**APPLYING FOR SOCIAL WORK AT SHEFFIELD HALLAM: YOUR PERSONAL STATEMENT**

Your personal statement forms an important part of your UCAS application. It provides you with the opportunity to evidence the skills, knowledge, attributes and experiences you have gained so far and to relate these qualities to your chosen career. In addition, your personal statement is often the first stage of the Universities selection process, enabling academic staff to assess your potential and suitability to study social work. General information regarding your personal statement can be found at [Your Personal Statement](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/getting-started/when-apply/writing-ucas-undergraduate-personal-statement) , however, here is some guidance relating to completing your personal statement when applying to study social work at Sheffield Hallam University:

* Demonstrate some understanding of what social work is and that you are aware of the complex demanding nature of it. Include in your statement evidence of social work values and the legal and safeguarding aspects of social work practice.
* Reflect upon relevant work experiences, drawing out your own skills and knowledge and what you have learned about the experiences that service users have. Try not to list the types of work you have undertaken. This is your opportunity to relate your own experiences to social work practice and values.
* Evidence that you have done some reading and thinking about social work. Try to provide evidence that you are aware of current research and policy initiatives relating to social work. If possible provide examples of how these relate to your own experiences.
* Evidence the types of skills and qualities that make you a suitable candidate. This is your opportunity to demonstrate why you in particular should be selected for interview. Try to provide examples of the attributes you possess that will enable you to study at degree level and eventually become a skilled and effective social worker.
* Some colleges advise you to include interests/hobbies etc in your personal statement. These are not relevant: use the space for the above points. Try not to include quotes or passages from books in your statement, remember this application is about you! Grammar, spelling and ability to articulate are important. Ask someone who you know and trust to proof read your application.

Here is a useful link to help you with your application:

[Professional Capabilities Framework Social Work](https://www.basw.co.uk/pcf/)