

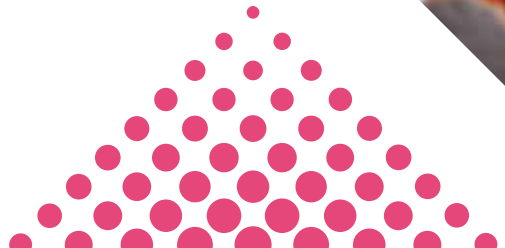


Leeds Trinity
University



WRITING YOUR PERSONAL STATEMENT

Your personal statement is vital in the decision-making process of universities. It not only supports your application, but it allows you to sell yourself, your passion and your desire to study the course you've applied for.



WRITING YOUR PERSONAL STATEMENT

Writing your personal statement for UCAS applications is your opportunity to demonstrate what makes you the perfect fit for a university.

With over 60,000 students applying for university places each year, you need to stand out from the crowd - and your personal statement is key. So, our Admissions team (who review hundreds of applications every day) has put together their top tips on how to craft the perfect personal statement.

ONE

Be specific

Write about why you are interested in the subject, making sure you mention a specific aspect. For example, don't just write: "I want to study sport," or, "I am interested in a career in sport" - write about which part of sport you are interested in, such as Physical Education, sports coaching, or sports science.

UCAS only lets you submit one personal statement on an application, so if you are applying for more than one course, you can email admissions@leedstrinity.ac.uk with a second personal statement relevant to the second course.

TWO

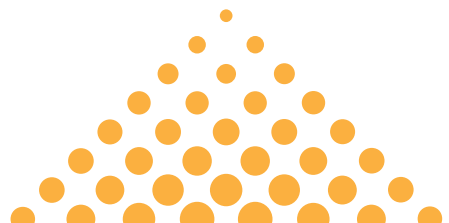
Be enthusiastic

Don't just write "I'm applying for the ...course because I get good grades in this subject".

Mention any wider reading you have done around the subject and reflect on any relevant news stories/current affairs related to it. Also include your interests that are relevant to the subject you're wanting to study.

If you've subscribed to a relevant professional subscription/journal, if you're a member of a professional group, or have attended any relevant conferences be sure to highlight this.

Don't just talk about your academic achievements, mention any extracurricular activities you are involved in as well. That includes any sports you play or volunteering you do. Not only do these demonstrate your enthusiasm and interests, but they also highlight your dedication and work ethic.





THREE

Be career-minded

Talk about the career you want and why doing this degree will help you. This shows you have thought about coming to university and are not just applying for a course because all your friends are, or because a teacher has told you to apply because you are good at that subject.

Talk about any relevant work experience you have done.

We get a lot of Business applicants who mention watching The Apprentice sparked their interest in the subject area. Be unique and talk about your experience and inspirations.

If you're applying for Primary Education with Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) make sure you mention any work experience you have completed in a primary school to help your application stand out.

A lot of applicants for courses that involve working with children say they were inspired by a specific teacher and mention them by name. As nice as that is, it's a little irrelevant for us reading your personal statement. Instead mention the kind of things you did on your work experience and how long this lasted. Remember, you need to show that you understand the role of a teacher.

If you're applying for Early Childhood Studies/Education Studies/Working with Children, Young People and Families, and want to become a teacher, show awareness of the need for a PGCE after your degree to gain QTS. This shows you have researched your future career and the path you need to take to get there.

FOUR

Be accurate

We're looking for a good standard of written English and a statement that flows logically so creating a structure when you start writing will give you direction. Our tutors want to know you'll be able to write essays at university.

Make sure your spelling and grammar are correct – triple check everything and don't rely on a spellchecker to pick up every mistake.

Show your first draft to your teachers or parents – a few extra pairs of eyes may pick up something you've missed.

The Admissions team and tutors read hundreds of applications per day, so make it easy for them to pick out the information that you want them to know.

Make sure your personal statement is concise – you only have 4,000 characters (around 500 words) to sell yourself, so avoid rambling and empty statements.

DO

- Be sincere with your enthusiasm - and don't exaggerate, as you may get caught out.
- Have a good understanding of the universities you want to apply to - attend an Open Day and talk to lecturers to get an idea of what they're looking for.
- Take your time and don't panic. You've got this.

DON'T

- Copy a friend's or family member's personal statement. Applications are screened for plagiarism by UCAS, so you could get caught and risk having your application rejected.
- Name-drop one particular university in your personal statement - remember, you're only sending one statement, which means multiple universities will receive it.
- Use inspirational quotes to back up any details in your personal statement - universities want to read your words and thoughts, not somebody else's.
- Leave it until the last minute - a post-Christmas rush is not the best way to tackle your personal statement.
- Try to be funny. Yes, it's great to get your personality across, but it's a risky move and you can't know the sense of humour of those who will read your personal statement.

Personal statement feedback service

We can give you personalised feedback on your personal statement.
For more information visit [leadstrinity.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply](https://www.leadstrinity.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply)

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