

Veterinary Science Personal Statements

For as long as I can remember I have been interested in sciences. Science is a multi faceted subject which I enjoy as there is no limit to the information I can learn. I am interested in a career in vet medicine not only because of a wish to help but also due to a desire to find out what went wrong and to discover ways in which the problem could be fixed. I am a highly motivated person and feel I would thrive in this difficult course.

To further my knowledge of this subject I volunteer at Gorgie Farm two Saturdays a month. Here I take part in daily husbandry tasks which have shown me the less glamorous more challenging, grimy and routine side of caring for animals but also allowed me to get close to all sorts of animals ranging from horses to mice. I have also spent 3 days in the SAC in Perth where I spent most of my time shadowing a vet investigation officer but also spent some time in the laboratories observing exploratory and diagnostic techniques.

During this time I observed the postmortems of 34 pheasants, 2 calves, and 2 sheep. This gave me a chance to see the inside of animals and to discover more about the field of investigation. I was also able to observe the postmortem of a golden retriever which enabled me to observe ways of communicating with emotional owners. Investigation is a subject I am interested in finding out more about.

I was also able to assist in the preparation of samples for histopathology taking samples from many internal organs. I have been part of Pathways to the Professions for 3 years, and have attended lectures and other events including Kickstart summer school where I experienced subjects like vet nursing, chemistry, biology, psychology and physics at university level. I also have a weeks placement organised over Easter in a small animal practice.

I am a responsible, trustworthy student which I feel is show through my positions as vice house captain and director of school's jazz band. I am also involved in mentoring two classes in music and maths and am a peer mediator which has helped improve both my confidence in dealing with people and my listening skills.

Music has featured in my life from an early age I have played both piano and trumpet for 10 years and have sat associated board exams in both instruments achieving an average mark of 122. I am now working towards grade 8 trumpet in March. I have been involved in school bands for 6 years which has also allowed me to attend workshops with the Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland.

I am also involved in Edinburgh Schools Wind Ensemble, where I now play principal trumpet, and Edinburgh Schools Jazz Orchestra and have enjoyed playing in prestigious locations including the Jam House, Ross Bandstand and the Usher Hall. I also enjoy singing and have been involved in both my school choir and Edinburgh Schools Gospel Choir. I look forward to being able to continue to play in bands.

During summer I was a trainee leader at a Scripture Union residential camp. During this week I was jointly responsible for a group of six girls which greatly improved my people skills and my confidence. Through leading group sessions and games I became more assertive and adaptable improving my ability to deal with unknown, difficult situations. I also developed my teamwork skills and ability to follow instructions as I worked with a team of more experienced leaders.