

UCAS application support resources

We have had a look for helpful resources already out there to support students through their UCAS applications, particularly the personal statement. We've included links to some generic resources that will be helpful no matter the course, and some more subject-specific ones for particularly popular and competitive courses. We hope you find it useful. Please email our Linking London Outreach Hub officers ([Jess and Melanie](#)) if you have any questions or feedback.

Personal Statements (applicable to all subject areas)	
UCAS now has the old Which? Personal Statement articles which offer tips from admissions tutors:	https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/writing-personal-statement
This worksheet can be helpful to get ideas of what to write:	https://www.ucas.com/sites/default/files/ucas-personal-statement-worksheet.pdf
This tool is also helpful as a starting point:	https://www.ucasdigital.com/widgets/personalstatement/index.html#/splash
This is a useful pack with tips and space to write ideas:	https://www.intra.mdx.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0038/568964/Interactive-Personal-Statement-booklet.pdf

Work experience (applicable to all subject areas)	
This article is about applying for medicine, but a lot of the tips are applicable to any subject area:	https://www.themedicportal.com/blog/personal-statement-5-tips-writing-about-work-experience
One of the unfortunate side effects of COVID-19 is that it may be much harder to get work/voluntary experience in a 'relevant' field. However, more "generic" experience, like working in a supermarket, can still be important if you write and talk about it in a way that relates it back to the course you want to study. Same goes for 'un-official' work – like taking on a bigger role in supporting your family or helping out your neighbours.	

Interviews (applicable to all subject areas, although rarely used outside of health, education, and art & design disciplines)	
An overview of key things to remember for university interviews, and specifies the main subject areas that interview and links to more subject-specific guidance:	https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/student-advice/applying-to-uni/university-interviews
Advice for virtual interviews:	https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/student-advice/applying-to-uni/virtual-interviews
General advice from Prospects and some example questions:	https://www.prospects.ac.uk/applying-for-university/getting-into-university/preparing-for-a-university-interview

Medicine (a lot of these links will also be relevant for Dentistry and other allied health professions)	
Entry requirements for all UK medical schools:	https://www.medschools.ac.uk/media/2701/msc-entry-requirements-for-uk-medical-schools-2021.pdf

Entry requirement comparison tool:	https://www.medschools.ac.uk/studying-medicine/applications/entry-requirements
Work experience during COVID-19:	https://www.medschools.ac.uk/media/2717/a-guide-for-gaining-relevant-experience-during-the-pandemic.pdf
Application process (incl. advice on personal statements and references):	https://www.medschools.ac.uk/media/2355/msc-journey-to-medicine-ucas-application.pdf
Advice on admissions tests and interviews:	https://www.medschools.ac.uk/media/2632/msc-journey-to-medicine-admission-process.pdf
These, and more resources, can be found here:	https://www.medschools.ac.uk/studying-medicine/applications/resources-for-students-and-teachers
The Dental Schools Council has a few good pointers about applying for Dentistry:	https://www.dentalschoolscouncil.ac.uk/studying-dentistry/making-an-application/

Nursing

It's worth reading through UCAS' subject guide on Nursing:	https://www.ucas.com/explore/subjects/nursing
This article from the University of Cumbria has some good suggestions of what to include in your personal statement for Nursing:	https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/blog/articles/how-to-write-a-good-nursing-personal-statement-for-university.php
So does this article from the University of South Wales:	https://www.southwales.ac.uk/courses/bsc-hons-nursing-child-health/1734/how-to-write-a-personal-statement-for-nursing-and-midwifery/

Interview advice for medicine and similar subjects

This article has 200 example MMI questions:	https://bemoacademicconsulting.com/blog/sample-mmi-practice-questions
The Medic Portal has lots of helpful resources, including this page on MMIs:	https://www.themedicportal.com/application-guide/medical-school-interview/mmi-interviews/
This presentation from 2018 by KCL has some helpful information and example exercises for MMIs and healthcare course interviews more generally. This is aimed at staff:	https://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/assets/pdf/schools-liaison/multiple-mini-interviews-teachers.pdf

Law

Advice on writing your personal statement for Law:	https://www.thelawyerportal.com/free-guides/law-personal-statement/
A few do's and don't for the personal statement:	https://www.thelawyerportal.com/blog/law-personal-statement-tips-dos-donts/
More advice on the personal statement:	https://www.allaboutlaw.co.uk/stage/law-personal-statement/how-to-write-a-law-personal-statement
Advice on how to prepare for the LNAT:	https://lnat.ac.uk/how-to-prepare/

Psychology

The University of South Wales has some helpful advice on writing a personal statement for Psychology:	https://www.southwales.ac.uk/courses/bsc-hons-psychology/1032/how-to-write-a-personal-statement-for-psychology/
The Student Room has some helpful tips for a Psychology personal statement:	https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/university/personal-statements/psychology/writing-a-psychology-personal-statement

Engineering

Prospects have some good advice for getting into the field of Civil Engineering:	https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors/engineering-and-manufacturing/7-tips-for-getting-into-civil-engineering
This article offers some advice on writing your personal statement for a variety of Engineering courses:	https://targetcareers.co.uk/uni/applying-for-uni/386276-tips-for-writing-your-engineering-personal-statement

Social Work

This page from the University of Sussex has some advice on applying for Social Work:	https://www.sussex.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/apply/apply-social-work
This page from the University of Sussex has some advice on the interview process for Social Work courses:	https://www.sussex.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/apply/apply-social-work/preparing-for-social-work-interview
This page from the University of South Wales has some advice on applying for Social Work:	https://www.southwales.ac.uk/study/subjects/social-work-social-care/making-your-application-study-social-work/

Art & Design

Advice on the different aspects of applying (including the personal statement, portfolio, and interview):	https://www.tate.org.uk/art/student-resource/applying-art-school
UAL's portfolio advice:	https://www.arts.ac.uk/study-at-ual/apply/portfolio-advice
Ravensbourne's guide to personal statements:	https://s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/ravensbourne.ac.uk-assets-prod/2020-06/ravensbourne-guide-to-writing-personal-statement.pdf
Ravensbourne's guide to portfolios:	https://s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/ravensbourne.ac.uk-assets-prod/2020-06/getting-your-portfolio-ready-for-ravensbourne-interview.pdf

Computer Science

Advice on personal statements:	http://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/how_to_apply/personal_statement.html
More advice on personal statements:	https://www.swansea.ac.uk/compsci/undergraduate/personal-statement/

Advancing Access (an organisation comprising 24 Russell Group universities) have this excellent booklet to support staff to support your students apply to university. This booklet covers lots of different elements of the application process and links to other more detailed Advancing Access resources. You will need to register for a (free) account to access the resources, but we think it's really worth it, particularly if you are advising students who are thinking about applying to higher tariff universities.

https://www.advancingaccess.ac.uk/pdfs/full?file=%2Fuploads%2Ffileupload%2Ffile_upload%2F78%2FAA_S2_Booklet_How_do_I_help_my_students_apply_to_university.pdf