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Take Your Place is the programme which is being run by neaco in schools and colleges in East Anglia. Information about how your personal information will be used by us in connection with the administration of the Take Your Place programme, and for related purposes, is available at <https://www.takeyourplace.ac.uk/how-we-use-participant-data>.

We will also get in touch by email to facilitate your involvement in the Take Your Place programme. Please contact [info@takeyourplace.ac.uk](mailto:info@takeyourplace.ac.uk) if you have any questions about how we use your data.

Explore your options,  
Discover your potential

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PLACE**

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Explore your options,  
Discover your potential

Preparing for an Education,  
Teaching or Childcare  
Course Application

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# How can we help?

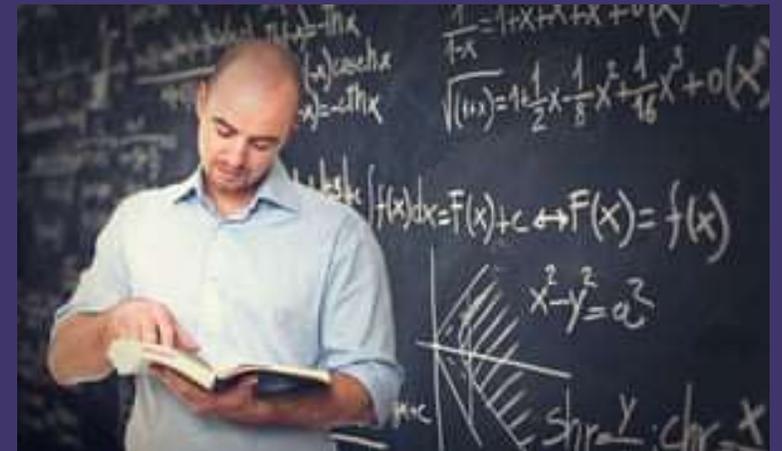
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- This PowerPoint is here to provide you with different ideas to help and support you with writing a Personal Statement for either an Education, Teaching or Childcare Course.
- We have put together reading lists, preparation ideas and top tips for the application process for one of these courses at a University. Sometimes these courses are combined for example: Education and Childcare BA (hons)

# Where do I start?!

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- Lets start with some reading. We recommend using this time to do some further reading on your chosen subject, as it is important that your personal statement contains an academic paragraph.



# An Academic Paragraph

Having an academic paragraph in your personal statement is really important and we suggest using the following reading lists to help. You can use this paragraph to analyse a small piece of text from a relevant book/journal, article or performance.

# Reading Suggestions

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## Education:

- Child development: theory and practice 0-11 - Jonathan Doherty, Malcolm Hughes, 2014
- Visible learning for teachers: maximizing impact on learning - John Hattie, c2012
- Effective teaching in schools: theory and practice - Chris Kyriacou, 2009
- Readings for reflective teaching in schools - Andrew Pollard, MyiLibrary, c2014
- A beginning teacher's guide to special educational needs [electronic resource] / Janice Wearmouth.
- Classroom behaviour: a practical guide to effective teaching, behaviour management and colleague support - Bill Rogers, 2015

# Reading Suggestions

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## Teaching (primary):

- Learning to teach in the primary school - Teresa Cremin, Cathy Burnett, 2018
- Beginning teaching, beginning learning: in early years and primary education - Janet R. Moyles, Jan Georgeson, Jane Payler, 2017
- Readings for reflective teaching in schools - Andrew Pollard, MyiLibrary, c2014
- Behaviour for learning in the primary school - Kate Adams, 2009

# Reading Suggestions

## Childcare and Early Years:

- Early Childhood Education by Bruce, Tina
- Starting from the Child by Julie Fisher
- Early Years Education and Care Today by Susan Hay (Editor)
- The Early Years Foundation Stage by Ioanna Palaiologou (Editor)
- Child Observation for the Early Years by Ioanna Palaiologou
- The Role of the Adult in Early Years Settings by Janet Rose; Sue Rogers
- Mary Sheridan's from Birth to Five Years by Ajay Sharma; Helen Cockerill
- The New Early Years Foundation Stage by Pat Beckley
- Observing Young Children by Tina Bruce; Stella Louis; Georgie McCall
- Good Practice in the Early Years by S. Kay; Janet Kay (Editor)
- Influencing Early Childhood Education by Linda Pound

# What else can I talk about?

- You can also write about a particular documentary or a piece of visual research you have viewed in your personal statement, just make sure it has been conducted by a professional or is from a reputable website.
- YouTube clips/DVDs of professional research can also be used for analysis in your personal statement. Checking with your teacher to make sure it is a genuine piece of research is a good idea.



Below is a list of Education related talks from TED Talks online:

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[Angela Lee Duckworth: The Key To Success?](#)

[Astro Teller: The Unexpected Benefit of Embracing Failure](#)

[Rita Pierson: Every Kid Needs a Champion](#)

[Salman Khan: Let's Use Video to Reinvent Education](#) [Salman Khan](#)

[Ramsey Musallam: 3 Rules to Spark Learning](#)

[Reshma Saujani: Teach Girls Bravery, Not Perfection](#)

[Carol Dweck: The Power of Believing That You Can Improve](#)

[Bill Gates: Teachers need real feedback](#)

[Christopher Emdin: Teach Teachers How to Create Magic](#)

These would be great to mention in a personal statement!

# Work Experience

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- Being able to gain some relevant volunteering experience is a fantastic way to show your passion and experience in childcare. Being able to reflect on what you have learnt and how you want to progress in the future is great to add in your personal statement.



Volunteering at local schools/childcare providers can help support your personal statement. Schools often look for students to assist with reading and playground support

# Top Tips!

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**Include genuine and realistic reasons for wanting to teach:** It goes without saying that in a personal statement you'll need to outline your reasons for wanting to teach, but it's important that these reasons are compelling. Applicants regularly reel out clichés, for example "I want to give back to society" or "I want to help children." These may be true but what is it exactly you want to give back to society and how does teaching help children? The reasons you give need to be developed and realistic

**If you've got experience of working with children in other capacities include the details:** Perhaps you spent a summer as a mentor at a Camp America or ran a local youth sports team; it's all relevant so get it down on your personal statement. Try to state how the experience will help your career in teaching. If nothing else, working with children will have developed your rapport with them.

**Draw on other professional experiences and say how they're relevant:** Teaching isn't all about conveying information there's a whole host of other skills coming into play here. You might have experience of managing people, working within a team, communicating across departments. This is all relevant, so include it – but don't forget to say how these skills will help you succeed as a teacher

# Organising Your Statement - 4 Paragraph Method

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1.	<b>Your reasons for wanting to study the course – future career, skills to develop, etc.</b>
2.	<b>Independent research/topic of interest – theories/techniques/analysis of own work.</b>
3.	<b>Course-related activities: writing you have done, other relevant skills developed.</b>
4.	<b>Extra-curricular activities – pick ones that relate most to the course, show your skills.</b>

# What can I do with an Education/childcare Degree?

Community education officer  
Early years teacher  
Education administrator  
Education consultant  
English as a foreign language teacher  
Further education teacher  
Learning mentor  
Primary school teacher  
Secondary school teacher  
Special educational needs coordinator (SENCO)  
Special educational needs teacher  
Teaching assistant



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# Having an Education/Childcare degree can also be useful for these jobs..

Careers adviser

Child psychotherapist

Counsellor

Family support worker

Health play specialist

Museum education

officer

Play therapist

Private tutor

Youth worker



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# My HE+

Thinking about applying to University and looking for ways to explore your subject beyond the curriculum? Then this website is for you. Each topic is produced by Cambridge postgraduate students and academics at the cutting edge of research in their field. The topics provide guided activities, questions to think about and suggestions for further reading.



The main subject pages also give you a quick guide to what it would be like to study the subject at university level and suggest some further resources to check out.

<https://www.myheplus.com/>

# Online Courses

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FutureLearn - Explore online courses to continue studying, build professional skills and connect with experts. Useful examples include:

- How to Succeed at: Writing Applications
- How to Succeed at: Interviews



OpenLearn - Open University? – These courses have been designed to increase confidence and develop the skills needed to enter Higher Education and succeed with learning.



- The courses are free and they do not have a start and end date. You can start right away or at a time that suits you.
- You can work through at your own pace
- You can spend as long as you like on an OpenLearn course, plus, if you sign up you can track your progress and work towards a statement of participation.
- There are around 1000 courses to choose from -

# Personal Advice from those who made it!



***Imogen Goult studied  
Special Educational Needs  
and Inclusion at The  
University of Northampton***

“What A levels/BTEC did you do?

A Level art and design, sports studies and media studies.

Where did you go to school/college?

Cromwell Community College Sixth Form

What degree are you/did you study?

I studied a BA (Hons) in Special Educational Needs and Inclusion.

What advice would you give your year 12 self if you were faced with potentially 6 months without school? (In terms of preparing for the future and in particular Uni)

Keep preparing and keep looking forward, focus on what you enjoy and what areas you may need to improve in terms of your chosen subjects and what you will be studying at university. The time will come where you will need the knowledge you've acquired, so keep it in mind!

# Find Us Online:



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