



# WHY IT MATTERS...

## PERSONAL STATEMENTS ACTIVITY



Loughborough  
University

### Why It matters to you - a Personal Statement activity

#### Overview

This session encourages students to explore research relating to subjects they are interested in studying at HE and to use that information to create statements that can be used for their UCAS Personal Statement.

They are encouraged to identify and explore research that goes beyond their A Level curriculum to understand the impact their subject might have on the world.

This activity supports Gatsby Benchmarks 1,3, 4 and 7.

#### Aims

- To encourage students to identify and explore research that relates to their subject and goes beyond the A Level curriculum.
- To encourage students to focus on why they are choosing a subject to pursue at HE level.

#### Learning Objectives:

By the end of this session students should be able to:

- Identify research that relates to their subject of interest.
- Understand some of the impacts of research and by association their subject on society.
- Write about their findings to illustrate an interest beyond the curriculum and evidence their independent exploration of the subject.

<b>Activity type</b>	Independent research	<b>Group size</b>	Limited only by IT availability
<b>Room requirements</b>	Individual internet access	<b>Duration</b>	Up to 2 hours (could be given as homework)



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Duration	Activity	Description	Resources
5 -10 mins	Introduction: Research	Use the presentation provided to introduce the UCAS PS and explain that students should be looking to evidence their subject interest.	Intro presentation (optional)
5-10 mins	Introduction: Activity	Students work independently to identify research project(s) that link to their subject of interest	Internet access and device for each student.
30 – 40 mins	Research activity	<p>This could be done at home. Students read and understand more about their selected research project(s) and the impacts.</p> <p>Ultimately they are to write a paragraph about why that research is interesting and relevant and why it makes them excited about this subject at HE level.</p>	<p>Worksheet</p> <p>Pen, paper</p> <p>Internet access and device for each student.</p>
30 mins	Optional plenary	<p>Students share their findings; explaining why they chose the research and how it relates to the degree they are interested in.</p> <p>They could defend their choice, why is this research so important and why does this degree subject matter.</p>	Lap top and projector (optional).