

Celebrating student life at Truro and Penwith College

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Apprenticeships



ANOTHER YEAR AT THE TOP
FOR LEVEL THREE LEARNERS

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Another year at the top
Truro & Penwith College
among the country's top
performing colleges in
summer results success



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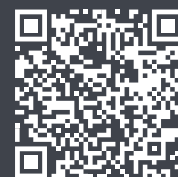
**Showcasing the talent
of tomorrow**
Public shows of our art,
design, photography and
media departments



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Our student stories
Hear what our
students and alumni
have to say about
their experiences
at Truro & Penwith
College

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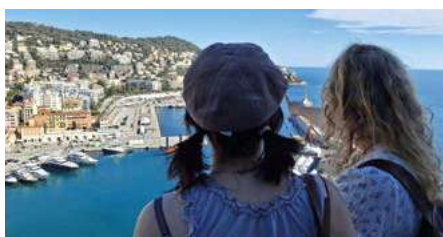
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Law students bring “Order” to Trials

High-flying students travel to London for national final of Bar Mock Trials.

Law students from Truro College competed with over 200 schools and colleges across the country in the Bar Mock Trials, a prestigious competition run by Young Citizens. The competition saw the students take on courtroom roles such as barristers, witnesses and defendants in real mock trials, judged by industry professionals.

This years' Law cohort were crowned best in the south west and progressed to the national final in London where they placed third; an outstanding achievement for the group and their lecturers.

“It felt incredible when they read out the scores,” says Scarlett, a Law student at the College. “We were all so happy and proud of each other; it was a team effort from regionals through to nationals.”

On top of being among the top Law students in the country, the group have forged tight knit bonds and made memories that will last past their time at College.

“Everyone in our class gets along,” Law student Jessica explained. “We debate everything and talk about all the cases. The community is really strong.”

Truro College's Law cohort compete in the Bar Mock Trial every year, allowing students to demonstrate the skills they have learned and apply them to real world scenarios outside of the classroom, as well as learn from professionals within the industry.

“We debate everything and talk about all the cases. The community is really strong.”
Jessica



The team celebrate after receiving the award



Occasionally, our students of law are encouraged to try out the formal attire of a judge, when presenting to their tutorial group

Another year at the top for level three learners

Truro and Penwith College among the country's top performing colleges in summer results success.

Truro and Penwith College is celebrating another year of exceptional academic, vocational and technical Level 3 results, continuing a 30-year legacy of transforming lives across Cornwall.

Among those celebrating was Amelia from St Agnes, who achieved an incredible triple A* in Classical Civilisation, Medieval History and French. She was also the highest performing student in the country in OCR A Level Classical Civilisation, placing her among the very best young classicists in the UK. She has now secured her place at the prestigious University of Oxford to study Ancient and Modern History.

Despite her success, Amelia admitted she was caught off guard by her amazing results, saying: "I expected to have to go through clearing! I'm buzzing.

"My Classical Civilisation lecturer, Stuart, has made the world of difference. He pushed me to apply for these things and also encouraged me to go to a Summer School in Oxford which inspired me to apply."



Amelia achieved an incredible triple A* result

Amy from Par also had fantastic results, achieving a triple D* in her BTEC Extended Diploma in Applied Science. She will now progress onto an Integrated Master's degree in Biomedical Science at the University of Plymouth.

Amy's achievements are the result of her significant hard work and determination during her time at college. Reflecting on her success, she was quick to praise the support she received from both her lecturers and the College's Learning Support team.



University of Southampton is next for Mate

High achiever Mate received A*s in Maths, Further Maths and Physics, as well as an A in Computer Science. His next step is to study a five-year Master's course in Electrical Engineering at the University of Southampton.

Looking back, Mate said his favourite part of college was the Penwith campus, which had a close, community feel. "It's an amazing campus and everything's accessible. There's great facilities, it's really nice.

"The subjects have been amazing to study, especially the coursework in Physics and the practicals, as well as the Mathematical programmes."



Amy will be studying Biomedical Science

"Between Learning Support and the lecturers, Truro & Penwith College has really supported me. Without the staff here, I wouldn't have done it. They've been amazing." Amy



2026 Results Data

- Our proportion of A*-A grades is double the national average for further education colleges
- 80% of T Level students achieved Merit, Distinction and Distinction * grades
- 18 subjects had a 100% pass rate, with high grades in English Literature, Chemistry, Biology, Law, Computer Science, Geography, History and more
- International Baccalaureate has a 97% pass rate, well above the national average of 82.6%
- More than 800 students secured places at their first choice university



The Penwith College music cohort assemble

Cornish Skills Showcase



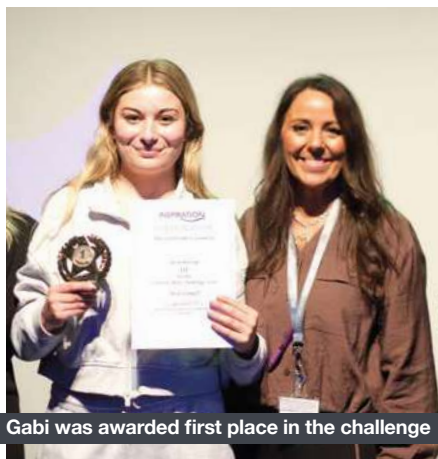
Taking place at both Truro and Penwith College campuses, the annual Cornish Skills competition saw Hair and Beauty students demonstrating the skills they've learned and producing some head-turning looks.

Running for over 10 years, the Cornish Skills competition is judged by local employers and professionals in the industry.

The all-day event saw the group working alongside their peers to showcase high fashion hairstyles, makeup and more to fit a specific brief. There were also chances to have one to one conversation with local professionals, receive a range of feedback and show off skills for employment after college.



Truro and Penwith College alumni have even come back after college once they've established themselves in the industry to judge at the Cornish Skills competition, demonstrating that skills learned here have prepared them fully for the future.



Gabi was awarded first place in the challenge



Sunny Celebrations



The students came together at college to celebrate Holi, the Hindu festival of spring and new beginnings, filling the campus with positivity and togetherness.

Students and staff filled the campus with bright, vibrant colours, while some of the group created stunning henna designs and learned more about the meaning of the festival. The event was a fantastic opportunity for the students to engage with and learn more about other cultures and to make lifelong memories with friends.

The Holi festival reminded everyone at the College that a student's time here is more than just studying; it's also about belonging and enjoying every moment with friends.



Meet the Students

Tom returned to college to celebrate his success after achieving an incredible triple D* in his Music Diploma.

Joining the College from St Ives School, Tom benefitted from industry exposure and gig opportunities, hands-on lecturers and studio access during his time at college, and he is now exploring his next steps in the music industry which include growing his band,

The Devil's Company. He aspires to study at Trinity College London.

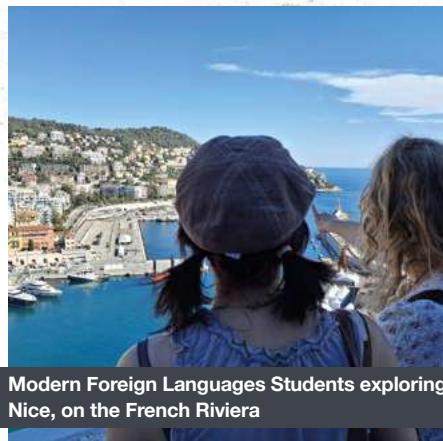
"I didn't know many people when I came here, but by the end of my first week, I got on well with everyone," Tom said.

He also gave his advice to future students: "Stick with music. You're going to pick up a lot of useful musical skills in your two years here."

Exploration beyond the classroom



Colomares Castle in Benalmadena, Spain



Modern Foreign Languages Students exploring Nice, on the French Riviera

Truro and Penwith College students have plenty of opportunities to take their studies outside of the classroom.

Whether they're learning more about different cultures or demonstrating their skills on the world stage, students from across the college have ventured into other countries and made unforgettable memories.

Anebelle studies at Penwith College and prepared some incredible dishes on an international stage in Padua and Venice, Italy, while she represented Senara restaurant in the Unox CombiGuru competition. Her egg yolk ravioli and lemon meringue pie wow-ed the Grand Jury of established industry professionals. Anebelle showed off her wide range of skills she's gained during her time at college.

“Showcasing my pastry skills to international judges was an incredible experience.” Anebelle



Anebelle represented Senara restaurant in competitions held in Padua and Venice, Italy



The CombiGuru Challenge is a competition for catering colleges in the UK

Anebelle was also able to take in the sights, smells and tastes of the iconic city of Venice after the competition, including taking a private water taxi and attending a gnocchi and tiramisu masterclass.

“Networking with the Grand Jury and receiving their feedback to help enhance my career was a huge honour; closely followed by the magic of exploring the streets of Venice after the adrenaline of competition day!”

Students studying Modern Foreign Languages have ventured to Nice in France, as well as Grenada in southern Spain to explore local culture, stay with host families, make lifelong memories with friends and take their studies outside the classroom!



Students visited the Epidaurus Theatre, Greece

Classical Civilisation students saw the ancient world come to life on their trip to Greece. They explored the fascinating archaeological sites of Eleusis, Corinth Canal and Piraeus, climbed the Acropolis and had the incredible opportunity to visit Epidaurus, one of the most preserved theatres of the ancient world. The trip allowed students to deepen their understanding of classical civilisation and create lasting memories with their peers.



The Foreign Languages group in Nice

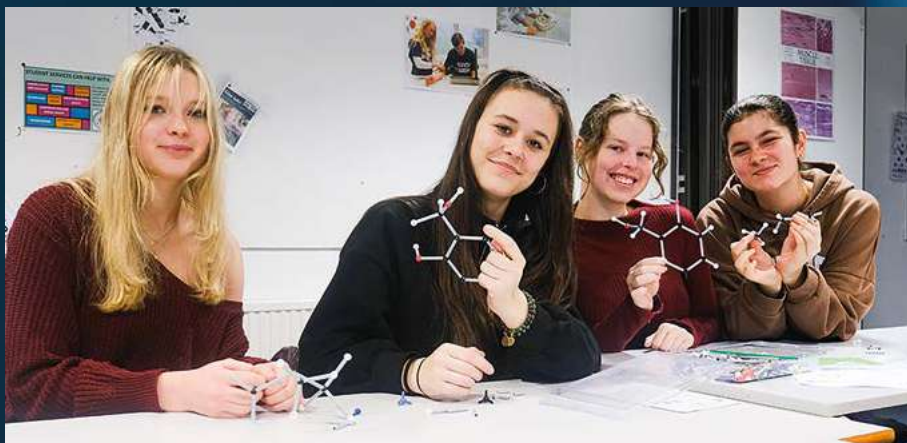
The experience of living like a local is particularly engaging for our students. A Level student Callum found it very helpful for his studies: “I went on the Spanish trip, which was really good because we stayed with host families, living like locals and speaking Spanish. It was always really busy, which was good. We got to visit the Malaga region and Benalmadena.”

From Molecules to Medicine

The Accelerate Programme hosted a special workshop on how medicine is made, in collaboration with the University of Bath.

First year students on the Accelerate Programme had an insightful talk and workshop delivered by the University of Bath, demonstrating the wide range of roles a pharmacist fulfils. The Molecules to Medicine workshop also had the students learn about different inhaler types, responses to asthma attacks, and tried their hand at building model molecular structures. The workshop highlighted the new MPharm (Hons) Pharmacy degree on offer at the University of Plymouth campus, showing that there are exciting opportunities for the next step close to home.

Accelerate is our bespoke STEM programme of study for students who are aiming for competitive HE and university places. The ambitious programme strengthens university applications by having students complete independent research and Extended Project Qualifications (EPQs), work placements in relevant industries, opportunities to take part in international STEM competitions such as CANSAT and access to workshops and talks such as Molecules to Medicine.



Success for the Medics' Academy



Academy students at work

The College's Medics' Academy is a bespoke programme for students who are aiming to get competitive HE places in Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry and more. The Academy provides exam support for university entrance exams, personalised mentoring and specialist opportunities and talks from professionals in the field.

This year, the Medics' Academy students excelled in their results. The acceptance rate onto Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science courses were double the national average with 50% of Truro and Penwith College students gaining a place at university against a national average of 25%.



Reaching for the stars



Truro and Penwith College's Accelerate Programme pushes students to their full potential, with the cohort regularly take their studies outside of the classroom and entering national competitions such as CanSat. The group reached the national finals in 2026.

A competition run by the European Space Agency, CanSat gives students the chance to experience a real space project from start to finish. The Accelerate Programme students built a satellite the size of a can, launched it via rocket, and safely returned it to Earth using a parachute. They also collected and transmitted live data throughout the entire

operation, measuring air pressure and temperature during the descent, putting their Maths studies to use in real scenarios.

The Accelerate Programme brings together likeminded STEM students with a passion for their studies and high ambitions for competitive HE places and university. The Programme allows learners to take part in workshops, attend industry talks and enter prestigious competitions like CanSat, the Senior Maths Challenge, the Maths Olympiad for Girls and more. Previous students have also travelled to Geneva to take their studies outside of the classroom.

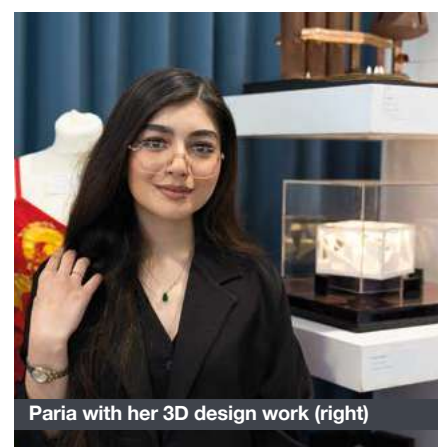
The Accelerate Programme brings together like-minded STEM students with a passion for their studies and high ambitions for competitive HE places and university.



Showcasing the Talent of Tomorrow

Our end-of-year exhibitions have been running for 19 years, showcasing the creative talents of art, design, photography and media students.

The exhibition gives students the chance to celebrate their success on their course as well as explore personal experiences, powerful themes and unique perspectives through their choice of creative outlet. The events were held on the Truro College campus and the Penzance School of Art, with members of the public and VIPs invited to take a look at the variety of work on display.



Paria with her 3D design work (right)

Paria studies 3D Design and created a moving 3D cuboid for the exhibition. Originally from Iran, Paria has thrived during her time at College. She drew on her own experiences as an immigrant and explored adaptation, belonging and identity.

Paria said: "The design combines my love of both engineering and design, reflecting the segmented world immigrants often feel they live in something I experienced myself when my family moved to live and work in another country."

The Truro Exhibition filled the entire ground floor area of the Fal Building



Phoebe (Foundation) presents her intriguing set of paintings



Celia, from Mylor with her installation

A Level Fine Art student Celia combined her passions for Art and History with her piece, a bicycle installation symbolising the cyclical nature of politics and history. She is planning to study History at university.

Celia commented on her piece: "By spinning its wheel, you're invited to see this for yourself."

Phoebe (right), completed the Foundation Art & Design Course at Tregye campus. Her next step will be starting a degree at the London School of Economics.



Olivia's work explores folding, cutting and reconfiguring images.



Penzance School of Art exhibition space

Meanwhile at Penwith, the art exhibition at the Penzance School of Art celebrated the achievements of the students with recognition from the Art Society West Cornwall.

A Level Art and Design student Amélie won the Art Society West Cornwall award for her incredible piece, titled Erosion and Growth. She has been offered a place to study Ceramics at Bath Spa University.

The event gives the students a chance to have their work seen by industry professionals and receive constructive feedback, preparing them for work in creative industries in the future.



Lolo will be progressing to the London College of Fashion



Amelie's ceramics work 'Erosion'



Amelie's ceramics work 'Mother'

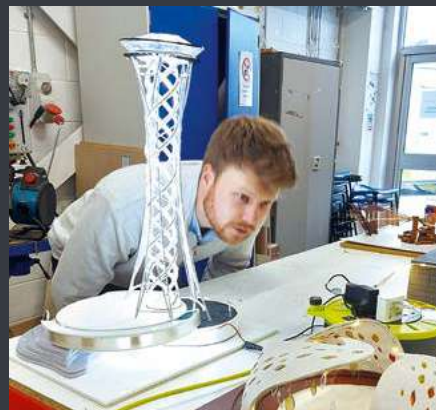
Design in three dimensions

3D Design students from the College worked alongside CAD Architects based in Truro, who have worked on both residential and commercial projects across Cornwall.



The students selected a theme and worked alongside the experts to create a huge range of design concepts, which were judged by a panel of industry professionals. Three students took home awards for their work, with one winning most creative design and two winning best architectural concept.

Many 3D Design students go on to study Engineering, Architecture, Product Design and more, and experiences like these are invaluable to university applications. There are plenty of opportunities like this for students on all college courses.



Student artwork professionally published

Classical Civilisation student Abi had her artwork professionally published for the first time, to inspire those who are also passionate about history and classical civilisation.



When bestselling author Caroline Lawrence launched a nation-wide search for illustrations to accompany her latest project, Abi rose to the challenge and had her work selected. The project combines scenes from The Odyssey with haiku poems in a colouring book, allowing the audience to take in Abi's work while adding colour and enjoying beautiful poetry.

Caroline Lawrence's previous work would have been inspiring to students like Abi, as she published the acclaimed The Roman Mysteries books and TV series, making Abi's involvement in her latest project a huge achievement.

Classical Civilisation Course Lead Stuart Falconer commented: "It's fantastic to see one of our students recognised in this way, and I love that opportunities like this allow students to engage with the ancient world beyond the classroom."



"Dance & the Pigs" by guest doodler Abigail Lord (18) Truro & I

Coco's editing makes the cut

Creative Media and Technology Diploma alumna Coco was nominated for prestigious Royal Television Society (RTS) Devon & Cornwall Student Television Awards and scooped the Craft Award for Editing.



Proud College staff with Coco at the awards

Upon receiving her award for her short film, *Sound of our Lives*, Coco thanked her lecturers for their support throughout her studies, recognising the vital role they played in building her confidence and helping her develop the skills that contributed to her success. *Sound of Our Lives* was created during Coco's time at college and won plenty of awards at the College's film festival after being voted for by her peers. Dylan, who was also in Coco's cohort at the college, was also nominated for an award at the RTS Student Awards.

Coco was in fierce competition with work from large scale production crews at degree level or higher, but she independently managed every aspect of her short film, from planning to editing, filming and postproduction, demonstrating the high-quality facilities and mentorship available at the College.



The winning moment

Going further together

Truro and Penwith College has a community vibe where students feel they belong. They make memories and forge close knit friendships that last well past their time studying. Outside of lectures, there are plenty of activities and areas to hang out with friends! Here is what some of our students say about the community feel of Truro and Penwith College.



RUTH



Ruth is an International Baccalaureate Diploma student who also chairs the College's Student Council. The IB cohorts each year are close communities of students who have similar interests and take part in residential trips and community engagement together, creating lifelong memories.

"The people on the IB are friends for life. I cannot imagine choosing anything else."

"One of the best things about the IB is that it's a community. We do everything together; it's a massive group of 30 friends."

CASSIUS



Cassius is part of Truro College's Football Academy, where he receives professional coaching and travels to fixtures alongside the team. Students taking part in Enrichment activities, such as the sports academies, often form close knit bonds both inside and outside of their chosen sport.

"The Football Academy has definitely helped me socially to get around other people with similar interests to me. I've made some great friends along the way."



EVIE AND LILLY

Evie and Lilly study the Level 3 Health and Social Care Diploma at Penwith College. They met in October 2025 and have become close friends, supporting each other throughout their studies and personal lives.

"There's so much diversity on campus with what people wear and how they express themselves," Evie said. "I really like expressing myself in different ways. College also adapts to your needs more."

"Me and Lilly have only known each other since October, but we are literally best friends. I've never met someone like Lilly, but she's so like me!"

Lilly added: "College is very free. You are taught well but you also get the freedom to do what you want between your lessons and at lunchtime."

"I never knew I had someone missing, but then I found Evie. She's really helped me a lot."

Evie wants to study at the University Centre Truro and Penwith to become a primary school teacher, while Lilly is considering an apprenticeship to get her into a healthcare career.



"I never gave up on my dreams"

Hadia's inspiring journey



After moving to the UK from Afghanistan, Hadia joined the College's Young English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) programme, allowing her to gain skills for her future.

Before starting college, Hadia had never used a computer, but as part of her Essential Digital Skills module she created a magazine highlighting the experiences of Afghan girls. The project highlights the importance of education, as well as Hadia's resilience and determination to succeed after being out of education for four years.

In the introduction to her publication, Hadia writes: "I would like to share the story of Afghan girls and the challenges many of us have faced in recent years. Afghan girls have dreams, talents, and ambitions, but many have been denied the opportunity to pursue their education and build their futures.

"Four years ago, when the Taliban returned to power, schools were closed to girls, and I was unable to continue my education. The situation in my country became very difficult, and my family was forced to leave Afghanistan. ...Although I was away from school for four years, I never gave up on my dreams.

"Although I was away from school for four years, I never gave up on my dreams." Hadia

...My dream is to become a dentist. I am working very hard to make this dream a reality, and I hope that one day I will be able to serve my community and contribute positively to this country through my profession."

Roxanne, who teaches Hadia on the Young ESOL programme, said:

"We are really proud of Hadia, especially as she had no computer skills before arriving in the UK. She has done so well on the course, exceeding her goals, achieving her grades and obtaining volunteering opportunities and even some part-time employment."

Hadia's journey shows that with determination, resilience and the right support, barriers can be overcome and ambitions can become reality. By overcoming adversity and embracing new opportunities, she is achieving her goals and building a brighter future at Truro and Penwith College.

Getting the low-down on Jazz

Music students at Truro and Penwith College are often visited by industry professionals and encouraged to try their hand at a variety of music genres.



The students were visited by the Emile Hinton Trio, who gave insights into employability in the music industry, progression routes to conservatoires and universities, networking, professionalism while touring, sustaining a career as a musician and professional musician etiquette. The students thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and learning more about the artistic and professional sides of the music industry.

The workshop followed a fantastic performance by the trio and students at the St Ives Jazz Club the evening before, where students from the College collaborated with St Ives School to perform live in a professional venue setting. It was a fantastic opportunity for the students to perform in front of an audience and collaborate with others.



Emile at the piano



Truro College Jazz Academy at the St Ives Jazz Club.

The Music Academy Jazz band is a hugely popular enrichment option among our students. Ideal for those who are interested in performing with a larger jazz ensemble.

The annual concert in St Ives Jazz club is the highlight of the musical calendar, hosted at the Great Western Hotel. The performance includes a selection of Jazz standards as well

as more contemporary funk, soul and popular jazz numbers. For further details, go to: stivesjazzclub.com



Tutor and Jazz Academy Lead, Tom Quirke (left) conducts the Jazz ensemble

Spamalot in the Spotlight

Performing Arts students at Truro and Penwith College prepare for the spotlight not only through their performance, but every aspect of putting on a show. From social media marketing to costumes and choreography, the students planned and executed it all.

This year, the students put on a production of Spamalot for the College community, friends, family and members of the public. The cohort showcased their talent and skills they've learned during their time at college, preparing them for the next stage of their careers.

Not only did the students perform brilliantly on stage, but they also took control of social media on Instagram and Facebook to show off behind the scenes moments and fun videos to promote the performance.

From crafting props and costumes to impeccable umbrella choreography, the students demonstrated that they are ready for the spotlight.



Meet the students

John studied a Level 3 Extended Diploma in Entry to the Uniformed Services at Truro College.



John recently got back in touch with his tutor, Chris, to thank him for the support he received at college. After finishing his course, John completed his initial training with Devon and Cornwall Police and has begun his role in Helston.

"My course helped massively with me joining the police, it built my confidence, leadership skills, and prepared me for every stage of the application and training process."



Truro College Cricket goes global

Zara, Rosie, Erin, Laura, Iona, Polly and Tilly represented Cornwall Cricket U18s on an incredible international tour of the UAE and Sri Lanka, winning 6 out of 8 matches.

Some highlights from the trip included Erin's excellent 83 runs in one match and Iona's top performance in another match, scoring with 55 not out. Laura's impact was felt by the team, taking 8 wickets, and Polly was recognised for her consistency and skill by receiving the Tour Bowling Award.

The team competed across a variety of formats, including 40-over matches and two T20 match days, demonstrating their adaptability and talent on the international stage. Laura led the team as captain, supported by Iona and Tilly as co-captains.



Forging new bonds

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma students had an unforgettable induction day at Tomperrow, getting to know and trust each other with a range of fun activities.

The new students splashed through the river tied to another student, tackled a blindfolded obstacle course while being guided by their partner and got to know each other as well as the IB second years and tutors, who helped to organise the event.

Liv and Georgia, two second year IB students, fondly remembered their induction day at Tomperrow. "It was really fun and definitely made it easier for us to mingle and integrate with everyone," they said. "It's team building and it's important to have a team around you for the IB."



The home of Cornwall's Professional Sport Pathways

If a career in sport is your goal, Truro and Penwith College partnerships help make it happen.

A training session takes place on the Astroturf pitch at Truro College

Did you know that the College is home to the Exeter Chiefs Rugby Academy, which is available to both male and female players? Our students train with Premiership rugby partners, compete at an elite level at England Rugby training camps and maximise their potential surrounded by a close-knit team of players and coaches.

The College is also the Official Education Partner for the Cornish Pirates. For many years, the College has worked closely with the Cornish Pirates to support students, strengthen connections between education and professional sport and celebrate sporting achievements among young people.

The new Education Partner programme will allow students to network and engage with sporting professionals as well as specialists working behind the scenes, such as coaches, physiotherapists, media and marketing professionals and more.



Those at the top of their game can even be supported after they have left the College. Barnaby Elderkin is a Cornish Pirates player and former student who is sponsored by Truro and Penwith College.



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Womens Rugby 1st team vs Hereford at home



The current basketball team



Basketball team meet every week for training

The College's Football Academy also provides a new pathway to professional football, thanks to a partnership with Truro City Football Club. The collaboration, which is available to male and female players, strengthens progression routes, coaching and development for those aiming to push their game to league or professional levels.

The programme consists of high-quality football training as well as highlighting pathways in media, rehabilitation, performance analysis and sports science, demonstrating the wide range of careers available to young people in sport.



The College's Football Academy frequently travel to the USA to compete in the prestigious Dallas Cup. The event is attended by young people all over the world and is a great opportunity for players to connect with talent and industry professionals alike, while making lifelong memories with their teammates.

"Four periods a week you come and play football. It's intense training but it's also good fun."

Noah studies at Truro College and is part of the Football Academy. Members of the Football Academy sat down for an interview about their time in the Football Academy, the partnership with Truro City FC and what they enjoy about football. You can watch the interview on our website.



The College team, celebrating a win in the USA



The Female Football First team

"It's intense training but
it's also good fun."
Noah



Standing up for Sustainability

The College held its first ever Sustainability Festival, funded by Next Steps South West.

The event saw a range of Cornish organisations such as the Cornish Wildlife Trust, Cornwall National Landscape, Cormac, RJ Working, Carrick & Kerrier Beekeeping group and more share their expertise with the students and inspired them to take action.

A creative workshop led by Dominica Williamson was a standout part of the day for the group, as she led the students through environmental research and sustainable design. Using an "Object Map" approach, the group reflected on the importance of protecting our planet, their connection to Cornwall and its landscape and how they could create more sustainable, community-driven futures.



Working together in the creative workshop

The Sustainability Festival is one of many events organised by the fantastic staff in Truro and Penwith College's Career Zone, which was recognised nationally as a runner up in the Career Development Institute's inaugural Careers Education Programme Award for its Your Future You programme.



Exploring stands at the sustainability event

The Career Zone holds many sustainability focussed events as well as the South West's largest Careers Convention and SEND Careers Fairs.



Student innovation hits the racetrack

Students at the bespoke STEM and Health Skills Centre have gotten involved in the Formula 24+ Electric Car challenge, a national Engineering competition which saw the group design, build and race a winning Formula 24+ electric car in a competition run by the Greenpower Education Trust.



The Future is Green Project Coordinator at Truro and Penwith College, Simon Evans, added:

"We're building an electric vehicle, so all the skills involved in this project will be of a sustainable nature. As well as design, fabrication and engineering skills, we are going to replicate some of the roles you see in a big racing team, so students will need to fill positions such as project manager, health and safety officer and marketing."



The group demonstrated fantastic teamwork skills while ensuring their work makes a real difference. Cornwall has a growing green economy, and challenges such as these allow the students to gain essential green engineering skills and supports their progression into high quality and well-paid careers.



Progressing

to a bright future

The Progression Pathways department are serving up new opportunities.



Sunny, owner of Yak and Yeti Restaurant, addresses the group

Students from Progression Pathways were welcomed to Yak and Yeti restaurant in Truro for a hands-on session in making momo, a Nepalese filled dumpling. After enjoying their creations, they learned more about the many roles that keep a restaurant running smoothly as well as jobs that they could have after they leave college.

"Now I know I'd love to be a waiter when I leave college," said student Oliver, who enjoyed embracing new experiences throughout the day and pushing himself out of his comfort zone.

"We want everyone to feel welcome here and to have opportunities to learn and grow." Sunny

Reflecting on the visit, Progression Pathways Lecturer and Deputy Head of Pathways, Karenza, said: "The visit gave learners the opportunity to develop their confidence, communication and employability skills while experiencing a real working environment. Staff at the restaurant generously shared their knowledge, helping learners gain a better understanding of careers in hospitality and the importance of teamwork in a successful business."

Sunny, owner of Yak and Yeti Restaurant, is passionate about celebrating diversity and inclusion within the local community. "We want everyone to feel welcome here and to have opportunities to learn and grow," he said.

A huge thank you to Sunny and the Yak and Yeti team for sharing their time and passion with our learners, allowing them to learn more about exciting careers in hospitality.



Enjoying momo dumplings at Yak and Yeti



The world's a stage for Natty.



Natty

Natty is part of the Progression Pathways cohort and keeps herself busy with her lessons, performing on stage and being an ambassador for the Down's Syndrome Association. She is passionate about inclusion and encouraging people to believe in their potential.

The community at Truro and Penwith College has allowed Natty to develop both personally and creatively, as she has built lifelong friendships and gained independence. She enjoys taking part in festivals and celebrations, but Dance and Performing Arts are her favourite lessons to be a part of.

"I love performing on stage," Natty said. "Those lessons bring me so much joy and allow me to express myself creatively."

"My teachers are thoughtful, funny, supportive and talented. They encourage me to achieve my best and have helped me develop my confidence and performance skills."

Natty's newfound independence at college has allowed her to secure a place at the Orpheus Centre in London, which supports young disabled adults to further build their independence and express themselves through creative arts. She is especially looking forward to networking with industry professionals and developing her performing skills to pursue her dream career.

"College has given me the confidence to be myself and follow my passion for performing."
Natty

Violet's contributions are recognised.

Violet is a student on Progression Pathways at Truro College. Since becoming a student, she has grown in confidence and independence, becoming a voice for others on the Student Council. Her efforts and her compassion for her fellow students earned her the Outstanding Contribution to Others award at the Truro and Roseland Learning Community Awards; an achievement she is very proud of.

Violet keeps busy with her work on the Student Council and her studies, but she loves that she can be more independent at college. Violet particularly enjoys hanging out with her friends and visiting different cafes between her lessons. "One of the things I enjoy most is the independence and freedom compared to school," she said. "I've become much more confident and independent since starting college."

"My teachers are supportive and make lessons enjoyable. I know I can always go to them if I need help or guidance."
Violet



Violet

Progression Pathways also offers a wide range of activities, which Violet enjoys. Studying subjects such as Maths, Performing Arts and My Skills My Future means that every week is different, enjoyable and varied for Violet and her peers, while teaching a broad range of skills for life after college.

"The variety of the course keeps every week interesting and gives me lots of opportunities to learn."

"My teachers are supportive and make lessons enjoyable. I know I can always go to them if I need help or guidance."

Violet is excited to progress to her third year at Truro College, building on everything she has achieved so far and being a voice for those who are nervous to speak up.

Brand-new facilities for Cornish careers



The University Centre Truro & Penwith has officially opened its new £2.2 million AI-Enabled Computing and Cyber Labs, expanding university-level education and training opportunities in Cornwall.

Funded by the Office for Students, the development was part of a highly competitive national programme, with the College one of just 60 providers selected from nearly 200 applicants.

The new labs have been developed to deliver advanced training in Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security and Software Development, while also modernising learning environments across college campuses. In addition to the specialist labs, the funding has supported several technology teaching upgrades such as large, interactive touch screens, enhancing the learning experience for students.

The improvements strengthen delivery in key regional priority areas including Digital Technologies, Construction, Nursing & Healthcare, Psychology and Sport, reflecting the growing importance of digital skills across industries.

Students studying subjects such as Construction will benefit from exposure to digital tools used in modern building design and planning, while those in Healthcare and Nursing are increasingly working with data-driven technologies and digital systems. In Psychology, digital tools are supporting new approaches to understanding behaviour and mental health, while Sport is being transformed by performance analysis and data-led training.

By embedding these capabilities into its provision, the University Centre is helping to equip learners with the skills to find their futures in a rapidly evolving employment landscape.

The new facilities also support the University Centre Truro & Penwith's commitment to enabling more learners to access higher-level education locally. By expanding provision in Cornwall, students are able to develop in-demand skills without needing to leave the region, helping to retain talent and support local employers.

Dr Emily Myatt, Dean of the University Centre Truro & Penwith said: "This investment from the Office for Students is a major step forward for Cornwall. It will allow us to significantly strengthen higher-level skills training in areas that matter most to the Duchy – Digital Technologies, Construction, Nursing & Healthcare, Psychology and Sport. These developments will ensure that local people can access excellent university-level education and progress into high-value careers right here in Cornwall."

"I am incredibly proud of the team who developed these proposals and grateful to the OfS for recognising their value. This funding will make a real difference to our communities, employers and learners across the region."

"These developments will ensure that local people can access excellent university-level education and progress into high-value careers right here in Cornwall."

Dr Emily Myatt, Dean of the University Centre Truro & Penwith



A Year of Outstanding Achievement for UCTP



Students at the University Centre Truro & Penwith are celebrating exceptional Results Day success, with more than 76% of graduating students achieving either First Class or Upper Second-Class Honours degrees.



MEET NADEEM

Nadeem celebrated his success on results day, achieving an impressive First Class Honours degree in BSc (Hons) Applied Programming.

"I'm gobsmacked. I was expecting second class, but I achieved first class, which is very exciting!"

Nadeem returned to education after a 22-year break while balancing family life, work commitments, a wife and two young children.

Having previously worked as a Fibre Operating Engineer with BT, he decided to retrain and pursue a new career path through higher education.

"It was tough, but I put my focus on it. I made some priorities and made sure I was focusing time on my studies." Nadeem is now looking ahead to the next stage of his academic journey and has applied to study MSc Cyber Security at Plymouth University.

This year's results highlight the growing success of the University Centre Truro & Penwith's flexible higher education offer, which enables students to study close to home while balancing employment, family commitments and other responsibilities.

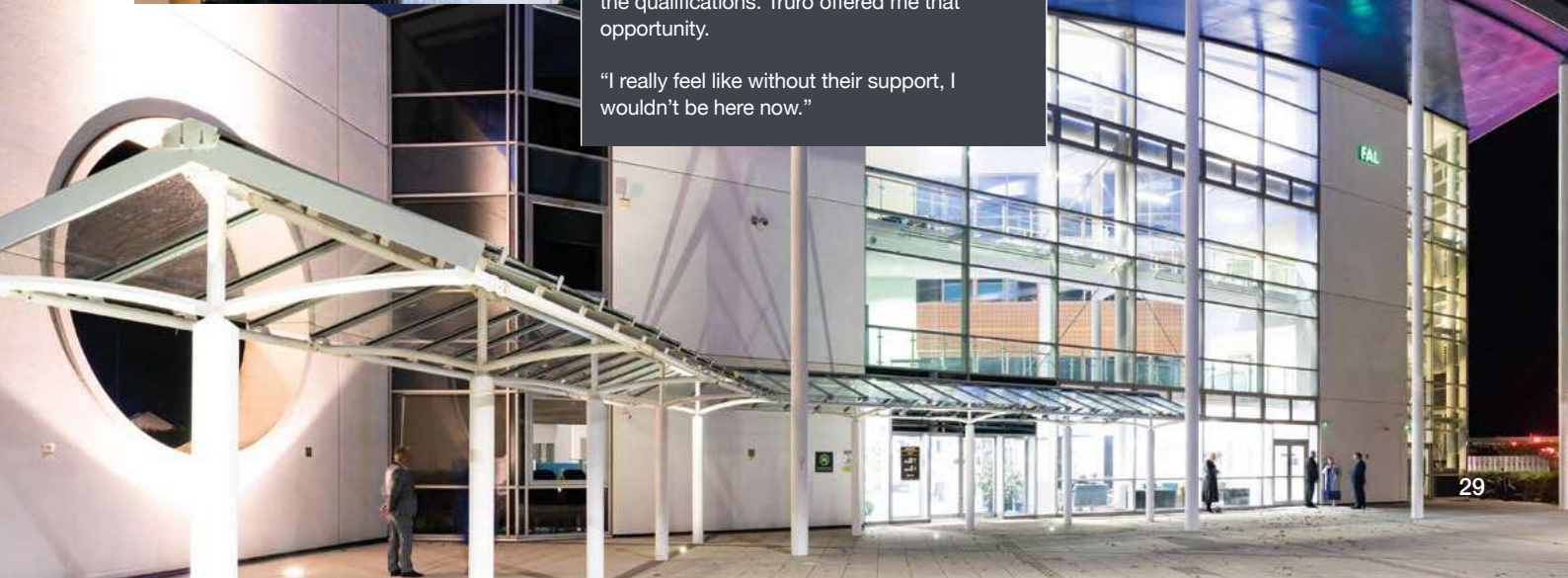
Whether progressing from Access to Higher Education programmes, changing careers, or returning to study after significant time away from education, students continue to demonstrate that higher education can be transformative at any stage of life.

MEET SAMANTHA

After 17 years away from study, Samantha achieved an incredible First Class Honours degree in LLB Law, allowing her to progress to the University of Law in London to study an LLM Master's degree.

Samantha kept herself busy with not only her studies, but also competing as an international jiu-jitsu athlete and raising three children, two of whom have additional needs. The support the University Centre offered was the key to her success: "I was 33 when I applied for my Access course because I wanted to do my law degree but didn't have the qualifications. Truro offered me that opportunity.

"I really feel like without their support, I wouldn't be here now."



Our student stories



Amelie

"The lecturers go out of their way to make things happen for you. They're really encouraging of ideas that sound a bit crazy, but they love them."

Amelie studied A Levels in Biology, Psychology and Fine Art, where she achieved A*A*A. Thanks to the convenient location of Penwith's campus, she was able to focus on part-time work and workshops that have fed into her passion, and now she is studying Human Nutrition at Bath Spa University.

"I came to college to do what I love most, which is music. Don't be afraid to do a full music course; do what you love!"



Dylan

Dylan followed his passion for music to Truro College and plays guitar and sings in his band Blue Touch Paper. He will continue to hone his skills at Bristol Music Institute after achieving a triple Distinction * in BTEC Music.

"I've enjoyed the large campus feel of the College. The Engineering course was very practical and covered a wide range of topics."

After achieving a triple D* in the BTEC National Extended Diploma in Manufacturing Engineering, as well as an A* in Maths, Tegan is looking forward to an exciting career in the aerospace industry.



Iris

"Meeting so many people with the same passion as you and connecting over that, and making lots of friends, has been really important."

Iris studied the T Level in Education and Childcare on the Early Years pathway. Her hard work paid off when she was given an offer for the prestigious Norland College, to begin her training to become a Norland Nanny.

"It's great to be among likeminded people. I enjoyed studying my subjects at a deeper level, especially Physics."

Rhys had the opportunity to travel around the UK and also to Dallas, USA as part of the College's Football Academy, where he formed tight-knit bonds with his teammates. After his studies, he is going to study Maths and Physics at the University of Bristol.



Tegan



Rhys



▶ Watch more of our student stories here

“The love and compassion everyone has for each other is quite clear here. It’s just so nice to know there’s mutual support.”

Hermione studied A Levels in History, Psychology and Philosophy, and was also a student ambassador for Penwith College. Her resilience and determination to overcome challenges has landed her a place at Falmouth University to study Dance Choreography.



Hermione



Louis

“The IB was such an amazing experience thanks to the community and all the friendships that I formed, everybody was so supportive all the time.”

Louis studied the International Baccalaureate Diploma to keep his options open and to push himself out of his comfort zone. Now he has taken the next step towards his dream career as a surgeon as he is studying Medicine at the University of Southampton.

“I did a taster day at college and instantly knew the Photography course was for me. I loved going on trips to take photos as well as the support that my lecturers provided.”

Kara studied the Level 3 Diploma in Photography, allowing her to build her creative confidence and technical skills. She now hopes to work on cruise ships, travelling the world and building her portfolio of nature photography.



Kara

“This course is the beginning of something big. When I first started, I was quite shy and unsure. Now, I feel more capable and confident. I feel like I’m becoming the kind of person I want to be.”



Sharon

Sharon’s journey into Health and Social Care started when she moved from Nigeria in 2024, bringing a desire to enter the healthcare profession. After studying T Level Health, she is now exploring different routes into the healthcare industry.

Chasing passions worldwide:

Barney's art makes waves in Bali

Barney from Newquay has been passionate about art throughout his studies, continuing at the College on the Level 4 Foundation Art and Design Diploma at the bespoke Tregye campus.

Studying the foundation diploma, which is the equivalent of a first year university qualification, has allowed him to experiment with a wide range of artistic mediums.

Barney explained why he enjoys the Foundation Diploma in Art and Design: "The Foundation Diploma is a good next step, especially if you're not sure what you want to do next. It helps you explore a lot of creative practices that you don't necessarily get to do at A Level."

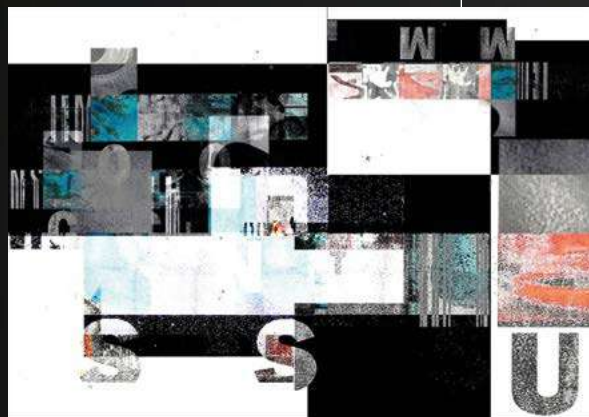
"When I came here, I got to experiment with graphic design, film, surfboard making and a lot of different mediums I hadn't previously had the chance to use. I picked up film photography, which I'd never done before, and you can process film here. It's nice to play with those different processes because they're some of my favourites now."

Barney's exploration of other mediums meant that he could combine his love for art with his other passion: surfing. After honing his skills and with support from his lecturers, he produced a surf film during a trip he took to Indonesia.

The Foundation Diploma encouraged Barney to think creatively across multiple disciplines, helping him bring together practical making, design and filmmaking into one ambitious project.

"The lecturers are all really supportive. They love art and they definitely show that through their enthusiasm. If you have an idea, they're really good to bounce ideas off. They'll give you feedback on what you're doing and they're really helpful with the creative process."

Now, Barney is continuing to build on the skills he has developed on the course at Tregye, chasing his passions to make them into a career.



Experimental graphic design work



Award for Penwith pair after life-changing study

**Colin Fell Awards
celebrate exceptional
achievement, character
and commitment.**

Two Penwith College students have had their creativity, resilience and contributions recognised with the Colin Fell Award. The award acknowledges students who demonstrate exceptional achievement, character and commitment during their studies.

A Level Psychology, English Literature and Criminology student Edie described her experience at college as “life changing” after receiving the prestigious award in recognition of her academic excellence and contribution to college life. Edie joined Penwith College from Cape Cornwall and was initially nervous about the transition as she knew nobody in her classes. She quickly adapted and has built strong friendships, embracing college life.

Edie commented: “College massively changed me, not only in my studies but also as a person... I started college without any friends in my classes, but I really came out of my shell. Now I get on with everyone and know lots of people across college.”



Colin and Edie at Penwith College



Penwith staff gather to present the awards



Georgia and her artwork

A Level Environmental Science, Fine Art and Biology student Georgia was another recipient of the award, recognising her achievements both inside and outside the classroom.

Fine Art Lecturer Ed Harper nominated Georgia for the award after seeing her ability to produce thoughtful and powerful work despite the challenges she faced. “Georgia is someone who has had a lot going on in her heart and in her head. For most students, that would make it really difficult to get the day-to-day work done, let alone produce work that is sensitive, beautiful and moving.”

Georgia said that the support she received during her time at college made a huge difference: “Everyone’s really supportive and non-judgemental. They want to help you as much as they can.

“Definitely ask teachers for help, because they want to help you. Try to meet new people and engage with your lessons. The subjects can be really interesting if you ask questions and get involved.”

“College massively changed me, not only in my studies but also as a person.” Edie

Colin Fell presented the award, acknowledging the high praise Edie has received from staff at the College: “Everybody who taught you spoke about how universally admired and respected you are. They all said you were wonderful, that you’ve worked so hard, and that your attitude has been fantastic.” Edie will be studying Psychology at the University of Greenwich after college, with the hopes of pursuing a career in forensic psychology.

Colin Fell explained why Georgia was selected to receive the award: “We chose Georgia because everybody who taught her spoke so highly of her. There was enormous admiration for what she had achieved, and she was a very deserving recipient of the award.” Georgia is now going to progress onto the UAL Art and Design Diploma at the College’s bespoke Tregye campus, where she hopes to further develop her skills and discover new career opportunities. Everyone at Truro and Penwith College wishes Edie and Georgia the best of luck on their journeys.

“Everyone’s really supportive and non-judgemental.”
Georgia

Earn while you learn: A guide to award-winning apprenticeships

Choosing the right course for you can be tough; there's many factors to consider when making your decision. We spoke to Apprenticeship Recruitment Coordinator Tammy to find out how Apprenticeships can get you into your dream career.



Apprenticeships allow you to learn on the job with an employer in a sector of your choosing; you spend 80% of your time with them and the other 20% at college. Apprenticeships allow the employer to train you with skills they are looking for, making apprenticeships beneficial for everyone.

Tammy explained who can study an Apprenticeship: "An Apprenticeship is for anyone aged 16+ who is not in full-time education and living in England. There is no upper age to become an apprentice therefore Apprenticeships can be alternative to university and enable individuals to change careers. You can also be an existing employee and become an apprentice."

Many people think that apprenticeships are unpaid internships, but this is a myth. Apprenticeships allow you to earn while you learn, helping you get a head start in saving up funds for your future. Tammy described the benefits of apprenticeships: "Depending on how you like to learn, an apprenticeship provides a practical learning experience. An apprenticeship is a real role providing industry insight and an opportunity to gain relevant skills and be at the forefront of any changes and developments in the sector. You earn while you learn and there are no tuition or course fees to become an apprentice. If you know the industry, you want to work in and are ready to work and commit to training then an apprenticeship may be the right option for you."

Apprenticeships allow you to earn while you learn, helping you get a head start in saving up funds for your future.

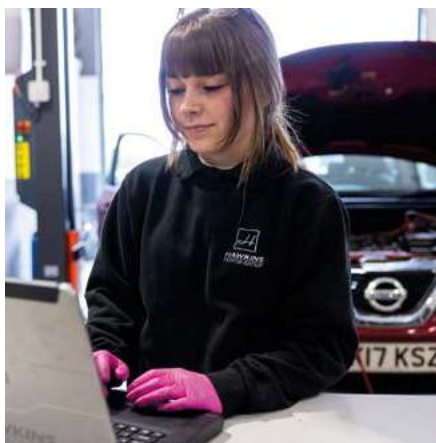


Apprenticeships are available in a huge range of sectors; no matter your interests, there will be an apprenticeship which suits you. Tammy said: "Nationally, there are hundreds of types of apprenticeships available across different levels and sectors. Apprenticeships start at Level 2 (Intermediate) and can go up to Level 3 (Advanced), Level 4 and 5 (Higher) and Level 6 or 7 (Degree or Masters). It can take anywhere between 15 months or up to 5 years to complete an apprenticeship. Most sectors offer apprenticeships; from the NHS to the heritage sector, Law and even the Royal Opera House, plus many more!"

There are plenty of websites and resources which Tammy recommends to help you find your perfect apprenticeship. "Finding an apprenticeship is like applying for a job; it can take time to find the right one. You can apply for as many apprenticeship vacancies that are relevant to increase your chances of securing one.

"You can look at sites such as apprenticeships.gov, look on Indeed, Cornwall Opportunities and GetMyFirstJob or UCAS where you can also find Degree Apprenticeships. Truro and Penwith College's Business Partnerships Team also work with the local business community to support them with recruiting an apprentice for their business. All our current apprenticeship vacancies are on the College's website and apprenticeship webpage."





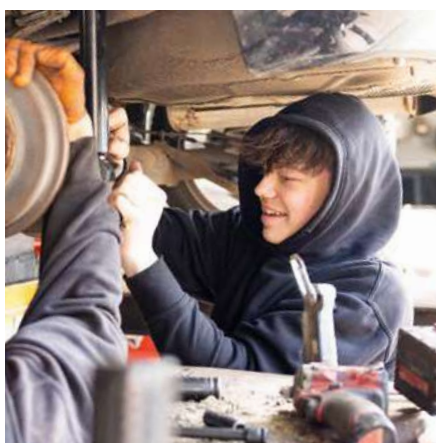
If you are interested in doing an apprenticeship, you should consider your preferred method of learning. You may also need some qualifications before you start, as Tammy explains: "To apply for some apprenticeships, there might be entry requirements depending on the level and type of apprenticeship. For example, GCSE English and Maths or any other specific requirements which may be listed in the apprenticeship standard or vacancy.

"Think about what interests you most and how you like to learn. Consider if you are ready to enter the workplace and balance work and study as an apprentice. You may benefit from completing a full-time course beforehand if you are a school leaver for example. Anyone wishing to change career through an apprenticeship may need to consider if it is financially viable as you would initially be paid lower until you have successfully completed the first year of your apprenticeship or are qualified.

"Always do your research. Research the sector, companies, and the type of apprenticeship to make an informed decision. Apprenticeships are a fantastic way to create your career and future."



Apprenticeships allow you to earn while you learn, helping you get a head start in saving up funds for your future.



Did you know? Truro and Penwith College has been ranked number one in the south west for apprenticeship success and is one of five Expert Apprenticeship Providers in the country. Our apprentices are among the highest achieving in England.

Rated "Outstanding" by Ofsted, our expert apprenticeship team can help you earn while you learn and get a head start in your dream career. You can find out more on our website.



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