

PERSONAL STATEMENT INFORMATION GUIDE

Before submitting the online application all applicants will be asked to add a personal statement.

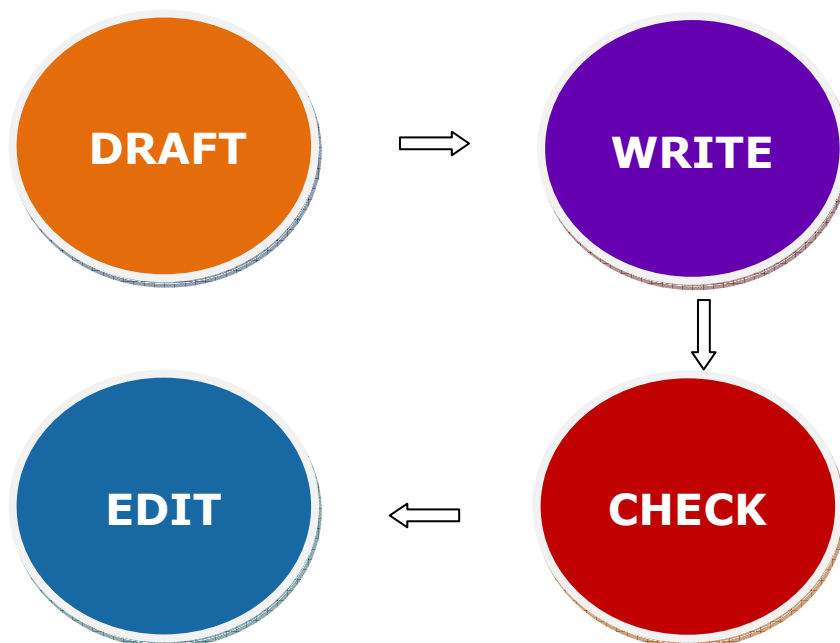
This requires you to respond to the following two-part question in no more than 500 words:

Part 1: Describe your personal motivations for wanting to become a teacher

Part 2: Describe how your skills, knowledge and experience will support you in becoming an outstanding teacher.

It is your opportunity to explain why you should be offered a place on the programme and is a key part of the application process. Therefore in addition to reviewing this guide we recommend that you research the programme thoroughly, and speak to your CTP Career Consultant about the sort of information you could include, before you start to write your statement.

You should approach writing your personal statement in 4 stages:



Draft:

Draft your personal statement on a word document first:

1. Use spell checker, but don't rely on it! – It may choose the wrong word.
2. Check your grammar, punctuation and sentence structure – This is your chance to demonstrate your use of the English Language.
3. Use relevant language – They won't understand military jargon, so don't use it!
4. Ensure you stick to the word count.
5. Use your draft to structure what you are going to write.
6. Express your enthusiasm!

Write:

Part 1

This should include why you want to teach. You may wish to include reference to your values, and what you would bring to those you teach / the teaching profession. You may want to relate this to any relevant work experience you have. You could include why you want to teach a particular age group/Key Stage, and/or subject if you have stated preferences for these in your application.

"I have always had a passion for teaching, and have enjoyed the experience of helping others learn and develop whilst teaching English to Military Personnel the past."

"I would like to transfer my skills and experiences to help engage KS3/KS4 pupils to embrace this subject, which I believe lays the foundations for learning in all other areas of the curriculum and beyond."

"I would like to emphasise my enthusiasm to enter into a teaching career, specifically in Primary Education. My ambition is to eventually become a head of Key Stage, with my long term ambition to progress to deputy head teacher, or beyond."

***It is essential that you use your own words and do not cut and paste from this guide!**



Part 2

This should provide evidence of your transferable skills. Give specific examples where you can to demonstrate: Communication; Insight; Commitment; Planning; Working in a team; Behaviour Management; Mentoring/Teaching/ Instructing in a variety of locations (classroom/ ranges/field/on the job training); Diversity (instructing local foreign nationals, etc).

Also include additional 'desirable' values; skills and experiences which may be relevant: sport coaching; music; languages etc.

"Whilst instructing new recruits, I regularly had to create, short, medium and long term planning, then deliver the programme to personnel in a variety of venues, including classroom based learning, outdoor experiential learning and 1:1 additional support"

"Whilst on school placement, I was given responsibility to teach a group of children with Special Educational Needs, which required me to differentiate the lesson, to ensure all learning styles were catered for, allowing the children to reach their potential"

"I have worked as a member of a team during my time in the Armed Forces, regularly having to adapt to different situations and environments, including teaching personnel from different cultural backgrounds with little or no grasp of the English Language".

"I have been described as an outstanding leader, and have demonstrated passion, dedication and an empathetic approach to others. I am calm under pressure and have extensive life skills which will enhance my performance as an outstanding teacher"

***It is essential that you use your own words and do not cut and paste from this guide!**

Check:

Review your application. Read and re-read. Use your Career Consultant to review it with you.



Edit:

Now review your application using the 'traffic light' tick off list below and ensure you provide essential, desirable and added value evidence, where appropriate.

CHECK LIST	Essential Red	Desirable Amber	Added Value Green
Have I checked for spelling mistakes; grammar and punctuation errors?			
Have I checked the word count?			
Have I ensured that all military jargon has been removed, where possible?			
Have I outlined why I have the motivation to become a teacher?			
Have I outlined which key stage I wish to teach in, and given reasons why?			
Have I outlined which subjects I wish to teach?			
Have I given examples of previous teaching experience?			
Have I used specific examples to demonstrate skills & knowledge in: planning; communication; commitment; insight; team working; diversity; behaviour management?			
Have I written an enthusiastic final paragraph which demonstrates, and emphasises why I should be accepted onto the Troops to Teachers Non Graduate Programme as an outstanding teacher?			
Have I given any evidence of extra curriculum activities			
Have I given any evidence of skills or attributes which would enhance my application			
Have I offered additional added value evidence which will demonstrate my suitability as an outstanding teacher			

External Links for further research:

- www.gttr.ac.uk
- www.education.gov.uk

Once you have completed your application form, a member of the Troops to Teachers Team will be in touch.

Good Luck!

