

UCAS Apply 2023 – Key Information



Monday 13th June Period 6



By now you should have:

- Signed up for UCAS Apply 2023 – if NOT you must do this TONIGHT and link your application to the school!
- Taken a note of dates for registering for UKCAT / LNAT / Any other admissions tests!
- Speak to Pastoral Care TODAY if you are considering applying for Medicine / Dentistry / Vet Medicine / Oxford / Cambridge (Early Applicants)

Setting up your UCAS Account:

- If you need any technical support setting up your UCAS 2023 account, please come to room L109 on Tuesday 14th June at lunchtime with your iPad.



What is a personal statement?

- A personal statement supports your application to study at a university or college.
- It's a chance for you to articulate why you'd like to study a particular course or subject, and what skills and experience you possess that show your passion for your chosen field.
- **If you're applying for an apprenticeship or College** the personal statement is slightly different but what we are looking at today will still be really helpful in preparing you for the application process.

What to write about in your personal statement?

- You're telling admissions staff why you're suitable to study at their university or college.
- It's important to remember you can only write one personal statement – it's the same for each course you apply for. So, avoid mentioning any universities or colleges by name.
- If you've chosen similar subjects, talk about the subject in general, and try not to mention courses titles. If you've chosen a variety of subjects, just write about common themes, like problem solving or creativity.



Now we will begin to look at the personal statement:

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/writing-personal-statement/how-write-personal-statement#what%E2%80%99s-a-personal-statement->



1. PREPARATION

- > You can only write one personal statement, so don't mention a uni or college by name.
- > Check uni and college websites to see what skills and qualities they'd like you to have.
- > Make a list of things you want to include.
- > Start drafting early.



2. WHAT TO INCLUDE

- > Why you're interested in the subject.
- > Your enthusiasm for the subject.
- > How your previous studies relate to the course(s).
- > Relevant aspects of jobs, placements, work experience or volunteering.
- > Activities or hobbies that show your interest in the subject.
- > Any training or achievements that show your skills.
- > Demonstrate you're a great candidate and you have skills and qualities they're looking for.



3. HOW TO WRITE IT

- > Introduction – start with an opening sentence that encourages the reader to read on.
- > Structure what you want to include in an order that's most relevant to what the unis and colleges are looking for.
- > Conclusion – reinforce your commitment, enthusiasm and skills suited to uni / college life.
- > Check your grammar, spelling and punctuation.
- > Leave time to get feedback and redraft.



4. TECHNICAL DETAILS

- > Length – up to 4,000 characters or 47 lines of text (including spaces and blank lines).
- > Make sure you don't copy – our software detects any similarities and this could jeopardise your application.

[https://www.ucas.com/connect/blogs/
personal-statements-quick-fire-
questions-answered](https://www.ucas.com/connect/blogs/personal-statements-quick-fire-questions-answered)

Twitter UCAS account:

- There are some fantastic short videos of students talking about their personal statement experience.
- Try to follow this page and watch some of the videos to help you draft your personal statement.

Your task – Summer holidays:

- Using the handout issued on Monday 13th June, start to complete this handout.
- This will enable you to begin to complete your first draft of your personal statement.
- Ideally we would like students to complete a first draft of the personal statement for submission after the summer holidays.