

Careers Advice: Personal Statement Example 1

I am applying for a place to study a BTEC in social work because I have always wanted to be able to make a difference to people's lives. With social work I believe I can do this in a caring and supportive way.

I have gained some insight into mental health while caring for my grandma and the difficulties she faced on a daily basis while suffering with Alzheimer's disease this is one area I would like to gain more knowledge on.

Another family member suffered from drug and alcohol addiction and I witnessed the effects it had on his mental health and the effects drugs had on his family. These personal experiences instilled in me further the desire to become a social worker.

I have completed a counselling skills taster course and it gave me a keen interest in to therapeutic interventions. This taught me the importance of using empathy when working with people. A skill I'm very keen on developing. My course also taught me about different therapies available such as person centred therapies, cognitive behavioural therapies and how important counselling skills can be within the social work profession.

Along with my other GCSEs, I am currently completing a health and social care GCSE course where I have just successfully completed a presentation and timed exam on nature vs. nurture. This shows I am capable of researching and writing an essay to allocated deadlines and also demonstrates my interest in the subject and also my desire to continue on this career path. I found the subject nature vs. nurture very interesting as I came across a man called Baron Cohen and his research into Developmental Learning and Autism.

I have also recently started to volunteer at a care home for the elderly, befriending and reading to older people. I have found this greatly rewarding personally and feel it has helped to prepare me for further education. I have learnt how to communicate effectively, work within a team; use my own initiative and the ability to manage my time with work, study and family life.

Over the past few years I have learnt to set myself realistic goals and focus on achieving them one at a time. By doing this I have been successful in such aims as; passing my piano Grad III, completing Duke of Edinburgh Silver award, attending an extra-curricular textiles class and volunteering to support elderly people. The next step for me is applying to Dean Watsby 6th Form College to study Social Work. I chose Dean Watsby for their excellent teaching methods, college atmosphere and their varied course.

Once I qualify as a social worker I would like to work in a mental health setting and develop my counselling skills to help others.