

Nursing Personal statement:

You must have an awareness of the scope of nursing including community settings, clinical decision making and the importance of service improvement. Use recent news/anecdotes to support this aspect.

It is important to show an awareness /understanding of the skills and personal qualities expected in Nursing. Remember the C's: Care, Compassion and Communication.

There are also factors such as medicine management, infection control and the organisational aspects of care. These aspects should be discussed in your personal statement.

Important aspects to consider:

Research the role fully. You have a chance to showcase your knowledge gained from any work or reading from recent developments/news in the field.

What generated your interest? What is your rationale (reason) for choosing *this* course?

Be very clear on your chosen route. Adult/Child/Mental Health. If there is any confusion on your chosen pathway you will struggle to secure an interview.

Demonstrate a commitment to CPD (Continuous Professional Development)

If you have any anatomy and physiology awareness, demonstrate it

What have you got to offer the uni and the profession? (This can include transferable skills and how they are relevant)

Remember not to include *too many* personal anecdotes / experiences. There needs to be a balance of personal and professional content

You may want to mention timekeeping, essay writing, submitting essays, project work ability from your course/employment and how this will assist you in becoming a suitable student Nurse

Show clear aims and objectives and possible progression ideas. Be clear on this - especially at interview! Where would you like to be in 5 years' time is a good question to ask yourself.

Mention if you have attended any open days / masterclasses etc.

Think about how you might stand out from the crowd without being too quirky – grab admission tutors attention and, if possible, be innovative

Think about what you have to offer the profession that is unique to you

Fully demonstrate valid knowledge of your chosen profession and the demands of nursing. This can include managing study/physical/emotional demands of role and practice placements, enthusiasm for nursing/becoming a nurse.

You will be rejected if there is lack of effort, poor presentation of statement – spellcheck etc.

Interview:

Good verbal communication is key. What you want to do, why you want to do it? Throughout the interview you should be demonstrating knowledge of your chosen profession and the demands of nursing (stated above).

Demonstrate good non-verbal communication via eye contact, relaxed approach (take coat off etc.) and wear professional clothes if possible, fully answering questions and asking questions too.

Your tutor/professional reference should...

Emphasise the student not the institution/workplace

State how long they have known you and in what capacity

Discuss your academic performance

Talk about your skills and how you perform in both group and self-directed study situations

Mention your overall aptitude & readiness for the course (focus, organisational ability, attendance, punctuality)

Your reference should have read your personal statement and have made comments about it where appropriate

They may personally recommend you

A good reference should be individualised as 'cut and paste' references don't help the institute make a decision