

Teacher Guide - Writing Personal Statements on KentChoices

The screenshot shows the KentChoices website interface for writing a personal statement. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Opportunities', 'Resources', 'Events', and 'Frequently Asked Questions'. Below this, the main heading is 'Personal statement' with a sub-heading 'Your chance to describe your ambitions, skills, and experience.' A large text box contains a question mark icon. To the right, a 'At a glance...' section shows a progress list with green checkmarks for 'Personal Details', 'Address', 'Health', 'Parental Information', 'Work Experience', 'Qualifications', 'Personal statement', and 'Equality and Diversity'. At the bottom of the text box, it says 'You have 4990 characters remaining' and has 'Save and continue' and 'Cancel' buttons.

 [Watch a short video here](#) 

To make an application to a sixth form or college on KentChoices learners will be required to write a **personal statement**.

What is a personal statement?

- It's a summary all about them
- It's a chance to showcase their personality (rather than just their academic abilities)

Why is it good to write one?

- It's their chance to make a great first impression!
- It can strengthen their application(s)
- Helps the school or college make a better decision about their application

Other reasons ...

- It gets them thinking about what they are good at
- Helps them identify their strengths and skills
- It can support them with their career choices
- It's good practice for the future as most universities, apprenticeships or jobs require one

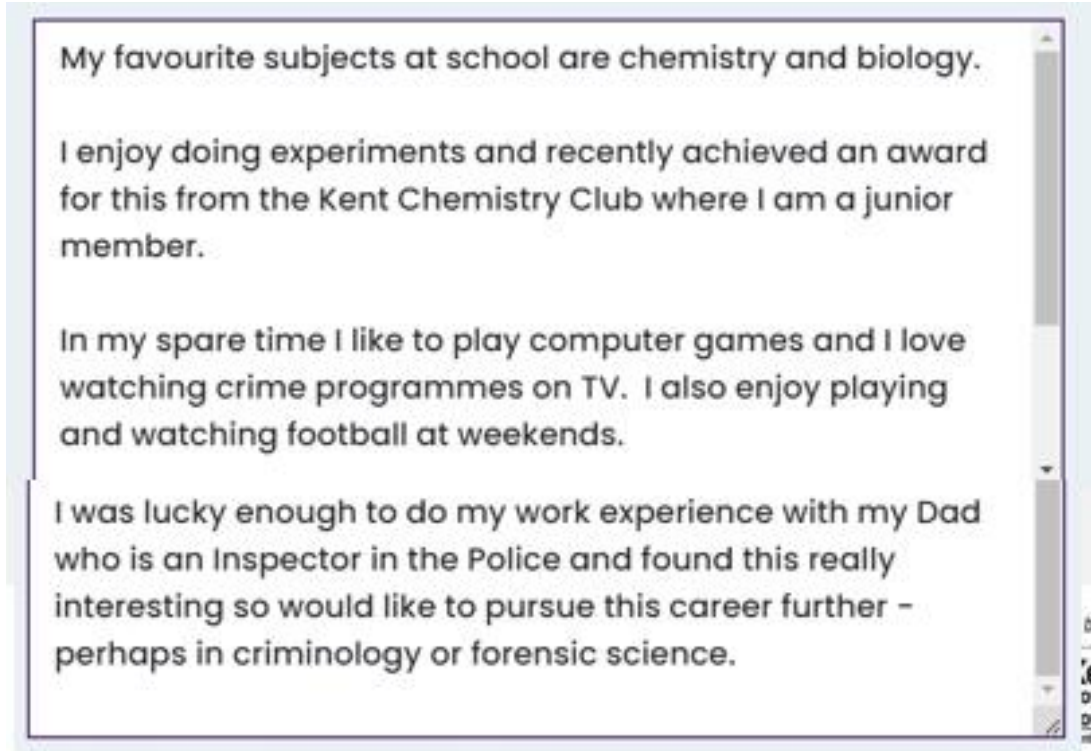
What should they write about?

- ✓ Their career aspirations or people that inspire them
- ✓ Their favourite subjects at school
- ✓ Their interests or hobbies
- ✓ What they're most proud of

KENT CHOICES

How long should it be?

- Min 10 / Maximum 5,000 characters
- No need to write too much
- Here is an example (approx. 550)



My favourite subjects at school are chemistry and biology.

I enjoy doing experiments and recently achieved an award for this from the Kent Chemistry Club where I am a junior member.

In my spare time I like to play computer games and I love watching crime programmes on TV. I also enjoy playing and watching football at weekends.

I was lucky enough to do my work experience with my Dad who is an Inspector in the Police and found this really interesting so would like to pursue this career further - perhaps in criminology or forensic science.



IMPORTANT

- It will be attached to **all** applications they make
- They **cannot** tailor to individual schools/colleges
- Use the '**Why are you applying**' section in the application form for this

Top Tips

- Get a parent/teacher to check their statement (but don't get them to write it!)
- Check for spelling and grammar mistakes
- Jot down first on paper or a word document before adding to KentChoices
- Don't write anything negative!
- Be honest

Need some inspiration?

- [Take the Buzz Quiz to find jobs or careers that may be a good match](#)
- [UCAS – Tips on writing personal statements for college or sixth form](#)
- [National Careers Service – Discover your skills and careers](#)