

## How to Write Your Personal Statement

This is your opportunity to tell colleges more about you. Ideally, aim for a page of a4 on a word document.

Please note: it should be a **maximum of 5000** characters. (On word, go to 'review' and click 'word count' and check the number next to 'characters with spaces' is less than 5000).

### What Should I Include?

**Paragraph 1: Introduction** - This should be a couple of sentences saying where you are studying now and what you are applying to study. You can expand on them later. You don't need to mention your predicted grades as these appear elsewhere in your application. Explain what you would like to study, and why. Be passionate and enthusiastic! Talk about what inspires you and your possible future plan.

**Paragraph 2: Involvement in School Life** - Give some examples of what else you do other than your subjects – what do you enjoy doing? Think carefully about what it says about you, in relation to your personality and what you want to study. This can help you decide what to mention and what isn't relevant.

- Do you have responsibilities in school?
- Are you involved with sports, music or drama?
- You could mention something you'd like to get involved with in college.

**Paragraph 3: Outside of School** - This is your opportunity to show that you are a well-rounded individual. For each of these activities, you must explain what it has taught you. For example:

- Voluntary work or charity fundraising
- If you've had a job, provide details about the role
- Involvement in sports clubs/arts/other groups
- Hobbies/Interests – baking, swimming, gaming etc.

**Paragraph 4: Personal Qualities** - Consider what you are like as a person. Talk about your strengths. Be positive about yourself!

**Paragraph 5: Conclusion.** Say you're looking forward to studying your chosen post-16 path. You want to leave the person reading your statement thinking that you are someone they'd love to have at their college.

It is vital that you proof-read your personal statement carefully. Proof read your work and check your:

- capital letters
- full stops
- commas

- apostrophes
- use paragraphs!

Send any drafts to Miss Orrell ([sorrell@roundhill.bepschools.org](mailto:sorrell@roundhill.bepschools.org))

Remember, if you are applying for Bradgate Sixth Form – you **do not** need to write a personal statement! You apply on their website.

**Vocabulary ideas:**

Resilient  
Approachable  
Dedicated  
Hard-working  
Committed  
Motivated  
Responsible  
Mature  
Enthusiastic  
Independent  
Friendly  
Team player

**Some sentence starters:**

I am currently.... and I am excited to...

In school, I particularly enjoy .....because .....

Outside of school, I enjoy ....

In particular, I am proud of ...

I am a hard-working, motivated....

After my GCSEs, I would like to ....

In the future, I would like to be...