



TRURO  
HIGH SCHOOL  
*Girls First*

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# Life in the Boarding Houses

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# A very warm welcome

Welcome to Boarding at Truro High School for Girls. We have put this book together for new boarders and their parents to prepare you for your time with us.

As you read through what follows, you will get the chance to find out a bit more about how life works on a day to day basis.

We explain our general aims and ethos as well as expectations regarding behaviour, communication and conduct. You will find out about many aspects of boarding life from when meals are served, to when you are allowed to use the WIFI and when you are expected to get up for school in the mornings.

You'll also meet the House Parent team who will be looking after you, get an idea of what happens outside the school day and who will help if you don't feel well as well as all sorts of answers to questions you might not have thought about yet – who does your laundry? How will you find a uniform or manage your money when you are here? Can you use the school pool in the evenings?

We hope that you will find the information here a useful starting point both before you come to join us and in your early days.

We look forward to meeting you.

# Contents

A Message from The Headmistress	5	Money and Valuables	17
Our Commitment	6	Food	17
The Boarding Houses	7	Laundry	17
Who's who in the Boarding Houses	8	House Rewards and Sanctions	18
Contacting the Boarding Houses	9	Family and Friends' Visits	18
The Main School	10	Uniform and Appearance	18
Who's who in the Main School	10	Pastoral Care	19
Contacting the Main School	11	Medical Care	19
Academic Reports and Assessments	11	What Happens if your Daughter Feels Unwell?	19
Parents' Meetings	11	Bullying and Support	19
The Daily Routines	12	Drugs and Alcohol	20
Signing In and Out	12	Religion and Spirituality	20
Daily Timetables	12	Other Information	21
Prep (Homework) Time	14	For Overseas Students	21
Going Out in the Evenings and Weekends	14	Visas and Travel Permits	21
Weekend Activities	14	English as an Additional Language (EAL)	21
Extra Curricular Clubs	15	Learning Support	21
House Practicalities	16	Travel and Term Dates	23
New Boarder's Induction	16	The Beginning and End of Term	23
IT and Connectivity	16	Airport Travel	23
Personal Spaces	16	Academic Year 2019-2020	24

# Hello



On behalf of the whole school I am delighted to welcome you and your daughter to the Truro High family. It is always slightly daunting being the new girl but I suspect there are few places where the welcome will be quite as warm as at Truro High. Your daughter will quickly find a sea of smiles and friendly faces here and, like me, will see that the school is a hive of purposeful activity, brimming with enthusiastic students.

Rashleigh House and Dalvenie House are the centre of a boarder's life at Truro High School for Girls and we are proud of the excellent standard of pastoral care, facilities and 'extras' we are able to provide.

We aim to create an environment in which every girl can feel a sense of belonging and be as 'at home' as possible. In this way she will be best able to work successfully and fulfil her potential, academically and in the rest of her busy, purposeful life.

We will all be helping your daughter, as a new girl, to integrate as rapidly and smoothly as possible into our community, beginning with her House. This is probably a daunting time for you and for her and it is important now, as it will continue to be, for us to work in partnership with you.

We have called this handbook 'Life in The Houses', although the material it covers necessarily goes beyond strictly House matters. I hope you will find it helpful and will keep it as a reference throughout your daughter's career at Truro High School.

Mrs Sarah Matthews, Headmistress

# Our commitment

At Truro High School for Girls we are committed to the development of the intellectual, spiritual, moral, physical and cultural development of each pupil. We are committed to excellence in all that we undertake and offer our pupils a strong academic tradition within the context of a very rich curriculum.

We value the unique gifts of each girl and offer an environment in which these gifts can flourish. At Truro High School for Girls we encourage independent thinking and learning, self-motivation and accountability. The innate dignity of each member of the community is respected and our Christian faith is demonstrated in service to others, irrespective of age, ethnic origin, religious belief or social background.

The timeless values of honesty, integrity and tolerance are honoured. We aim to send out into the world young women who are adaptable, courageous and compassionate, with the confidence to respond to the opportunities and challenges of the twenty first century.



# Boarding Aims & Principles

## Aims of Boarding

To foster a family atmosphere in which girls establish and develop good and valuable friendships with other boarders, and feel able to turn to other members of the community (staff or pupil) for advice or support as well as to share good news and achievements

To promote individuality and encourage girls to grow in confidence

To provide an environment and accommodation which is safe, comfortable, and homely

To allow each girl to develop spiritually, culturally, morally and socially, and to provide a suitable routine and framework to support this development of the whole person

To provide opportunities to develop responsibility and growing independence, and to support girls in their development as individuals, team players, and leaders

To promote links and communication between the boarding and day elements of each girl's school life, and to support her academic progress in boarding time as appropriate

To encourage links with parents in the support and development of their daughter as a boarder

These aims are founded on the following principles, which underpin our daily lives as a Boarding community

## Principles of Boarding

Maintain an open environment of mutual trust in which each girl and member of staff is treated with respect and as an individual

Take care of each other and the environment in which we live, and respect each person's right to privacy

Recognise that everyone is unique, and positively encourage the development of all talents

Take part in a variety of activities in the evenings and at weekends to help in achieving a work/life balance

Allow fellow boarders to work, play, and relax free from abuse, intimidation, harassment, teasing and bullying

Demonstrate Christian values in service to others, regardless of age, race, religion, or social background



# The boarding houses

We have two Boarding Houses. Dalvenie House for boarders up to Year 10 and Rashleigh House for Years 11 – 13. The houses are connected by the school dining room and between the two houses we usually accommodate around 50 girls. As a result, much of what we do, particularly at the weekends is in one big group.

The younger girls in Dalvenie House usually share in rooms of four.

Older boarders in Rashleigh House live in rooms ranging from one to four people with each room having direct access to a shared bathroom. Upper Sixths usually have single study bedrooms, whereas Lower Sixths usually share with one other boarder.

Both main lounges are comfortable with large sofas, cushions and throws as well as good facilities. In Dalvenie House there is a large screen television, DVD player, Wii console, a piano and pool table.

Rashleigh has a friendly and comfortable lounge with a TV/DVD, table football and Wii console. Both houses have integrated kitchens with a cooker, microwave, fridge, freezer and dishwasher. The kitchen provides a good focal point for girls after school who typically throw down their bags and gather around the table for a cup of tea and chat about their day.

# Who's who in the Boarding Houses

Our two boarding houses (Rashleigh and Dalvenie) are run by a friendly and experienced team of House Parents and their families who you will quickly get to know on your arrival.

In the majority of cases, House Parents work during evening and weekend hours, with additional responsibilities during the school day. In an emergency during school hours, if you aren't able to reach one of them, please contact the school reception on (+44) 1872 272 830.



**Dr Liz Dollins,**  
**Head of Boarding & Dalvenie House Parent**  
**Email: [edollins@trurohigh.co.uk](mailto:edollins@trurohigh.co.uk)**

Dr Dollins is Head of Boarding and the House Parent for Dalvenie House. As Head of Boarding Dr Dollins has direct responsibility for all the boarders and her primary concern is their care and welfare. She monitors the boarders' academic progress (in liaison with the Form Tutors) and endeavours to ensure that their School life is fulfilling without being overloaded. Dr Dollins lives in Dalvenie with her husband, Mr Noble, and their four ducks.



**Mrs Kate Roberts, Rashleigh House Parent**  
**Email: [kroberts@trurohigh.co.uk](mailto:kroberts@trurohigh.co.uk)**

Mrs Roberts is the House Parent with primary responsibility for Rashleigh House. She has been at the school for a number of years and is responsible for the welfare and pastoral care of the older boarders.

Mrs Roberts lives in Rashleigh with her husband, Mr Roberts, who is part of the school maintenance team, a friendly dog, who is always up for a cuddle with a homesick boarder and their daughter who goes to the senior school.



**Mrs Yvette Simpson, Rashleigh House Parent (part time)**  
**Email: [ysimpson@trurohigh.co.uk](mailto:ysimpson@trurohigh.co.uk)**

Mrs Simpson is an experienced Prep School teacher who works alongside Mrs Roberts to support the older girls in Rashleigh House, with her husband Gordon. With daughters of their own who are now at university, Mrs Simpson helps to support the girls as they start to plan their lives after the sixth form and is always up for a competitive board game (or two) at the weekend.



Miss Vicky Mather, Dalvenie House Parent (part time)  
Email: [vmather@trurohigh.co.uk](mailto:vmather@trurohigh.co.uk)

Miss Mather works with Dr Dollins to ensure the smooth running of Dalvenie House. She also works during the day time in the week and has responsibilities around planning weekend outings and activities and accompanying girls to appointments. When she's not House Parenting, Miss Mather can often be found with her horse on the bridle paths around Newquay.

## Pupil Representatives

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It is very much in line with the ethos of the school that senior girls are encouraged to take on a sisterly and supportive role towards the younger girls.

Some girls may also prefer to speak to someone in their peer group and for this reason each year the girls elect a Head Boarder and Deputy from the Sixth form community. These prominent roles provide valuable opportunities for development and training for the management positions our girls will take up in their adult lives.

2019-20 Head Boarder: Daisy Chuter

2019-20 Deputy Head Boarder: Emily Keung

# Contacting the Boarding Houses

Email is often the most reliable way of sending a message to one of the House Parents, although they are also contactable on the numbers below:

Name	Contact	Email
Liz Dollins Head of Boarding / Dalvenie House Parent	(+44) 7792 774 784 (+44) 1872 242 918 (office)	<a href="mailto:edollins@trurohigh.co.uk">edollins@trurohigh.co.uk</a> <a href="mailto:dalvenie@trurohigh.co.uk">dalvenie@trurohigh.co.uk</a>
Kate Roberts Rashleigh House Parent	(+44) 7805 376 581 (+44) 1872 242 921 (office)	<a href="mailto:kroberts@trurohigh.co.uk">kroberts@trurohigh.co.uk</a> <a href="mailto:rashleigh@trurohigh.co.uk">rashleigh@trurohigh.co.uk</a>
Yvette Simpson Rashleigh House Parent	(+44) 7736 295 708 (+44) 1872 242 921 (office)	<a href="mailto:rashleigh@trurohigh.co.uk">rashleigh@trurohigh.co.uk</a>
Vicky Mather Dalvenie House Parent	(+44) 7792 535 943 (+44) 1872 242 918 (office)	<a href="mailto:dalvenie@trurohigh.co.uk">dalvenie@trurohigh.co.uk</a>

# The Main School - Meet the team

## Your daughter's Form Tutor

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You daughter's form tutor is another adult to whom the girls can relate and to whom they can turn if they need advice and support. Girls have a different Form Tutor every year in the Prep School but remain with the same Form Tutor from Years 7-11. It is the Form Tutor who registers them morning and afternoon and who monitors both academic progress and well-being together with the House Parent.



Mrs Sarah Matthews, Headmistress

Email: [headmistress@trurohigh.co.uk](mailto:headmistress@trurohigh.co.uk)

Mrs Matthews has overall responsibility for your daughter's welfare and education. Mrs Matthews also teaches Religious Philosophy. The headmistress can be contacted by emailing [headmistress@trurohigh.co.uk](mailto:headmistress@trurohigh.co.uk)



Miss Deb Freeman, Deputy Head

Email: [dfreeman@trurohigh.co.uk](mailto:dfreeman@trurohigh.co.uk)

Miss Freeman is responsible for the pastoral care and, in particular, ensuring your daughter is happy when she is in school. She also helps in the Boarding House one night a week with her three-year-old son and teaches A Level PE.



Mrs Jo House, Director of Teaching & Learning

Email: [jhouse@trurohigh.co.uk](mailto:jhouse@trurohigh.co.uk)

Mrs House is in charge of overseeing your daughter's work and progress in lessons. She will talk to your daughter and her teachers about how she is getting on at school and make sure you are kept up to date on this throughout the year.



Miss Annabel Ramsey, Head of Prep School

Email: [aramsey@trurohigh.co.uk](mailto:aramsey@trurohigh.co.uk)

Miss Ramsey is Head of the Prep School (ages 4-11) and reports directly to the Headmistress. She is responsible for the curriculum, academic progress and pastoral care of all the younger girls.



Mrs Dawn Kingston, School Nurse

Email: [schoolnurse@trurohigh.co.uk](mailto:schoolnurse@trurohigh.co.uk)

Nurse Dawn is at school on Monday to Friday between 8.30am and 4pm and will care for and advise girls at school during these hours. In conjunction with the House Parents, she will also arrange and accompany boarders to medical, dental or optician appointments during the school day.



## Contacting the Main School

If you have a concern relating to an academic matter or your daughter's House Parent is unable to help with your query, you can contact the main school reception on (+44) 1872 272 830 between 08:00 and 16:30.

Regular communications from school come through an email system called Parentmail. You will be given information about how to sign up to this at the beginning of term.

The school also has a Facebook site that is updated regularly with pictures and news all of the activities going on throughout the school. If you're connected, you might like to follow some of the things that your daughter is involved in this way too.

## Academic Reports and Assessments

Parents will receive either an Interim (short) Report or a Full Report each term for pupils in Years 7-10. Pupils in Years 11-13 receive a report in the first and second terms and then sit their external examinations in the final term. Your daughter's Form Tutor will discuss the reports with her.

## Parents' Meetings

Parents' Meetings are held at regular intervals during the academic year to enable parents to meet their daughters' teachers and to discuss academic progress. On these occasions parents are welcome to come to the School and discuss specific matters with us or send a guardian representative. For those unable to attend, we are very happy to attend these meetings with your daughters at your request or alternatively, can arrange Skype appointments.

# The Daily Routines

## Signing in and out

The boarding register is taken at breakfast and supper time. Boarders are expected to attend both of these meals every day unless they have external commitments.

Whenever girls leave their boarding houses, they must come and check with a member of staff before signing out. When they return, they are expected to come and let someone know that they are back and sign themselves back in.

The process quickly becomes second nature but is strongly enforced as an important part of life in the boarding houses.

## Daily Timetables

The general timetable for the week is shown below.

### Weekdays

Timings	Activity
07:15 onwards	Wake up calls for Boarders in Dalvenie house
08:00	Breakfast and registration in the dining room
08:40	Boarders leave the Houses to go to school
08:45 – 15:45	The School day  Lessons are one hour long and we have a 5 period day. Girls must be in school during the day and may not return to the house until 15:45. They therefore need to make sure they have all the equipment that they need for the day (games kit, musical instruments etc)
15:45	Return from school
16:00 – 17:00	Prep School Homework Club  Senior boarders are often involved in after school clubs or fixtures
18:00	Supper and registration in the dining room
18:30 – 20:30	Senior School Prep (homework)
20:30	Bedtime for prep boarders (up to rooms at 8pm)
21:30	Senior girls preparing for bed in their rooms, quiet time
22:00	Senior girls lights out, all sixth form up to their rooms
23:00	Sixth Form expected to be in bed and quiet, houses are locked

# Weekends

There are activities planned each day at the weekend, with the main day or afternoon outing on Sundays. We offer a huge variety of activities that allow girls to make the most of our superb location whether it's exploring our county's rich history at St Michael's Mount, surfing on the North Coast or going out fruit picking to make delicious smoothies.

Girls who aren't involved in these activities will often choose to spend time with friends in town or making use of the school's facilities for sports or music practice.

## Timings                      Activity

08:00 – 10:30	Self-service breakfast is available in the dining room
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch in the dining room
17:30	Supper and registration in the dining room
22:30	Senior girls preparing for bed in their rooms
23:00	Senior girls lights out, all Sixth Form up to their rooms and quiet



## Prep (Homework) Time

Prep, or homework, is given to members of the senior school on a daily basis and is usually carried out in the school IT suite or library for years 7 – 11. Trusted sixth formers are allowed to work quietly in their rooms.

Prep starts at 6.30pm every day and runs until 8.30pm. It is supervised by a member of staff who is on hand to help girls who may need it.

## Going Out in the Evenings and Weekends

During the week, girls are allowed out into Truro after school, provided that they are back for supper at 18:00. Girls in year 7 – 10, must be in groups of at least two, but older girls who are in year 11 and are sixteen or older are allowed to go by themselves at the House Parent's discretion.

Going out after supper must have prior approval by House Parents and would usually be limited to special occasions only, particularly during the school week. Boarders are not allowed to walk by themselves after dark, or miss Prep unless in exceptional circumstances. When spending time in town all boarders are expected to follow the UK laws regarding alcohol consumption, and no-one should return to the boarding houses in an inebriated state.

Girls are allowed to stay overnight with friends providing that written permission has been obtained from their parents as well as the parents of the girl that they are staying with, in reasonable time in advance of the event. It must also be ascertained that there will be an adult host at the house that is being visited.

Boarders are only allowed to travel in the cars of day pupils, or drivers under the age of 21 providing written permission has been obtained from the parents of both the driver and the boarder concerned.

## Weekend Activities

Boarders have a range of options in terms of how they spend the time outside their school day. After school there are a wide range of extracurricular clubs that girls are encouraged to get involved in to increase their practical, language and cultural skills.

As well as taking trips to Truro to go shopping with friends, it is also expected that all boarders will contribute to and join in with a number of House activities while they are with us. Particularly for students for whom English is not their first language, and those in years 7-10 these activities are seen as a core part of the curriculum and as such, there is an expectation that they will attend at least one event (or equivalent) each fortnight.

A list of activities is created in the first week of each term and emailed to parents as well as being published on the house notice boards. There is at least one activity scheduled for Friday, Saturday and Sunday each weekend.

The majority of these activities are free to the boarders and include big trips such as the Eden Project, St Michael's Mount, city visits to Plymouth and Exeter as well as smaller events such as smoothie and ice cream factories, karaoke evenings, pitch and putt golf and winter walks.

# Extra Curricular Clubs

Boarders have the advantage of having the school facilities right on their doorstep. They are all encouraged to participate in at least one after school club and most choose many more. Options change termly but can include sports (Badminton, Hockey, Netball, Tennis, Cross Country), creative (Art club, Set design, Life Drawing and Christmas baking), music (Chamber Choir, Orchestras, Jazz Band) and others such as Debating and Greenpower Car racing.

There are additional swimming sessions arranged in the evenings for boarders, and there are often tournaments in badminton or table tennis that the girls like to organise between themselves.

A number of girls also enjoy participating in additional private clubs outside school. Examples of these include ballet, horse riding and county sports training. House Parents will arrange private taxis to these activities at parents' request and where they can, will offer lifts from time to time as well.



# House Practicalities

## New Boarder's Induction

New boarders all participate in a two and a half day induction prior to starting school. During this time, there is a full programme of organised activity from local treasure hunts to beach trips, all designed around helping girls settle in their new boarding lives.

House Parents are involved in these days as well as members of the senior leadership team and the boarders' new form tutors. In between the team building activities, key members of staff talk to the girls about important aspects of school life such as looking after yourself, possessions, money, the school IT policy (the Network Manager) and health (the school nurse). This ensures that when new boarders go to school on the first day they are fully prepared and oriented in their environment – important factors in those first few days.

## IT and Connectivity

Most girls choose to bring a laptop and/or smart phone and tablet with them from home, both for school work and to keep in contact with friends and family.

Everyone is provided with access to the School computer network soon after they arrive and must agree to the guidelines for network use. Each girl receives a school email address and is shown how to access the system and how to manage her account. All messages are screened by the system for unacceptable material.

The Boarding Houses have Wi-Fi connections throughout. Both houses have computers and printers for girls to use.

Girls are forbidden from using the internet or mobile phones after lights out and we request that parents support us with this by restricting their communications with their daughters to sociable hours. Girls in Year 9 and below are requested to hand in their phones from 9.30pm from Sunday - Thursdays.

## Personal Spaces

It is an important part of feeling at home for girls to have some personal possessions with them in School. These should be clearly labelled with the girl's name and it is advisable not to bring unnecessary valuable items. A Pupils' Personal Insurance scheme is available for overseas students and the cost is included in the fees. UK parents are advised to include provision in their own insurance cover for their daughter's belongings while away from home.

Boarders should bring their own bed linen with them. We recommend at least one, ideally two sets that includes a single duvet cover, two rectangular pillow cases and a fitted sheet. All of these things can be easily bought in Truro if necessary.

Each bed has a noticeboard next to it with space for photos and letters of friends, family, pets and favourite bands. One suitcase of luggage is usually sufficient as the Boarding Houses have limited storage over the holidays. Girls are expected to carry their own luggage when getting to or from the school if they are using the train or coach.

Girls are expected to keep their rooms tidy at all times. Floors and desk tops must be clear so that they may be cleaned every morning. Curtains are to be opened and electrical appliances must be switched off before the start of school. No food should be kept or eaten in the bedrooms.

# Money and Valuables

Girls are strongly recommended not to bring large amounts of cash into their House. Older girls are encouraged to open a local bank account. There is easy access to cash points in town. Otherwise, girls should ask their House Parent to look after the money for them.

It is essential that girls take great care of their bank cards and indeed any other valuables they have at School. Security is important and girls must not leave money, purses or wallets around the House, or indeed anywhere in the School.

## Food

We are lucky to have a team of chefs who prepare all the boarders' meals from fresh ingredients on a daily basis.

In the morning, girls have a range of options for breakfast including fresh fruit salad, yoghurt, cereals, cheese, fresh baked bread, bagels and cold meats. As winter draws nearer, more cooked breakfasts are also introduced.

Evening suppers always include a main course, a vegetarian course, a choice of carbohydrates and fresh vegetables as well as a vegetable based soup. Pudding includes a cooked and prepared option as well as a variety of fresh fruit. Specific dietary requirements are catered for as a matter of course.

Girls are able to choose between a pudding of their choice or a birthday cake on their birthdays and these will also be prepared by the kitchen. The latter is usually chosen and both houses will sing 'Happy Birthday' before sharing it between them all.

At the weekends, breakfast and lunches are self-served. Lunch usually consists of soup and a variety of deli type ingredients, plus a range of breads and rolls for girls to help themselves. Meal times are always a sociable event, at which mobile devices are banned, and girls talk with each other.

## Laundry

Each House has its own washing machines and dryers for the girls to use to wash their clothes. Laundry powder is provided by the School.

Senior girls from Years 7-Sixth Form are expected to do their clothes washing in our laundry room and will be helped by staff to do so until they get the hang of it themselves. Full boarders are expected to do a regular full bed linen change and will be reminded by House staff to do so. The House Parents will wash the clothes and bedding for girls in the Prep school.

It is vital that all clothing be labelled as you can imagine that there are many identical uniforms going through the system each week. The school cannot take responsibility for lost clothes, and those that have not been named are particularly hard to retrieve. Girls are expected to maintain their uniform, games kit, and personal clothing in a neat and presentable condition. An ironing board and iron are also located in the House and girls are strongly encouraged to have a go.

## House Rewards and Sanctions

In the Houses, as in the main school, we expect high standards of behaviour, based upon the Christian values of our foundation; care for others, self-respect and self-discipline. Examples of behaviour which would be inconsistent with these principles and are therefore unacceptable include: stealing, lying, cheating, bullying, rudeness, damage to property or the environment.

As we aim to nurture self-discipline and to give praise and encouragement in order to promote good behaviour, punishments are kept to a minimum and rarely enforced. However, sanctions used in response to behaviour which is considered to be inconsistent with the aims and ethos of the school, include verbal reprimands, weekday detentions (usually for work related offences, such as repeated lateness with prep), or confinement to the House (gating). Sanctions for major and minor offences are set out in the school's Rewards and Sanctions Policy.

## Friends' Visits

School friends are always welcome to visit the boarding houses.. Visits must be agreed with the boarding houseparents in advance.

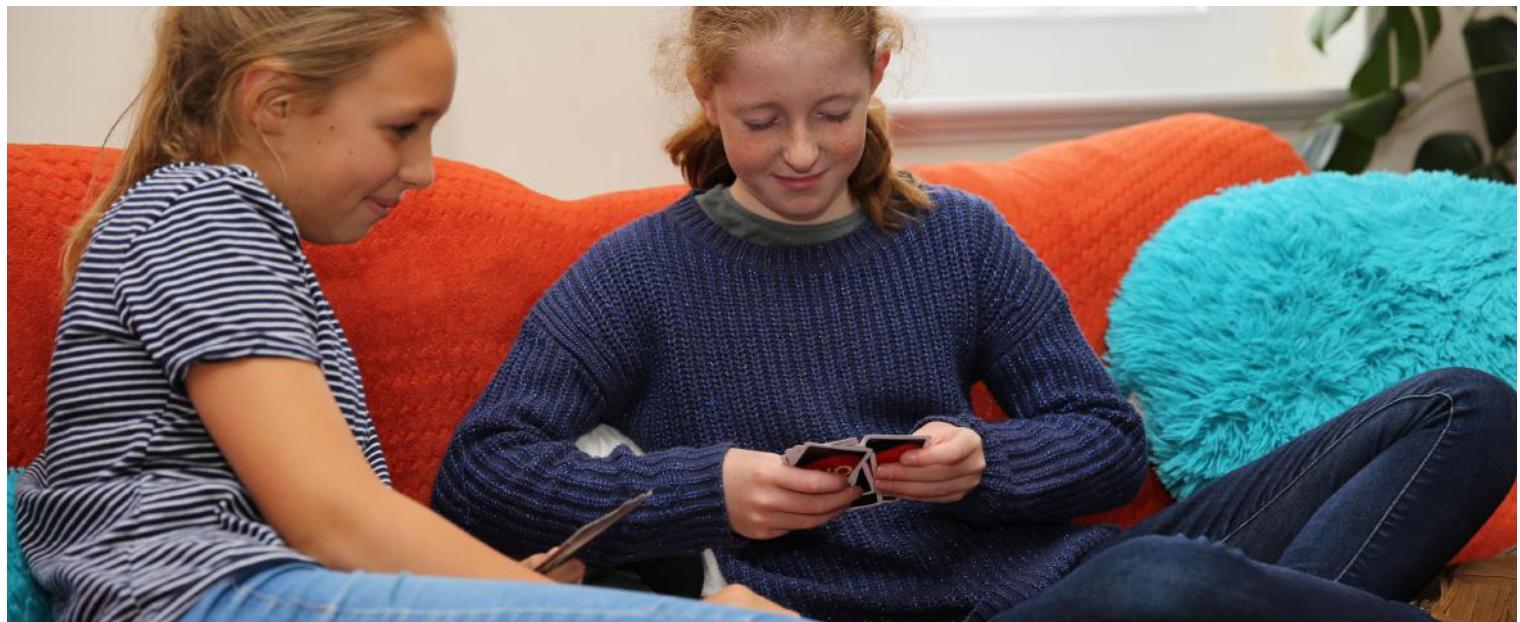
## Uniform and Appearance

We educate girls to take a pride in their appearance and to realise that how they look gives messages about themselves and reflects on the community of which they are all members. In School we expect them to look smart and business like in their uniform or, in the case of Sixth Formers, presentable in their own clothes.

Full details of uniform are found in the clothes list sent with the Joining Pack and also on the website. Uniform is purchased from Castle Sports & Uniform Ltd in Falmouth except for some sports kit which is purchased from the online Schoolblazer shop.

Boarders who are staying for one term only do not need school PE kit but can wear their own from home.

Upstairs in the Houses there are very few restrictions on what can be worn but please do remember that the girls have limited storage space and there is no need for a vast amount of home clothes. We also ask for a degree of modesty in the communal areas such as dining rooms. Please remember that all clothing (both school uniform and home clothes) must be clearly named.



## Pastoral Care Medical Care

The Health Centre is staffed by a qualified nurse and available to girls during school hours. Our aim is to keep the girls as fit as possible, to offer health education, and to care for them if they are not well enough to stay in the House. Unwell girls are admitted to the Health Centre until they are well enough to return to School and House accommodation in the evening.

Boarders are registered with a local General Practitioner. Consultations with the doctors and nurses are confidential and full medical records are kept. All girls are given a basic medical examination by the School Nurse when new to the School. Essential information, such as care instructions or allergies, are disclosed to the staff to ensure medical needs are met in House.

Girls, as a general rule, are not allowed to have medicines (including alternative or homeopathic preparations) in their possession or to take such without the permission of the medical staff. We ask them to bring anything of this sort to the School Nurse on arrival at the boarding house for consideration.

## What Happens if your Daughter Feels Unwell?

The first thing we hope will happen is that she will tell one of us. All our House Staff have been First Aid trained. We will make a judgement about whether the situation requires calling the Doctor, going to bed in the House (weekends only), going to bed in Health Centre (weekdays), simple medication from the First Aid cupboard, or simply TLC.

In more serious or infectious conditions where a girl needs to be kept away from school we will liaise with you to agree the best place for her to be looked after. This may be with a relative, guardian or potentially to return home should the situation allow.

## Bullying and Support

High staff ratios allow girls to be known and treated as individuals and there is very much an open door policy within the boarding house, with girls encouraged to come to staff or others should they need a listening ear.

Having said this, Truro High School for Girls will not tolerate bullying in any form. Bullying is deemed to be occurring when someone needlessly causes someone else to be unhappy. The School has an Anti-Bullying Policy. A copy of this policy is displayed in each House.

All staff and the Head Boarders are aware of school policies around bullying as well as rules and sanctions although due to a proactive approach in communication and behaviour observation, these are very rarely needed. As well as staff, girls are clearly signposted towards other sources of help and support should this be needed and there is a good relationship with the School's Independent Listener who visits regularly.

## Drugs and Alcohol

The school has a policy on drugs and alcohol which is available on the school website. In essence there is a zero tolerance policy and the taking, supplying or possession of drugs (both legal and illegal) is strictly prohibited and the very toughest line will be taken.

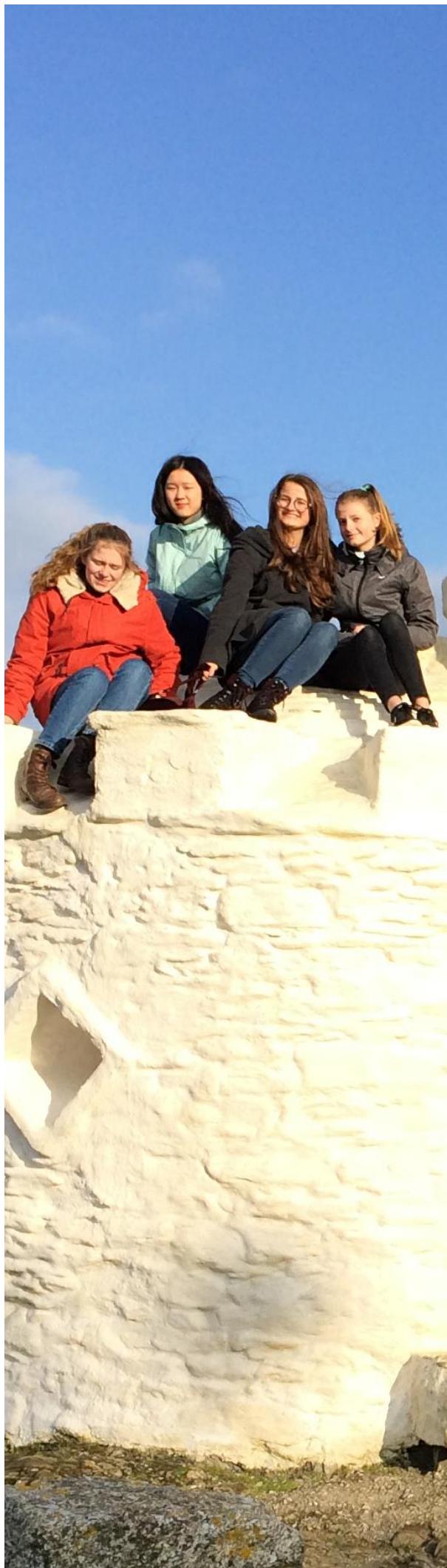
Pupils are not allowed to bring alcohol into the boarding house for any event. When spending time in town all boarders are expected to follow UK laws regarding alcohol consumption, and no-one should return to the boarding houses in an inebriated state. If any alcohol or evidence of alcohol misuse is discovered, this will be dealt with firmly and in line with school procedures.

## Religion and Spirituality

The School is keen to encourage a strong sense of faith. Truro High School has a Church of England foundation and Christian values underpin all that we aim to do and teach. However, the School values the presence and the contribution of members of other denominations and faiths.

The School is happy to organise transport to both churches and other places of worship as required. If we are not able to provide a lift ourselves, we are happy to arrange a private taxi for your daughter if this would be helpful.





## Other Information for Overseas Students

All international boarders must have a named Guardian in this country who is prepared to take responsibility for making arrangements for their care should the need arise. There are no exeat weekends but the boarding houses are closed over half term and the main school holidays. During half term holidays it is quite usual for girls to stay with their guardians or a host family if they choose to stay in the UK.

The school does not recommend or arrange guardianship on behalf of the parents. Responsibility for the welfare of pupils while in the care of their guardians rests solely with the parents and not the school.

The girls' guardian will act as a representative of the family, will receive all school correspondence and will be invited to school functions such as Parents' Evenings, concerts and other social occasions.

Please ask the school if you would like the name of current Guardianship Agencies used by our parents, or contact AEGIS at [www.aegis.uk.net](http://www.aegis.uk.net) for a list of accredited Agencies.

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## Visas and Travel Permits

The school must hold all half term and end of term travel and accommodation details and contact information to fulfil immigration requirements. We ask parents to help provide these as soon as transport is booked.

All non-EU boarders should ensure that they arrive with the correct, up to date travel documentation and information. For more details, please check the UK Government visas and Home Office websites: [www.ukvisas.gov.uk](http://www.ukvisas.gov.uk) and [www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk)



# English as an Additional Language (EAL)

Mrs Hood, the EAL teacher, is based in the Learning Support Centre that is in the main building of the school near to the Library. She works with teaching and boarding staff to encourage and support the students' development of English to enable them to fully access the curriculum and integrate into the wider life of the school.

Girls are assessed in their English skills on arrival and, if necessary, lessons are delivered on a one to one or small group basis. Girls are either removed from lessons so EAL lessons can take place instead of a modern language (depending on their language ability and EAL requirements), or over a lunchtime or, very occasionally, instead of another subject. EAL lessons are challenging and include the development of all skills (reading, writing, spelling, listening and speaking), as well as subject specific vocabulary, idiomatic English and grammar work.

All EAL pupils attend mainstream English lessons and sit GCSE English at the end of Y11. Sixth formers can opt to study towards an internationally recognised qualification such as IELTS.

## Learning Support

Pupils with Specific Learning Differences (SpLD) are able to receive support from a dedicated team of fully qualified specialist teachers, experienced in assessing and teaching pupils with dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia and other specific difficulties. Should support be necessary, an appropriate programme will be put in place to support the pupil in her studies.

There is an additional charge for Learning support and EAL lessons.







# Travel & Term Dates

## The Beginning and End of Term

Girls return to the boarding houses at any time after 4pm on the day before the start of term (with the exception of the beginning of the year for new pupils – see term dates). Where the last day of term or half term is a full day, they should be collected from the boarding houses at 4pm to coincide with the end of school.

The academic programme runs from the very first day of term until the last and as such late returns or early departures are strongly discouraged and only granted by exception. Any application should be put to the Headmistress and is unlikely to be approved unless in extenuating circumstances.

The only exception made to the last day of term is for girls travelling long distances (e.g. London or beyond) who are unable to make their connections if they leave at the end of the day. Travel for destinations that are considered reasonably local must be booked for once school has finished.

## Airport Travel

There are a number of options for girls catching flights from London Heathrow and boarding staff are happy to help advise parents and their daughters on what might be most suitable.

The school runs a minibus service at the beginning and end of each term and often in half terms too, providing there is sufficient demand. This is run by two experienced ex-teachers from school and takes girls from the door of their boarding house all the way to check in. This is the most popular method of travel for younger boarders as it is a straightforward option, accompanied by adults who can sort out any issues that may arise at check in and manage paperwork associated with Unaccompanied Minor status should it be required. The cost of this service is £55 each journey.

Girls making use of the school minibus service are asked to arrive at LHR on a flight landing between 05:00 and 09:00hrs, and depart at the end of term on a flight between 18:00 and 21:00hrs. Parents are strongly encouraged to contact House staff before booking flights, so the times and dates can be confirmed before any money is paid out.

Other travel options include a train from Truro to London Paddington and another that connects on to London Heathrow, or a National Express Coach from Truro to the Coach Station at Heathrow. House staff are experienced in booking tickets for these services and can support your daughters to make the necessary arrangements.

There is also a flight from Newquay to London Heathrow and one from London Heathrow to Newquay.

# Academic Year 2019-2020

## Michaelmas Term 2019

New Boarders Arrive	Sunday 1 September, 4pm
Existing Boarders Arrive	Tuesday 3 September, 4pm
Lessons begin	Wednesday 4 September
Half term -	Week commencing Monday 21 October
Boarders are collected	Friday 18 October, 4pm
Boarders are returned	Sunday 3 November, 4pm
Term finishes	Friday 13 December, Midday

## Lent Term 2020

Boarders Arrive	Sunday 5 January, 4pm
Lessons begin	Monday 6 January
Half term -	Week commencing Monday 17 February
Boarders are collected	Friday 14 February, 4pm
Boarders are returned	Sunday 23 February, 4pm
Term finishes	Friday 27 March, 4pm

## Summer Term 2020

Boarders Arrive	Tuesday 14 April, 4pm
Lessons begin	Wednesday 15 April
Half term -	Week commencing Monday 25 May
Boarders are collected	Friday 22 May, 4pm
Boarders are returned	Sunday 31 May, 4pm
Term finishes	Friday 3 July, 3.30pm

Please note: The minibus collection from London Heathrow at the beginning of the Michaelmas Term 2019 will be early morning on Sunday 1 September 2019. This will allow new boarders to participate in an induction programme before term starts. There will not be a pick up on Tuesday 3 September 2019. Existing boarders who require the collection service must return on Sunday 1 September with the new boarders.



TRURO  
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Nursery • Prep • Senior • Sixth Form • Boarding

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