

Writing a Personal Statement for your UCAS Teacher Training application

When you submit your application via the UCAS Teacher Training portal, you will need to write a personal statement. The personal statement is your chance to inform your chosen training providers about your qualities, skills and knowledge, and why you want to become a teacher. A well written personal statement should convey your enthusiasm for teaching and highlight your strengths.

The key points you need to cover are:

- the reasons you want to teach and why you will enjoy teaching your chosen subject and/or age group
- your knowledge of the challenges and rewards of a career in teaching
- how your previous studies relate to your chosen subject and/or age group
- what personal qualities you have that will make you a successful teacher, for example excellent communicator, organised, creative, ability to manage people and leadership skills
- your classroom experience – what did you do and what did you learn from the experience and how has this influenced your application. You need to reflect on your experience rather than just describe your classroom experience. For example, instead of:

‘I helped deliver a lesson on water in our communities and worked with some pupils who were struggling with their maths’, you could write:

‘By actively participating in teaching a lesson on water use in our communities I’ve understood the importance of preparing a range of tasks to cover diverse learning needs, so all pupils are able to engage effectively’

- any other experience working with young people such as working at a summer holiday camp, running a sports team or helping out at a youth club

You can write up to 47 lines of text in your personal statement

- Write in English or Welsh (if applying to Welsh providers)
- Avoid italics, bold or underlining
- Check your grammar and punctuation
- Draft your personal statement in Word first and then, when you are happy with it, copy and paste it in to your application – you are welcome to submit a draft version of your statement to the Careers Service and we will be happy to provide you with feedback and suggestions

Your personal statement should be all your own work. **DO NOT COPY** anyone else’s personal statement. UCAS Teacher Training will screen your personal statement to detect similarity. If your statement is flagged up it could cause serious consequences for your application.