Royal Holloway University Prep Scheme of Work

Topic	Applying to University	**Lesson number**	2
Age Group	Year 12	**Session Length**	1 hour
Objectives	A. To be able to understand the UCAS process B. To be able to appraise what makes a good personal statement. C. To be able to create a personal statement for own application to university.		
Keywords			
Resources	• PowerPoint presentation • Example personal statements • Picture of me sheets		
Home Learning	Listen to Royal Holloway 'Preparing U For Uni' podcast episode on UCAS Process and Applying. Finish personal statement plan.		

Time	Activity	Assesses
Starter (5 mins)	Students to think of their path to university. What are the key steps to get there? If students are struggling, use prompt questions such as 'how do you apply?', 'what do universities want to see from you?' 'how would you make decisions about universities and courses?' etc.	A
Development (50 mins)	Act 1 (10 mins) - What is UCAS? You may wish to add your own information about how this works in your school/college.	A
	Act 2 (20 mins) - Personal statements: Introduce concept of personal statement, rules and Royal Holloway suggestions. Ensure students understand that the personal statement should be personal and focused on their course rather than extracurricular activities that are less related. Personal statement marking exercise: students can work on their own, in pairs or small groups. Hand out personal statements A and B and encourage students to spend a few minutes reading each one. They should then decide which they think is best. For the better personal statement, they need to list 5 things that it did well. For the one they thought wasn't as good, they should list 5 things that should be improved. Students to feedback opinions and then go through feedback as a group.	B
	Act 3 (15 mins) - Picture of me activity: this allows students to get thinking about the material they would like to include in their personal statement by dividing all the content into different areas. Students start with a stick figure (or can use the template provided). Go through the presentation step by step, pausing for 3 minutes for each step for students to add their ideas to the plan. At the end they can group the content to give themselves a plan for their personal statement.	C
	Act 4 (5 mins) - What happens next? Teacher reference, key dates and deadlines. Video from UCAS to summarise process.	A
Close (5 mins)	Plenary: Students to create personal UCAS timetable- adding dates to calendar or diary.	A