



WRITING YOUR PERSONAL STATEMENT

When you decide what you would like to study, I have a “**How to Write a Strong Personal Statement**” on 25 of the main subjects which you can access on my frog: Careers/ University.

- Decide on a certain day & time you will start writing & just write it.
 - improve it after you have a draft.
 - If you wait for a great opener to come to mind you will never start!
 - Or Put 15 mins aside each day & complete 1 paragraph of the below:
- 1) **Why do you want to do this subject.** Answer this as if I’d asked you and you were explaining it- the reasons behind your choice, when did you decide, how, what made you interested in it?
 - 2) What **subjects do you do and what skills** do you have from them or aspects learnt which could be of benefit to your Degree?
 - 3) **Academic depth** – You are trying to interest an admissions tutor who is fascinated by this subject they teach- give them a flavour of you & what you like- don’t skirt globally over the subject pick 1 or 2 things you were really interested in & discuss. That will hook their interest in you. Any topics you specifically liked while studying this subject. Anything you look forward to learning more about. Try and relate to the news if relevant or mention some extended reading you did – so they see you’ve done extra. I.e: ‘I read Psychology Weekly and was fascinated by an article about Which explained...’ What do you like/ where been: History – sites visited. Art – galleries been to, who is favourite artist/ work.
 - 4) Any **Work Experience** if relevant, show a realistic insight into the career if nursing/ social work type degree- have you interviewed a person about their day job? Uni lectures been to/ Access to Bristol. Line or 2 on **hobbies, D of E, job & skills** gained
 - 5) Couple of line **Ending**.... To show it’s the conclusion of your statement. 2 lines- I look forward to studying I want to go to University becausebigger challenges.... higher academic level learning from academics working within this area etc.

When you have improved your draft

Collect & complete a Purple form from Sixth Form Reception, get it signed & returned:

- Ask a subject teacher to read it & advise on anything subject specific
- Claire Connor in Sixth Form Reception has worked as an Admissions Officer for Bristol Uni & is happy to advise you on improvements.
- Collect your predicted grades from teachers
- When you have finished it - ask your tutor to write / input your reference.

This all takes much time- so build it in!