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## **Personal Statements – Biomedical Science**

Throughout my school years, I have thoroughly enjoyed studying science; therefore it is an ambition of mine to study biomedical sciences at university. I feel that it will be a great opportunity to broaden my knowledge and understanding of this discipline. The practical side of biomedicine is above all what interests me the most, so therefore working in a laboratory is very appealing to me. I also attended a NHS careers convention, which I found very useful as it opened my mind to the different job opportunities that in the future I could pursue after studying biomedical science at university. In addition to this, the convention educated me about what the course consists of but most importantly, it confirmed my decision to study biomedical science.

I chose to study Psychology and English literature as well as Biology and Chemistry because I feel that it would help me gain skills that are useful when studying at a higher level at university. Psychology, which is more of a social science, helped me understand and explain some aspects of human behaviour. I also believe that English literature has made me become a more articulate person and I have been able to better myself in terms of my writing skills. I consider myself to be a hardworking student who works best under pressure to meet deadlines, this was recognised by my teachers as I was awarded a "Diploma of achievement" in my AS year and was awarded for excellent attendance as well. I am fully committed to achieving the best possible outcome in terms of my A-level grades and other non-academic achievements.

I feel that I am an active member of the school, in class I engage myself in discussions. In particular, I enjoy debating about the ethical issues that arise from new scientific research and the problems that occur within our healthcare system. For example, a controversial issue is genetics and the implications of the genetic data. I see myself as a well informed person who is aware of a variety of global issues. In my spare time I enjoy reading both science and A-level science related magazines such as "the new scientist," which I find useful and educational. I am a sociable person and like meeting new people. I often help on annual school open evenings and welcome new prospective students to my school. I have been trained as a mentor and like to offer support to other students in the lower years who need some guidance. Moreover, I feel that being trained as a mentor has given me an insight into the importance of skills like empathy and communication with others.

For my work experience, I completed a short-term placement in a pharmacy. This experience educated more about the pharmaceutical side of medicine and science in general. I learnt of the various processes that occur and I was very interested in the making of these drugs especially the chemistry behind it. I look forward to doing some volunteer work during the summer after my A-levels but most importantly, I intend to complete some work experience in a Pathology unit.

Finally, my goal in going to university is to gain more knowledge about a discipline, which I consider to be fascinating and also to develop more as a person and to become more independent. I am committed to achieving this goal, I have the right attitude that is needed of a university student, and I am enthusiastic and eager to learn so therefore I believe that I am a suitable candidate to study biomedical science at university.

(3474 characters)

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## **Personal Statements – Geography**

I wish to undertake a degree in geography as I have a deep interest in the subject. It is my intent to pursue a career in this field. Having been on a geography university taster day, this has reinforced that this is the right course for me. From a young age I have had a personal interest in physical geography, visiting many geographically interesting areas with my family. I enjoy doing practical fieldwork and collecting data first hand, analysing data and drawing conclusions. As part of my studies, I have been on a number of residential fieldtrips including visits to South Wales, the Isle of Wight and Dartmoor. I think geography has a lot to offer me and will help me prepare for the real world both personally and professionally.

I am studying towards A levels in Geography, Physics, Maths and an AS in Philosophy. I achieved a B grade for AS chemistry. These have provided me with a sound scientific basis, techniques for learning and an ability to think laterally. I have represented my school at basketball and football. I went on a successful football tour to Holland. Within school I have raced for my schoolhouse at sports day and at swimming events. I have enjoyed going on many school visits which I feel have given me many new experiences and skills. I am now looking forward to a school skiing trip next Easter (my first time skiing).

While at Greenshaw High School my consistent hard work across my subjects has been recognised through receiving a diploma of achievement each year. In year 11 I received the key stage 4 award for geography due to my specific interest, achievement and commitment in the subject. I was also awarded the key stage 3 award for mathematics. I have been an active member of the schools gifted and talented program taking part in many activities. I have been accepted as a member of NAGTY (National Association of Gifted and Talented Youth).

For several years I have volunteered to help at a summer school, aimed at both high and low achievers in younger years of my school. I have helped to organise and run a range of activities being responsible for small groups. Initially this was a new experience for me, but I developed skills such as organisation, time management, personal relationships and now enjoy it. Last summer I mentored at a new summer school aimed at welcoming newcomers to the school. As a work experience placement I spent two weeks at an environmental testing laboratory at Pira International. During my time at this placement I conducted several tests upon packaging materials, temperature and humidity mapped several rooms, and prepared for client visits. Whilst at the company they received a visit from the financial director; I took an active role in a presentation to him.

I have worked in a variety of retail based part time positions, and am currently working at Halfords. I believe these have provided me with a business basis and many new skills developing on existing abilities. Through these positions I have met many new people and dealt with customers, broadening my people skills. Outside of school I actively enjoy a wide variety of hobbies. I attend a martial arts class twice a week, recently achieving an orange belt. I often go mountain biking in the local area and on longer rides. During the summer I enjoy windsurfing and am hoping to take my Level 2 qualification. I have danced for a nationally recognised Morris side the East Surrey Morris men. I enjoy generally socialising with friends (both in and out of school) and have a keen interest in pool.

By going to university I aim to achieve a firm basis of knowledge which I can apply to a future career. I hope to meet many new people and build lasting friendships. Geography is a subject for which I have a deep passion! I believe this passion, my natural work ethic and determination will allow me to succeed within this course. (3878 characters)

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