

UCAS

2018/2019



ST IVO SCHOOL
SIXTH FORM



Learning Intentions

- To understand what makes a good personal statement
- To consider the type of student universities are looking for
- To prepare to write the first draft of your personal statement



Success Criteria

- Record your academic achievements
- Record your extra-curricular activities
- Identify the perfect student for your course
- Use framework provided to write your first draft



Getting started

Building a portfolio of evidence

- ❑ Your tutor will provide you with a weekly log to record your achievements in your subjects – these could include written and verbal feedback from your teacher, contribution to classroom discussion, presentations, tests, practical work
- ❑ You will also have space to add your hobbies and interests, work experience, clubs and groups you belong to and your wider activities within the school
- ❑ You will then be considering what makes the ‘perfect’ student for your course
- ❑ Finally you will write your first draft of your personal statement using your portfolio of evidence



Week beginning 14th May

- Your tutor will provide you with a weekly log to record your achievements in your subjects – these could include written and verbal feedback from your teacher, contribution to classroom discussion, presentations, tests, practical work, etc.
- Continue to record your academic achievements on a weekly basis. Remember to check G4S – you may have forgotten a homework and/or assessment in which you achieved a good grade.
- Add these achievements in retrospectively.



Week beginning 21st May

- Using the template provided, describe the 'ideal' student for the course you want to study.
- If you are unsure which course you will be applying for, make a shortlist of the subject areas you are interested in, then describe the 'ideal' student universities would be looking for.
- Finally, look back at your academic achievements and identify where these match the 'ideal' student you have described.
- Extension: Check the entry requirements on the universities' websites to ensure you have the skills and qualifications they are looking for.



Week beginning 4th June

- Continue to record your academic achievements – your tutor will provide you with further copies of the record log
- Make a list of universities and courses you are interested in. Check to see if there is any guidance in what they are looking for in a personal statement
- Watch the video and discuss with your tutor group



Week beginning 11th June

Planning your personal statement

- ❑ **Bullet point** everything you want to include
- ❑ **Hook** your reader in with a cracking opening sentence
- ❑ **Make it clear** why you want to study the subject
- ❑ **Demonstrate** up-to-date subject knowledge
- ❑ **80%** should be on the subject/your studies
- ❑ **20%** on extra-curricular
- ❑ Check your **spelling** and **grammar**



Week beginning 18th June

- ❑ **This is a big week!**
- ❑ You will all be signing on to UCAS and the apprenticeship website
- ❑ You may also be going on the UCAS exhibition trip
- ❑ Finally you will hear ex-students talk about university life
- ❑ You will also be provided with a pack which will help you write your first draft – including sample personal statements so you can see what one looks like



Between now and 20th July

- You have pre-public examinations
- Plan your time accordingly to allow time for revision and to complete your first draft of the personal statement
- Write your draft using the resources provided
- Get it checked by your tutor, teachers, friends or parents
- Check grammar, spelling and punctuation one more time
- Make any last-minute changes
- Hand it in to your tutor by Friday 20th July