

## Writing a Personal Statement

Many colleges ask for a Personal Statement to accompany an application form. The purpose of completing this is for the student to provide the college with an outline of their interests, achievements and future plans. If a course is popular and there are too many applicants a well written personal statement can influence an interviewer even before you attend the interview.

### WHAT SHOULD BE INCLUDED ON A PERSONAL STATEMENT?

- A brief background about yourself.
- What you've achieved so far – what things you are most proud of.
- Remember to comment on activities in school and out of school
- What you've gained from the things you've done, including knowledge, key skills and personal qualities.
- The challenges you've faced recently and what you've learnt from them.
- Your hopes and plans for the future.
- Why you are interested in the course(s) you are applying for.

### Task today:

Encourage pupils to complete a mind-map of the above details to prepare them for writing their Personal Statement.

They should then start to draft a rough copy.

In their own time they will need to complete a copy using ICT especially if they are applying online for courses. Most colleges expect a Personal Statement to be sent with their application form.

A blank template to write this on can be copied and saved to your user area from: R Drive – PERSONAL STATEMENT YEAR 11. A Powerpoint presentation in the same folder also includes examples of Personal Statements and other useful tips. (if you would like to show this to the pupils please feel free)

If they do not complete it today you should spend time completing it over the next few weeks ready to go with their college application forms.



### **PERSONAL STATEMENT**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_ **FORM** \_\_\_\_\_