

QUALIFICATION CHART

Level 4 >	University Degree Professional Qualifications	Higher (L4-7) Apprenticeship
Level 3 >	A Levels	Advanced (L3) Apprenticeship
	IB Diploma	
	Extended Diplomas T Levels Technical Diplomas	
Level 2 >	GCSE (Grades 4-9)	Intermediate (L2) Apprenticeship
Level 1 >	GCSE (Grades 1-3)	
	Technical Diplomas Progression 2	
	Technical Diplomas Progression 1	
	ACADEMIC	VOCATIONAL
		WORK-BASED

FIND OUT MORE

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If you're unsure of what you want to do next, speak to your teachers and visit our website to start your research. You'll find information on:

- Course options and progression opportunities
- College life and student stories
- Open Events when you can come into College
- Frequently asked questions

YOUR FUTURE AT TRURO & PENWITH COLLEGE

A GUIDE TO PATHWAYS FOR YEAR 10 & 11 STUDENTS



Outstanding Education
Inspiring Futures



INSPIRING FUTURES START HERE

If you're in year 10 or 11, it's time to start thinking about what you are going to do when you leave school.

You can choose a variety of subjects that interest you with A Levels or the IB Diploma. Alternatively you can specialise in one area on a Vocational Course. You may decide classroom-based learning isn't for you anymore. Many of our full-time Vocational courses are practically based, or you could start an Apprenticeship, learning while at work and coming to College on specific days. We also offer programmes for those with no prior qualifications, who are seeking employment or access to full-time education.

All of these options will give you an advantage whether you want to find a job or go on to university. We'll help you make the choice that's right for you.

For more information about your options, make sure you attend one of our many Open Events. You will get the opportunity to see our fantastic facilities and find out about your life as a student at one of the best colleges in the country.

ACADEMIC

If you want to keep your options open, go for an academic qualification.

A LEVELS

Often considered a traditional choice, A Levels offer you the chance to carry on three subjects at College. A Levels are two years long and are assessed primarily through end of year exams although some have practical or coursework elements. There are many subjects to choose from but consider how you combine them as we offer many subjects that complement each other.

Entry requirements: Five GCSEs at Grades 9-4, to include English and/or Maths at Grade 5 and Grade 6 for specific relevant subjects. For most A Level subjects you do not need to have studied them at GCSE e.g. History but there are some exceptions to this e.g. French.

IB DIPLOMA

The two IB Diploma is an excellent alternative to A Levels. You will study a range of subjects, three at Higher Level and three at Standard Level. You will also follow a Theory of Knowledge course, produce an Extended Essay and undertake Creativity, Action, Service-based projects.

Entry requirements: Five GCSEs at Grade 4 or above in a broad range of subjects, including English and Maths at Grade 5. Grade 6 is required in subjects appropriate to Higher Level options.

What next? A Levels and the IB Diploma provide a strong foundation for going into a range of courses and careers, and help prepare you for university level study. Grades translate into UCAS tariff points for applications to university, but some degrees have specific entry requirements, so do your research.

VOCATIONAL

If you have a specific career or industry in mind, you might like to study a vocational course. Practical programmes are available in a diverse range of industries including construction, business, games design, hairdressing, health & social care, IT and more. This style of learning will suit you if you like getting hands-on and want real experience in a specific field. Courses develop practical skills and specialised knowledge which transfer directly into a job or further training if you choose.

Courses are usually 1 or 2 years long depending on the level. Assessment is usually both written and practical, in order to check your knowledge of theory alongside the industry skills you'll gain.

Types of qualification: BTECs • City & Guilds (Technical Diplomas) • OCR Technicals • Extended and Level 3 Diploma • T Levels • UAL Diplomas • VTCT Technical Diplomas • Edexcel Diplomas

Entry requirements: To enter at Level 3, you will need four GCSE Grades 9-4, including English and/or Maths or prior achievement at Level 2. If your GCSE grades are lower than a 4, you may enter vocational study at Level 2 with a view to progressing to Level 3.

What next? Level 3 Vocational Courses are equivalent to A Levels. You can apply to university for further study and many of our students do every year. Universities like the combination of greater depth learning with work-based experience which forms part of all Level 3 courses. Alternatively, you can apply for a higher apprenticeship or get a job - either way you have many hours of practical work experience and references from employers to give you a step up into industry.

WORK-BASED

APPRENTICESHIPS

As an Apprentice you will be working for a local business, earning a real wage, gaining practical skills and completing nationally recognised qualifications. Choosing the Apprenticeship route gets you straight into the career of your choice. After finishing, the majority of Apprentices (85%) will stay in employment, with two-thirds (64%) staying with the same employer. Apprenticeships are available in a vast array of careers e.g. business, accountancy, automotive engineering, catering, childcare, construction, IT, hair and beauty and many more.

You will be employed for at least 30 hours per week and take part in a mixture of taught courses, workshops, work-based assessments and e-learning, usually once a week. You will also have a dedicated training adviser who will help and support you throughout. For further details please call 01872 305500 or email apprenticeships@truro-penwith.ac.uk

What do you need? There are no formal requirements as Apprenticeships are not just based on previous academic achievement. Apprenticeships are available to anyone over the age of 16. Some start in September but many start throughout the year. You will need to be committed, motivated, enthusiastic and reliable. Applicants will typically be interviewed prior to starting an Apprenticeship programme.

What next? Apprentices qualify with the expertise to enter the workforce straight away, but many decide to develop their expertise further on a Higher Apprenticeship (Level 4 - 7) which is equivalent to a Foundation Degree.