

## Notes and tips on Personal Statement Completion

### Example 1 (Sixth form application)

I am currently studying in year 11 at Thanet School in Broadstairs. My long term plan is to train as an Architect, this is an interest I have held for a number of years and stemmed from a childhood interest in construction games.

More recently, June 2012, I completed a period of work experience with Barwell's Estates in Margate where I gained an insight into the world of Construction and also had the opportunity to work with architectural drawings and plans and discuss these with professionals who worked for the company. This has spurred on my interest and has led to further research into the training involved. As a start point I know I need to have three good A levels, hence the reason for applying for sixth form.

I am hoping to gain at least 5 GCSE's at good grades including English and Maths and I am also studying Art which I realise would be useful for my career plan. In addition to this, as a spare time interest, I love to draw, mainly technical drawings of cars and buildings. I also take photos of buildings which interest me and have a "Flickr" account where I store these and write comments about them.

I am particularly fascinated by the work of Augustus Pugin, our most famous architect, and have visited his house on a number of occasions as well as famous buildings in London including the Tower Bridge and St Pauls Cathedral. After sixth form I plan to go to a School of Architecture and have a number of Universities in mind and plan to visit these next year.

### Example 2 (College application)

I currently attend the Thanet School in Broadstairs where I am doing my GCSE's and will be leaving in July. One of my favourite subjects is Food Technology and I am hoping to gain a good grade for this in the summer. Over the last two years I have produced pastries, cakes, pasta, fish and meat dishes as well as learn about food safety and hygiene. This has been useful during my work experience placement last year with Jane's Café in Westgate where I worked in the kitchen for two weeks. I found this a really useful time and it confirmed my plan to train as a chef when I leave school.

During my work experience I helped to prepare starters, chop and cook vegetables, make salads and sandwiches and keep the work area clean and free from waste. I gained a good report from my placement and the employer said that they would be interested to hear from me over the summer if I was free to do some part time work.

When I leave school I would like to do a full time catering course and I am very keen to learn all aspects of the trade. Since my work experience I have also been cooking at home and have baked cakes and have also cooked a Sunday roast by myself. I am expecting the grades I need to go to college and have started to save the money I need to buy the knives and overalls for the course.

The personal Statement shows:

- What you are doing now (this could include favourite subjects and areas you are naturally talented in)
- Your hobbies and interests (they do not need to be relevant to your course).
- Work experience / other work (mention any skills that you developed or what you learnt)
- Explain you have researched the course and why you have chosen to study there, include what you feel you could bring, be passionate about your course
- Think about your future: Make sure you demonstrate how this is an essential stepping stone for your future education or career. Show enthusiasm for the subject/s and outline your future plans, a motivation and reason to study

The rest of your application will show your grades etc this is the only part of the application where you can be yourself: don't be afraid to show a bit of your personality.

(don't worry if you don't have a career plan, but it will give you something to write about if you have)

*make sure*

- There are NO spellings mistakes (copy your text onto Word to check this)
- Capitals are correct (this is a very common problem and looks bad to adult eyes)
- English is correct and makes sense
- Punctuation is correct
- You ask friends or family to read it