMME



HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MS HAVIS
EMAIL: SAH@TRUROSCHOOL.COM

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 YEAR 12

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 will be opportunities to meet a range of healthcare professionals throughout the year. Those who remain interested will then have the first of their termly one-to-one meetings with Susan Havis, Truro School's Medical Pathways programme co-ordinator, to ensure they are on the right track.



SPRING TERM OF YEAR 12

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.



YEAR 13

Upon entering Year 13, 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 Year 12 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.

SUMMER TERM OF YEAR 12

This term will be centred around workshops to give students an insight into their chosen vocation. This will include debates on current medical affairs and a medical ethics workshop. Students will also research different University options and have time to practice the UCAT questions in groups.

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 University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT) draw close, pupils will have workshops preparing them for the various question types. Ms Havis 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.



NEXT STEPS...

If you would like to find out more about Truro School Sixth Form, whether you are a 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. Within our flexible and choice driven Diploma 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.

ANDY JOHNSON
HEAD

Please take note that the information presented in this Guide is accurate as of the time of printing, but some aspects, including Trips, may be subject to change.



Truro School is part of the Methodist Independent Schools Trust.

Charity No. 1142794.

Company No. 7649422.



SIX



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