



START YOUR JOURNEY

YOU DON'T NEED
TO CHOOSE NOW,
BUT THIS GUIDE CAN
HELP GIVE YOU SOME
IDEAS ON WHAT TO
DO AFTER SCHOOL.



TOP TIP

You can take a look at courses which are best suited for a career you're interested in by visiting our unique, online **Career Zone** which is full of helpful tips and advice to help you choose the right pathway for you.



WHAT IS COLLEGE?

College is a great option after GCSEs or when you finish education at 16 because you can study a large range of courses, across all levels, on a campus with staff dedicated to teaching 16-18 year-olds.

Truro and Penwith College is called a Tertiary FE College. FE stands for Further Education and Tertiary means we offer academic and vocational courses for school leavers and people aged 19+. This means you can even do a University degree at the College!

Truro and Penwith College has three campuses: Penwith College in Penzance, Truro College in Truro and the brand new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) and Health Skills Centre in Bodmin. Each is made up of modern buildings, specialising in certain subjects.

Truro and Penwith College is run by a Principal (what schools call a Headteacher) and our teachers are called tutors.



INSIDER TIP

Penwith College is perfect if you live within a 30-minute drive of Penzance.

Truro College students come from schools across the whole of Cornwall.

If you live in north or east Cornwall, and love Engineering, Digital or Health subjects, our STEM and Health Skills Centre, Bodmin could be the best choice for you.



TOP TIP

When you start your course, you can get a bus pass to easily get to and from College, and for travel around Cornwall!!



TOP TIP

It's good to stay focused on the core subjects at GCSE Level - Maths and English. You'll need to pass these to go onto most, not all, courses after school.

WHAT IS COLLEGE ACTUALLY LIKE?

Studying at Truro and Penwith College is different to school or sixth form. You will become a student, get more independence and have more responsibility to manage your own time.

You'll learn lots, in lessons and around the College, mix with like-minded people and have fun, supported by friendly tutors and support teams.

It's less formal than school too. You'll call staff by their first names and there's no uniform. A normal College day starts at 9.15am with lectures finishing by 4.15pm. A typical class has about 20 students and there are a variety of places to eat, hang out and make the most of the facilities and kit.

There are rules of course but the campus and facilities belong to you and your friends. Make the most of it!



INSIDER TIP

A lot of students say College feels more like a mini university than school. Somewhere you can really be free to be yourself and meet like-minded people.

COME AND SEE

Whatever your age, an open event can be the best way to learn more about the College. You can come in, see the College, talk to tutors and find out more.



See latest event dates
truro-penwith.ac.uk/event

FIND US ON SOCIAL



WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?

At Truro and Penwith College, you can choose a variety of subjects that interest you, with a Level 3 A Level programme or the IB Diploma, or specialise on a T Level or Vocational Diploma. You may decide classroom-based learning isn't for you and start an Apprenticeship, learning while at work.



A LEVELS

MIX & MATCH

Choose 3 **A Levels** from over 40 subjects. It's a good way of keeping your options open and a great route to university.

IB DIPLOMA



VOCATIONAL



HANDS ON

Vocational Diplomas are more hands-on and work-focused and usually cover one subject area. They can be equivalent to three A Levels.

A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY

The **IB Diploma** is an internationally recognised University entry qualification.

Students study three subjects at Higher Level and three at Standard Level.

T LEVELS

NEXT LEVEL

T Levels combine classroom theory and practical learning with an extended industry placement of 45 days.



APPRENTICESHIPS



EARN & LEARN

Apprenticeships are work-based qualifications that enable you to get real life experience and earn while you learn.

ENRICHMENT

MAKE THE MOST OF IT

Our **Enrichment** programme offers over 50 amazing choices of additional activities for you to enjoy, from science to sport, art to eSports.



YOU DON'T HAVE TO DECIDE NOW.

Some people know exactly what they want to do when they leave school, while others haven't decided yet. Whichever one you are, don't worry, both are completely normal.

Students apply for College around Christmas time in Year 11, so you still have plenty of time to discover your perfect subjects and course.

TRURO & PENWITH
COLLEGE

YEAR 7-9 GUIDE TO COLLEGE

WHAT IS IT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?