

Personal statement

(Accounting and Finance)

My ardour for the financial sector not only lies in the fundamental mathematics, but also in the exploring the different effects that taking action on finances can have on the client as a whole. I am from a background in finance, where it is a natural topic of interest for me. My interest in the area has continually grown and developed, constantly gathering more knowledge from a range of sources. This took a further step when I took a week long work experience at Lloyds TSB offices in Birmingham, where I learnt a lot about the fast-paced and demanding, but exciting financial environment.

Whilst studying my GCSEs, I took advantage of a brilliant opportunity to take part in the Make Your Mark Enterprise challenge, in which my team had to devise an original business idea based on an eco-friendly theme. Our team did exceptionally well and reached the national final to present our idea in London. Throughout this project my team-working and presentation skills were developed and tested to the limit.

In August 2012, I participated in the University of Birmingham Academic Enrichment Programme. This involved me spending five days at the university, taking part in Business Studies master classes throughout the week. I also got a superb opportunity to spend time in KPMG and Deloitte offices, understanding more about the inspiring people who work for these prestigious companies. I thoroughly enjoyed this experience to simulate university life and it has further motivated me to strive for university.

I have also participated in several events that display my determination and desire to study Business, such as; an ICAEW competition at Coventry University, working in a team advising a business on the best option to organically expand and grow. In conjunction with my Business Studies work I am also preparing for the respectable Target Two Point Zero interest rate challenge that is run by The Bank of England, a competition that complements my interests. Furthermore I have recently begun privately tutoring an AS Level mathematics student after being recommended to the student by my maths teacher.

I feel I have chosen the best possible combination of A-Level subjects. I regard Mathematics as, not only my strongest subject, but also the one I enjoy the most. The main reason I believe this, is because I thoroughly enjoy problem solving. This I see as a big asset as I am not only good at it, but also take a genuine interest in it, a skill that I feel is essential in Business. Business Studies has been a natural and attractive choice ever since choosing my GCSEs, and is also another subject I take a real interest in and enjoy. From this subject I gain a lot of knowledge about all areas of a business, giving me in depth knowledge of not only business theory and terminology, but by using real case studies, it also develops analytical and problem solving skills. My third subject is Physics, as I find it truly fascinating and also feel it complements my study of mathematics, when the subjects often cover similar topics. This subject has greatly improved my research, data interpretation and critical thinking skills.

I am currently, proudly involved in our Sixth Form Prefect scheme where we rotate monitoring different areas of the school and also volunteer to help out at open evenings and school events. This role not only gives me responsibility, it also builds my team-working and management skills. I have also completed my Silver Duke of Edinburgh award, and am currently completing my Gold award. Additionally I take part in the Reading Partners scheme that runs at my school, where I help younger students to progress with their reading skills.

I feel I will gain tremendously from university life, not only for the excellent standard of education, but for the experiences and skills that come from university. I regularly hear of other's experiences from their time at university, and these never fail to push me on to ensure I can achieve these myself.