

## **2. Personal Statements Evidencing your skills gained**

... and writing about them!



# Aims of the Session

- o To revisit transferable life skills
- o To appreciate skills gained from **all subjects** studied - BTEC and A level
- o To be able to **evidence** these skills when writing personal statements



# Life skills

- We touched on **life skills you have gained** when we worked through My Future Plans
- **Where can you gain life skills?**



# Life Skills

- o Remember these can come from
- o **Life experiences** such as caring for siblings and family members (resilience, reliability and patience)
- o **Work experiences** either voluntary or paid (teamwork, communication, organisation)
- o **Sport, music, scouts and guides, drama, dance and many more..** (creativity, leadership, commitment, time management)



# Life skills

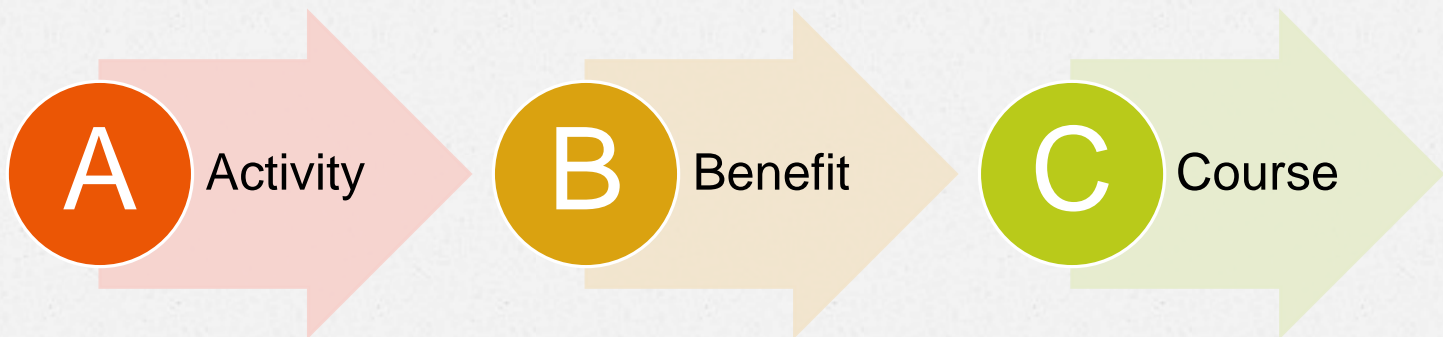
- o **2 minutes to pair and share**
- o **Talk to your neighbour** – can you identify one or two skills you have gained outside your studies that you can mention in your personal statement? Be prepared to share.



# Transferable Skills outside college

- o Don't just state facts, elaborate on them to explain why they make you a **fantastic candidate**
- o Even better – if you can relate this back to the course

## Remember



# **Experience & Skills developed**

## **Drama Production**

**Teamwork**

**Confidence**

**Commitment**

## **Sports captain**

**Leadership**

**Time Management**

**Organisational skills**

## **Voluntary Charity**

**Passion and drive**

**Communication**

**Enthusiasm**



## Communications

- Computer Literacy
- Public Speaker

## Interpersonal Skills

- Diplomacy
- Committed

## Independent Worker

- Problem Solving
- Entrepreneurial

## Team Worker

- Organisation
- Project Management

## Flexibility

- Initiative
- Trustworthy

## Conscientious

- Deadlines
- Reliable

## Organisation

- Determination
- Time Manager





# How to evidence

- o Remember the key is
- o **Action, Benefit, Course**
- o I looked after my siblings as my parents were keyworkers during lockdown. I developed skills of patience and reliability as I needed to be organised to keep up with college remote lessons. **These skills will help me as I become a more independent learner at university level.**



# Action, Benefit, Course

- o I have been involved in coaching football since age 15. I have developed my leadership abilities and improved my communication skills. **This will help me as I cope with learning at university level.**
- o I work part-time in a café and have developed my communication skills taking customer orders in a busy environment. I have needed to be organised with effective time management to keep up with my college studies. **This will help me as I embark on learning at university level.**
- o I have been involved in a local dance group since age 13. I have encouraged younger members and helped to teach them new routines. This has helped develop my communication and leadership skills, and empathy and patience when some struggled with new routines. **This will help me as I embark on new learning with fellow students at a university level.**



# Academic Skills

- o You have studied **3 or 4 subjects** whilst at BHASVIC.
- o It is important that you appreciate the skills that you have gained from studying **ALL** your subjects
- o And are able to **reflect this** when you are writing your personal statement



# Maths

- o You have studied **A level Maths**
- o You are **NOT** applying to a maths or science degree at university
- o What **skills have you gained** studying maths that would benefit other subjects?
- o **2 mins in pairs – be prepared to share to the group.**



# Suggestions: Maths

- o problem solving
- o logic and analysing situations
- o improvements to your basic numeracy skills
- o bit of creativity needed to solve maths problems
- o new discoveries
- o everything around in the universe is connected to maths
- o perseverance and effort



# You can apply the same principles to all subjects

- o Think of **one** of your subjects
- o Make a **list of the skills** that you have developed since studying that subject
- o Prepare to **share**



# **What skills have we learnt from other subjects we have studied?**

<b>Accounting</b>	<b>Drama</b>	<b>Media Studies</b>	<b>Psychology</b>
<b>Art</b>	<b>French</b>	<b>Philosophy</b>	<b>Sociology</b>
<b>Business</b>	<b>Graphics</b>	<b>Photography</b>	<b>Spanish</b>
<b>Chemistry</b>	<b>History</b>	<b>Physics</b>	<b>Sport &amp; PE</b>
<b>English Lit</b>	<b>Law</b>	<b>Politics</b>	<b>Textile Design</b>



# Need ideas?

You can find lots of ideas for transferable skills from our HE study guides posted in the Teams UCAS page.

The image shows a screenshot of a Microsoft Teams chat window. On the left is a navigation pane for the 'UCAS Tutor Pathway 21-22' team. The 'Subject Guides and Useful Links' option is circled in blue. The main chat area shows a message from a user named 'Subject Guides' with the text: 'Subject Guides - download and look - really useful for every su check these out - loads of useful info to help you on your way...'. Below the text is a list of document thumbnails, each titled 'Higher Ed & Employability Guide' followed by a subject name. A blue circle highlights the entire message content. A yellow highlight covers the bottom portion of the chat, including the text: 'Transferable skills Communication skills, Analytical and critical thinking, Problem solving, Decision making, Logical thinking, Report writing, Project & resource management, Self-motivation'. Orange arrows point from the 'Subject Guides and Useful Links' menu item to the message and from the message to the 'Transferable skills' text. A yellow highlight also covers the 'Transferable skills' text.

UCAS Tutor Pathway 21-22

General

Ex-students mailing lists

Staff Pathways

Subject Guides and Useful Links

Tutor Resources and Activities

UCAS forms checked

UCAS Q and A please post here

Uni Opportunities

Widening Participation and Uni Support

Subject Guides - download and look - really useful for every su check these out - loads of useful info to help you on your way...

Higher Ed & Employability Guide Architecture Buildi... Hig

Higher Ed & Employability Guide Computer Science ... Hig

Higher Ed & Employability Guide Engineering & Scie... Hig

Higher Ed & Employability Guide Geog & Env Scienc... Hig

Higher Ed & Employability Guide Law Philosophy Po... Hig

Higher Ed & Employability Guide Psychology Sociol... Hig

Transferable skills

Communication skills, Analytical and critical thinking, Problem solving, Decision making, Logical thinking, Report writing, Project & resource management, Self-motivation





# Transferable Skills – clever ways to say what you do already (for reference)

- We have given you some ideas of where you might apply these skills.
- These are just ideas!
- Lots of these skills will apply to a wide variety of activities and subjects both inside and outside college.
- You can refer back to this if you want to while writing your PS.

Drama, Performing Arts  
Politics, History, Clubs

Outside activities  
Any jobs involving people

Creative Media  
Visual Arts



# Transferable Skills – clever ways to say what you do already (for reference)

## Verbal Communication

- Perform and entertain before groups
- Speak well in public appearances
- Present ideas effectively in groups
- Persuade/influence others to a certain point of view
- Debate ideas with others
- Participate in group discussions and teams

Drama, Performing Arts  
Politics, History, Clubs

## Nonverbal Communication

- Listen carefully and attentively
- Develop rapport easily with groups of people
- Establish culture to support learning
- Express feelings through body language
- Promote concepts through a variety of media
- Model behaviour or concepts for others

Outside activities  
Any jobs involving people

Creative Media  
Visual Arts



# Transferable Skills – clever ways to say what you do already (for reference)

## Written Communication

- Write technical language, reports, poetry, fiction plays
- Demonstrate expertise in grammar and style
- Teach, advise, coach, empower
- Use a variety of media for presentation
- Facilitate a group
- Explain difficult ideas, complex topics

Essay subjects,  
Coaching, Sports  
Projects and group  
work

## Analyse

- Study data or behaviour for meaning and solutions
- Analyse quantitative, physical and/or scientific data
- Compare and evaluate information
- Apply curiosity
- Investigate clues
- Formulate insightful and relevant questions

Sciences,  
Geography,  
Psychology



# Transferable Skills – clever ways to say what you do already (for reference)

## Research

- Identify appropriate information sources
- Search written, oral and technological information
- Hypothesise and test for results
- Compile numerical and statistical data
- Gather information from a number of sources
- Utilise electronic search methods
- Identify appropriate information sources
- Search written, oral and technological information
- Hypothesize and test for results
- Compile numerical and statistical data
- Classify and sort information into categories

History,  
Geography,  
Sciences,  
Psychology



# Transferable Skills – clever ways to say what you do already (for reference)

## Interpersonal Relations

- Anticipate people's needs and reactions
- Process human interactions, understand others
- Encourage, empower, advocate for people
- Create positive, hospitable environment
- Adjust plans for the unexpected
- Facilitate conflict management
- Listen carefully to communication

Essay subjects,  
Coaching, Sports  
Projects and group  
work

## Leadership

- Set goals and determine courses of action
- Motivate/inspire others to achieve common goals
- Develop and mentor talent
- Take risks, make hard decisions, be decisive

Coaching,  
Dance, Sport,  
Projects,  
NCS, Young  
Enterprise,  
SU, Subject  
reps



# Transferable Skills – clever ways to say what you do already (For reference)

## Management

- Delegate responsibility and review performance
- Increase productivity and efficiency to achieve goals
- Develop and facilitate work teams
- Provide training for development of staff
- Adjust plans/procedures for the unexpected
- Facilitate conflict management
- Communicate well with diverse groups

Work outside college, Young Enterprise, Guides, Scouts, Coaching, Dance, Drama

## Numeracy

- Calculate, perform mathematical computations
- Work with precision with numerical data
- Compile data and apply statistical analysis
- Use computer software for records and analysis

Maths, Sciences, Geography



# Transferable Skills – clever ways to say what you do already (For reference)

## Administrative & Projects

- Communicate well with key people
- Track progress of projects and troubleshoot
- Assign tasks and set goals
- Demonstrate flexibility during crisis
- Oversee communication

Essay subjects,  
Coaching, Sports  
Projects and group  
work

## Create and Innovate

- Visualize concepts and results
- Execute colour, shape and form
- Brainstorm and make use of group synergy
- Invent products through experimentation
- Express ideas through art form
- Create images through, sketches, sculpture, etc.
- Utilise computer software for artistic creations

Visual Arts. Dance,  
IT, Computing

