

Personal Statement Worksheet



1. What is a personal statement?

Your personal statement is your opportunity to tell universities about your suitability for the course(s) that you hope to study. It is part of your online application to universities. You only write one personal statement and it is available to all the universities or colleges you have applied to.

In your personal statement you need to demonstrate your enthusiasm and commitment to university level study and, above all, ensure that you stand out from the crowd. You can enter up to 4,000 characters (this includes spaces) or 47 lines of text (this includes blank lines), whichever comes first. You do not have to use all the space provided.

2. Dos and don'ts

Watch our YouTube video, 'How to write a great personal statement, with St Mary's University' on our channel, St Mary's Schools & Colleges, and take notes on the dos and don'ts in section 2 of the video.

Dos	Don'ts



3. Getting started

Try and group your achievements and interests under the headings below. These sections will form the main body of your personal statement. This table is to help you organise your achievements and the things you want to get across in your personal statement. You can use bullet points.

Introduction Why do you want to study the subject? Why are you passionate about the subject? You can talk about specific topics within your chosen subject area that you would like to explore in more detail or learn for the first time.	
Academic achievements What do you currently enjoy in your A-level studies that feeds into why you have chosen the degree subject you have? How will this prepare you for university-level study? You can pick a module, or project, you enjoyed. Remember, if you're applying for a degree that requires work experience, you can write more in that section!	
Academic interests Any outside reading/interest in the subject? Don't lie! You may be asked about this in an interview if you are invited to one upon applying to university.	
Work experience and extra-curricular activities Relevant work experience or hobbies which relate to your degree choice? How will this prepare you for university? What did you learn? Any skills?	