



## How can I find out more or apply?

Our *Be A Chorister For A Day* event takes place annually each November and is the perfect opportunity for girls to experience life as a Chorister, from morning rehearsal through to school lessons and finally a short service of Evensong when they will have the chance to sing with the Cathedral Choir.

The Cathedral's Director of Music is happy to meet and pre-audition any interested students to give feedback.

**Christopher Gray**  
Director of Music, Truro Cathedral,  
14 St Mary's Street, Truro, Cornwall, TR1 2AF  
**Tel 01872 245004**  
[christophergray@trurocathedral.org.uk](mailto:christophergray@trurocathedral.org.uk)

## Contact Details

For informal advice and current information about the Choir, please contact Truro School's Director of Music or Director of Admissions (details below).

**Martin Palmer**  
Director of Music, Truro School,  
Trennicks Lane, Cornwall, TR1 1TH  
**Tel 01872 246026**  
[mdp@truroschool.com](mailto:mdp@truroschool.com)

For information about Truro School including fees, scholarships and means-tested bursaries, registration and Chorister application forms please contact

**Jayne Grigg**  
Director of Admissions, Truro School,  
Trennicks Lane, Cornwall, TR1 1TH  
**Tel 01872 246062**  
[jeg@truroschool.com](mailto:jeg@truroschool.com)

[www.truroschool.com](http://www.truroschool.com)



Girl Chorister photography by John Freddy Jones

TRURO CATHEDRAL  
girl chorister  
scholarships

Truro Cathedral



TRURO  
SCHOOL

## What is the Cathedral Choir?

Truro Cathedral Choir consists of 18 boy Choristers, 18 girl Choristers and 12 adult professional singers. The boy Choristers (aged 8 to 13) and girl Choristers (aged 13 to 18) are distinct groups with their own musical and social identities; they occasionally sing together, for some of the larger services and concerts.

All of the singers are auditioned and prioritise in their lives the Choir's busy schedule of commitments which includes services, broadcasts, CD recordings and foreign tours.

Truro Cathedral has had a choir since it first opened its doors in 1887 and the current Choristers are custodians of this precious piece of Cornwall's cultural heritage.

## What are the benefits of being a chorister?

Performing music by great composers with an outstanding choir directed by specialist professional musicians in one of the South West's finest buildings.

Taking part in live broadcasts for television and radio, CD recordings and foreign tours.

Receiving scholarships and bursaries to support an education at Truro School.

Developing leadership skills in a supportive environment with a great deal of individual attention.

Working as part of a close team with a special purpose and a strong sense of identity.



## Who can apply?

Girls currently in Year 8 can apply for entry into the Choir when they reach Year 9 the following September.

Girls from any school can apply, though if successful they have to move to Truro School.

## How does the selection process work?

The official chorister auditions take place at Truro School in January, followed by Truro School's entrance exam.

Experienced staff from the Cathedral and School assess each application carefully to decide whether a Chorister place is right for the student and the Choir.

Girls are asked to prepare a song of their choice that shows off their voice well. They will be assessed on their voice, sight-reading ability, ear and general aptitude (for example concentration and commitment).

Girls must pass the School's academic selection criteria.

## What scholarships and bursaries are available?

The girl Choristers are educated at Truro School where they receive a 25% scholarship from the School which can be supplemented by a means-tested additional bursary of up to 100% with the aim that selection is based purely on ability. Bursaries will aim to make the School fees affordable for applicants of any financial background, but parents will be expected to make some sacrifices. Bursaries are reviewed annually and will be adjusted if parental circumstances change. The Bursar will be pleased to discuss this aspect of a Chorister application at any stage.

Because of the level of commitment required of Choristers, they are not eligible to apply for other School scholarships. The commitment they undertake is from Year 9 to Year 13 inclusive.



"Being a Cornishman, I am proud that Truro has one of the world's finest Cathedral Choirs."

Sir David Willcocks

## Music at Truro School

With 60 varied concerts each year, Truro School offers pupils numerous opportunities, to rehearse, perform and develop.

A third of the school takes individual instrumental or vocal lessons each week from 30 of the county's top specialist teachers.

Students at Truro School are surrounded by other high-achieving musicians and, in the last academic year, 15 pupils passed their Grade 8 ABRSM exams and 5 pupils gained their DipABRSM diplomas. Regular masterclasses and workshops also take place with the country's top performers.

## What is the time commitment?

The girls rehearse at Truro School on weekday mornings before school, from 8.10am to 8.55am. In addition, there is a two-week pattern for singing in services at the Cathedral, as follows:

**Week A:** Tuesday and Thursday 4.40pm rehearsal for 5.30pm service.

**Week B:** Thursday 4.40pm rehearsal for 5.30pm service; Sunday 8.50am rehearsal for 10.00am service and 3.15pm rehearsal for 4.00pm service.

In addition to these core duties, the Choir sings services at Christmas and Easter as well as concerts and performances at churches in Cornwall. Occasionally there is a foreign tour during the Easter or summer holiday.

Girl Choristers also sing in the school chamber choir, attending one rehearsal per week as well as performances.

## Do I have to be religious?

There is no requirement to have experience of Anglican worship or traditions but families must be comfortable with the Cathedral's ethos. Those who wish to be confirmed into the Church of England will, of course, have that opportunity but this is not an essential part of the Choir's duties.

