



Guidelines on Personal Statement for Scholarships and Exhibitions

Your personal statement is your chance to tell us at Old Palace of John Whitgift School why we should welcome you as a scholar or an exhibitor in our Sixth Form. We want to know why you are interested in the AS courses that you wish to study and what you hope to do after your studies. A good personal statement is important - it could help to persuade us to invite you for the second round of the selection process: the interview.

You should carefully consider the information you give and the best way to present it effectively. It is essential that you should present an honest and accurate picture of yourself as your personal statement will be discussed at the formal interview. It is up to you how you write your statement, but we suggest you include some or all of the following points:

- Why you have chosen the AS courses you have listed.
- What interests you about your chosen subjects. Include details of what you have read about the subjects, how you have furthered your knowledge.
- What A2 subjects you are intending to study.
- Any job, work experience, placement or voluntary work you have done, particularly if it is relevant to your subject(s). You may want to include the skills and experience you have gained from these activities.
- Any involvement in widening participation schemes such as summer schools or mentoring activities.
- Involvement in master classes or other Gifted and Talented programmes, including those offered by the Young, Gifted & Talented Learner Academy, which launched in September 2007 (www.ygt.dcsf.gov.uk).
- Details of any accreditation received for extra-curricular activities.
- Details of non-accredited skills and achievement that you have gained through activities, clubs outside the school context.
- Any subjects you are studying that do not have a formal assessment.
- Any sponsorship or placements you hold or for which you have applied.
- Your social, sports or leisure interests.
- Have you held a position of authority or used your communication skills in any activity?
- Your future plans

If you are an international student, also try to answer these questions:

- Why do you want to study in the UK?
- What evidence do you have to show that you would be able to complete an A Level course that is taught in English? Please say if some of your studies have been assessed in English.
- Have you held a position of authority or used your communication skills in any activity?

How to provide your personal statement

Please type your personal statement (font 12), which should not exceed an A4 page.