



# TRURO SCHOOL

NURSERY | PREP | SENIOR | SIXTH



## Information for Candidates Governor

Volunteer role for a period of 3 years

Truro School, Trennick Lane, Truro, TR1 1TH

[www.truroschool.com](http://www.truroschool.com), [recruitment@truroschool.com](mailto:recruitment@truroschool.com)

Established in 1880, Truro School is Cornwall's leading independent schools for girls and boys aged 3 to 18

## A welcome from the Head



Welcome to Truro School!

We are very proud of this community and believe it offers something exciting and empowering to the families and staff who join us.

Our School is steeped in 140 years of history, and is Cornwall's leading coeducational independent school for children aged 3-18. We are situated over two campuses. The Senior School educates around 840 pupils and is set within 40 acres of sports fields and open spaces overlooking Truro and its iconic Cathedral. The Prep School educates around 300 pupils and is located next to the Royal Cornwall Hospital. We have superb facilities and resources at both sites that support our forward-looking educational ambitions.

Our Cornish setting allows us the privilege of working in a thriving city surrounded by beautiful rural and coastal opportunities. Our educational philosophy is to promote inclusive excellence, academically, pastorally and via a vibrant co-curriculum, for all who join our school.

Underpinned by a welcoming and liberal Methodist ethos, we champion the values of curiosity, courage, creativity, compassion and confidence in all we do. We want all our pupils to be and to become the very best of themselves, embracing the richness of a broad and forward-thinking education. We want our staff to be excited by what we are able to provide for the children under our care.

We are an “excellent<sup>1</sup>” co-educational school that is large enough to offer many diverse and exciting opportunities, but small enough to know our children and families well. We champion an ambitious, broad and balanced education, and we hope that everybody who joins us will feel an important part of this flourishing community.

For a flavour of life here at Truro School please look at our website [www.truroschool.com](http://www.truroschool.com) and view our virtual tour, where you will see and hear from staff and pupils, and find a glimpse of who we are and where we work.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Andy Johnson (Head)

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<sup>1</sup> As judged by ISI in 2017 at both our Senior and Prep Schools

# Job Description: Governor

## ACCOUNTABLE TO:

Chair of Governors

## Role Overview

Governors and governing bodies are a key leadership role and are central to the effectiveness and accountability of a school. To quote the Governors' handbook, published by the Department for Education, governors "are the strategic leaders of our schools and have a vital role to play in making sure every child gets the best possible education".

The role of the Truro School governor is to ensure that the School acts in accordance with the Methodist Independent School Trust's (MIST) Instrument of Government; educating, safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of pupils; ensuring compliance with the inspection regime; and managing the School's activities in furtherance of its charitable objects. Collectively, governors ensure that the School functions within the legal and regulatory framework of the sector whilst being the critical friend of the Head and Senior Leadership Team, offering support, challenge and encouragement.

The governing body upholds the fiduciary duty invested in them – undertaking such duties in such a way that builds internal and external confidence and trust in the School and its leadership.

Governors are accountable to a wide network of stakeholders – pupils, parents, MIST and the Charity Commission.

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Set a clear vision, mission and strategic plan for the School and ensure that the necessary structures are in place to deliver those as part of the strategic management of the School (Strategy)
- Ensure the performance of the School (Performance)
- Ensure that the School complies with all legal and regulatory requirements (Compliance)
- Act as guardians of the School's assets, both tangible and intangible, taking all due care over their security, deployment and proper application (Responsibility to Safeguard the Assets)
- Ensure that the School's governance is of the highest possible standard (Governance).

## PERSON SPECIFICATION:

The successful candidate will have a proven track record of leadership, change management and personal achievement in a complex environment.

Our governors possess most or all of the following:

### **Experience and Skills:**

- Highly credible with experience of operating at a senior level within an organisation with significant budgets/complexity gained in the private, public or charity sector.
- Significant track record of leadership with a highly trained workforce.
- Significant experience of working in a team of multidisciplinary managers or professionals.
- Experience of operating in a regulated environment.
- Experience of safeguarding.

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- Experience in governance skills including, for example: strategic planning, financial management, risk management, organisational performance management, and education delivery & development.
- Politically astute – able to grasp relevant issues underpinned by an understanding of developing partnerships and building relationships with other organisations.
- Experience of achieving change management and transformation in organisations.
- Understands or has the ability to quickly and effectively grasp the environment in which the School operates.

#### **Personal Qualities:**

- An enquiring mind, with the confidence to challenge constructively.
- Recognise the importance of supporting collective decisions and of balancing challenge with assurance and support.
- Strong communication and listening skills.
- Strong interpersonal skills - calm under pressure, able to challenge in a constructive manner, develop creative solutions, manage a wide variety of situations in a meeting and ensure that the outcomes are in the best interest of the School.
- Commitment to and interest in Cornish education as well as a desire to contribute to the local community and the values and principles of the School.
- Strong business acumen and the intellectual rigour to understand complex issues and risk quickly.
- The ability to work with a wide range of individuals and organisations and build productive relationships.
- Fully supportive of equal opportunities and minority interests.
- Supportive of the principles of MIST.
- Sympathetic to the Methodist ethos and traditions of the School.
- Awareness of independent education.
- Strong commitment to the School's values. Ability to work with absolute integrity and confidentiality, and accord with the Conflicts of Interests policy.
- Champion of equality of opportunity.

#### **Commitment**

Regular attendance at Governor and Committee meetings is a core expectation alongside school visits and training events. This along with preparation for meetings, mean that Governors need to be able to commit to the equivalent of at least six days a year. The role is unremunerated although legitimate expenses incurred on school business will be reimbursed.

*Truro School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening including checks with past employers and a Disclosure and Barring Service check. We embrace diversity and promote equality of opportunity. We welcome applications from all sections of the community.*



## Our Motto

Esse Quam Videri, meaning 'to be, rather than to seem to be.'

Founded by Methodists in Cornwall in 1880 our School is a welcoming community in which children and adults can flourish, thrive and be happy. They enjoy being and becoming the very best of themselves.

## Our Values

From nursery through to Sixth Form, the values our community nurtures are:

- **Curiosity** to always want to discover and learn more, academically and more widely too.
- **Confidence** to build resilience by learning from both successes and failures alike.
- **Compassion** to understand and champion the needs of others, in our community and beyond.
- **Creativity** to be imaginative in how we express ourselves and approach new challenges.
- **Courage** to enjoy becoming the very best of who we are, with integrity and ambition.

## Our Ambition

To be a community of inclusion and excellence delivering the best educational journey in the South-West.

Our community and its culture reflect our Methodist foundation and our ongoing evolution in an inspiring Cornish setting. In an ever-changing world, we support and challenge young people to thrive – personally, spiritually, academically, socially, and physically. We value our pupils in the diversity of their identities, beliefs, abilities, talents, interests, backgrounds, and needs. The happiness, energy and wellbeing of our community shapes and inspires who we are and who we can become.

## Academic Life

Many of our pupils at Truro School celebrate exceptional results as they prepare to move on to the next stage of their lives, education and career. Our Upper Sixth pupils enjoy places at some of the best universities in the world including Oxford, Cambridge, and a range of Russell group universities.

57% of GCSE and iGCSE grades in 2022 awarded were 9-7 (or A\*/A), with just under 18% at grade 9.

In the same year, we were pleased to report 63% of A-Levels were graded A\*/A. Furthermore, 81% of all A-Level grades were graded at A\*-B, with a 100% pass rate.

Further information can be found here: [www.truroschoo.com/senior-school/academic/results](http://www.truroschoo.com/senior-school/academic/results)





We believe that a rich co-curricular life is a key ingredient of an excellent education. Whilst having fun, participating in a wide range of activities, without academic pressures, pupils broaden their horizons and learn a new skill or extend existing skills. This develops confidence, self-esteem, teamwork and independent-thinking, communication skills and social development across all year groups.

Our aim is for every Truro School student to leave us with a breadth of knowledge, understanding and a desire to continue with their selected passion. We encourage students to try a variety of activities, to embrace challenge, success and failure in order to grow.

## Sport

Truro School has an enviable reputation for the high quality of its sporting provision. Several teams compete nationally and the School hosts elite sportsman in the fields of windsurfing, fencing and sailing to name but a few. All abilities are catered for and every student is encouraged to participate in order to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

## Music

Truro School is one of the most busy and vibrant music departments in the country and is home to the Truro Cathedral choristers. Music is evident in all year groups with over 60 concerts each year involving our ensembles, choirs and bands. Tuition is available for numerous instruments including cello, violin, flute, clarinet, saxophone, drums. Over a third of our school undertake instrumental or vocal lessons each week from 30 of the county's top specialist teachers.

Major events each term include the annual Hall for Cornwall Concert, the Junior and Senior Charity Concerts, jazz band and Nine Lessons and Carols.

## Drama

Truro School is renowned for the quality of its drama productions which are held in our professional Burrell Theatre. The school runs a number of major productions throughout the year including the annual whole school play or musical, an annual sixth form drama project (including performing at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival every two years) and the junior play in the summer term.



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## APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply for this position, you will need to send a CV and covering letter to [rb@truroschool.com](mailto:rb@truroschool.com) .

Through the submission of your CV and covering letter you should demonstrate your qualifications, skill, and experience in relation to the role you are applying for. This information will be assessed against the requirements detailed in the job description.

Once the closing date for applications has been reached we will shortlist applicants and you will be contacted in order to either be invited to interview or to be notified that you have not been successful this time. If you are called for interview you will be asked to provide your right to work in the UK evidence, complete a self-disclosure form and provide a copy of your qualifications.

References may be taken up prior to interview.

All applicants must be prepared to have a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check and undergo any other appropriate child protection screening including checks with past employers.

The post for which you have applied is exempt from Section 4 (2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 by virtue of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act

1974 (Exemptions) Order 1975, amended 2013. If you are shortlisted and invited to interview, you must declare any relevant warnings, reprimands, cautions and/or convictions by completing a self- disclosure form prior to interview. Any positive disclosure will be discussed at interview.

Any information given will be treated in strict confidence and will be considered only in relation to your application for this post. Truro School does not discriminate against candidates with irrelevant criminal convictions. For further information on which offences should be disclosed please visit:

<https://unlock.org.uk/topic/about-criminal-records/> and/or view the flowchart on our employment webpage.

Candidates who have a disability or any other special requirement should let the school know so that reasonable adjustments can be made during the recruitment process.

You should be aware that provision of false information is an offence and could result in the application being rejected or summary dismissal if the applicant has been selected and possible referral to the police and/or Department for Education.

**We look forward to receiving your application.**