



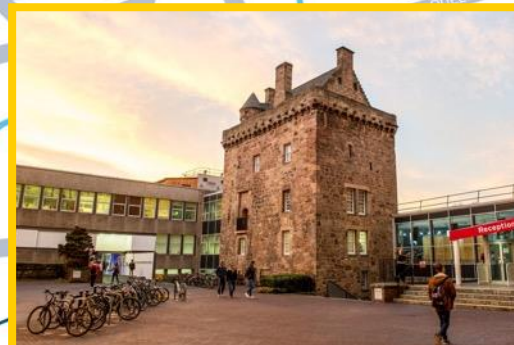
Writing a good personal statement

Stand out for the other applicants!



SIGHTHILL CAMPUS

- The School of Applied Sciences
- The School of Health & Social Science



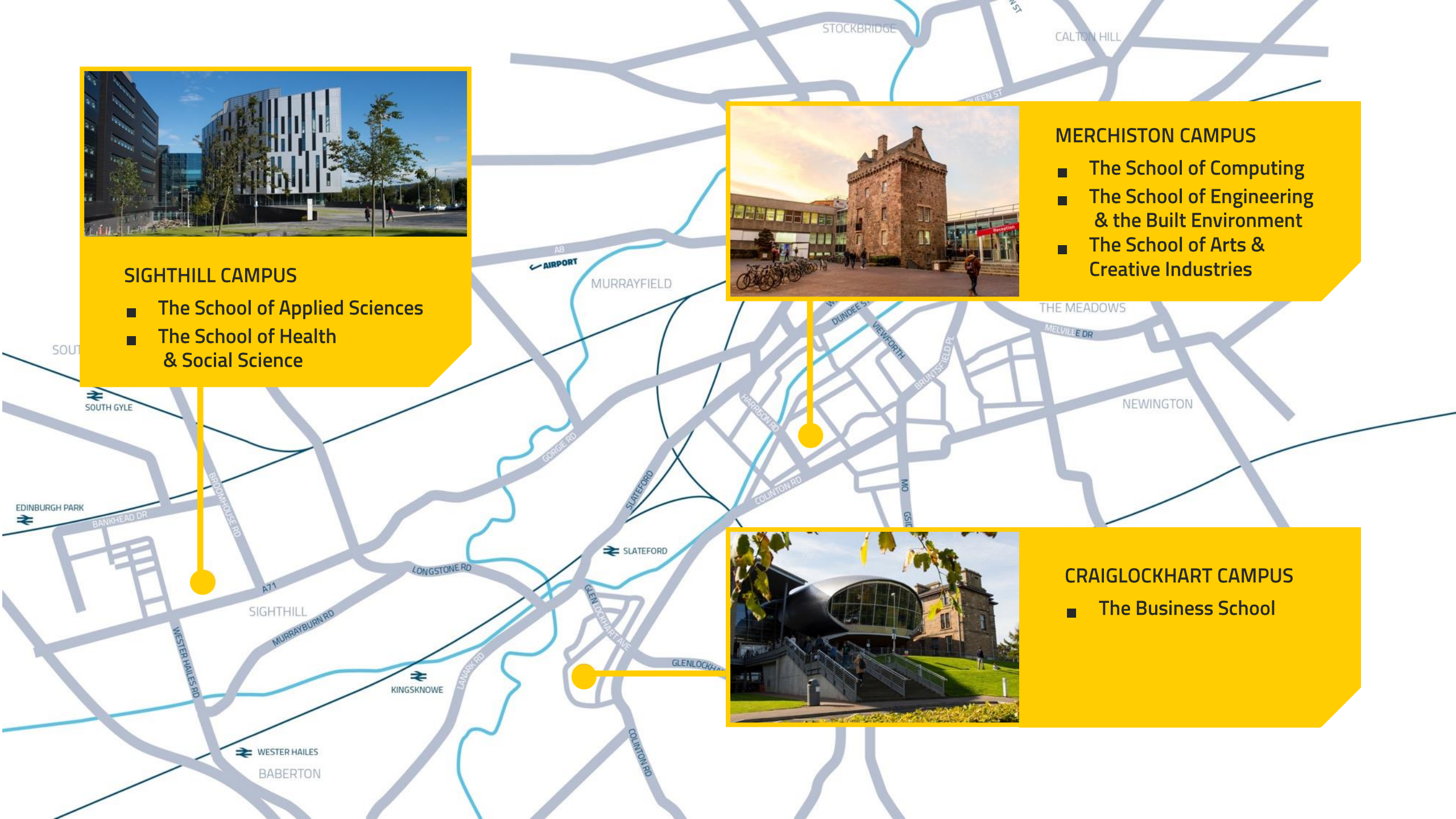
MERCHISTON CAMPUS

- The School of Computing
- The School of Engineering & the Built Environment
- The School of Arts & Creative Industries



CRAIGLOCKHART CAMPUS

- The Business School



A bit about us



- We are number 1 in the UK for Journalism, Publishing and Public Relations
- We are a top 10 UK university for Film Production and Photography, Media & Film Studies and Music.
- Times Higher Education ranks Edinburgh Napier in top 5% of world universities
- We have supported more than 500 student start-up companies and a 2014 report by Biggar Economics named us the most successful university in Scotland for graduate enterprise and start-ups

#1 UNIVERSITY
in Edinburgh
for overall **STUDENT**
SATISFACTION



National Student Survey 2021

#1 MODERN
UNIVERSITY
in Scotland



Sunday Times GUG 2021

#1 highest climbing
UNIVERSITY
in Scotland



Guardian University Guide 2021

Sign up to our Open day!

Edinburgh Napier
UNIVERSITY



Widening
Participation

Have you registered
yet?

On-Campus Open Day | Saturday 30 October
Explore Edinburgh Napier University in person and discover what's
possible.

Register now

Applying to ENU this year?



Get additional support from us!

- Personal statement advice & feedback
- Support with funding, accommodation & support services
- 1-1 information, advice & guidance
- Additional online webinars & resources
- Support for parents/carers

Fill out this form



UCAS Application



Start by registering online. You will need your school buzzword. Once registered you will need to fill out the following sections;

Your personal details

Email address, funding options, address, support you need etc...

Additional Information

Won't be used in application. For statistics

Course Choices

Not in order. You will need UCAS code

Education

All qualifications from S4-S6

Employment

Any paid part time jobs

Personal Statement

Written by you!

Teacher Reference

Written by teacher. Any additional info not in statement

Before you start



- **Personal Statement checklist;**



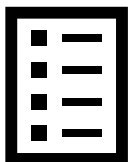
- Have I researched what I applying for?



- Have I thought about my own skills, knowledge & experience and how can I make them relevant to what I am applying to?



- Have I checked the entry requirements? Am I eligible for the minimum entry requirements?



- Have I written a plan?

Personal Statement



What is a personal statement?

- An opportunity to **demonstrate your passion and enthusiasm for the subject(s)** you are applying for
- An opportunity to **sell yourself to universities about the skills and attributes** you have which would make you a perfect candidate for that course

The FACTS!

- You can only write **one personal statement** for all 5 universities
- It has to be **47 lines, 4000 characters** long
- It **MUST be relevant** to what you are applying to
- It can make the difference of whether you **receive an offer or not**

This year **32,620*** **Scottish young people applied to Scottish universities**, the personal statement makes you stand out from everyone else applying.

Planning is key!



Everything must relate back to the courses you are applying to

- THINK! After everything you write ask yourself “How is this relevant?” “Why am I telling them this?”

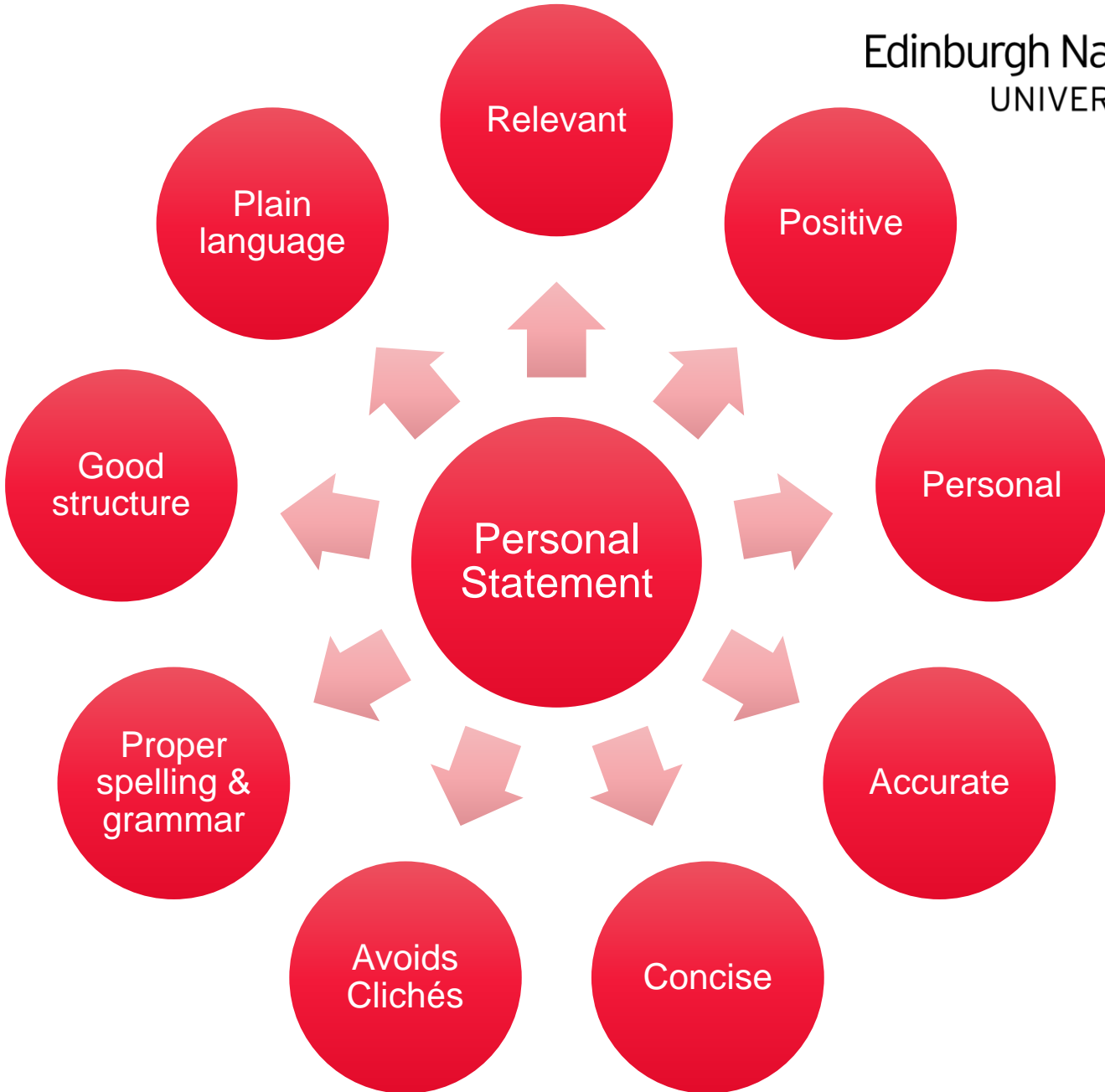
Just like an essay it should have an Intro, middle & conclusion

- Your Intro should be eye-catching, unique & demonstrate your knowledge & passion for the subject
- Your middle should be your evidence. What have you done which can back up your passion?
- Your conclusion should be summary of what you have talked about so far and maybe an outlook to after you graduate.

Activity/knowledge/experience I want to share

What have I gained from this?

How is this relevant to what I am applying to?



Introduction

- First impressions count! Your introduction is the first part an admissions officer will read. After reading it they should know;
 1. Exactly what you are applying to study
 2. Why you want to study it
 3. What inspired you to chose that subject

Top Tip!

If you are applying for different subjects try and find a common link between them and that is the hooking point of the statement.

It will also depend on your university/course of choice how your statement is focused.

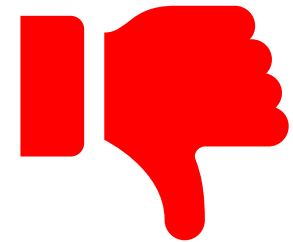
Example 1: Introduction

My experience through the years has led me to look more into mental health and supporting those with health issues. Due to me having an insight already I would like to find out more by taking it to a higher level of education. By helping people and making a difference in someone's life is something I would like to achieve and make a living out of; I'm a very empathetic person which I feel would make me suitable for this role.

Example 1: Introduction

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- No idea what they are applying for
- It is quite obvious they have not done their research
- The passion for the subject does not come across



Evidence

- This is the meaty part of the statement. Your evidence to back up the claims in your introduction. From your evidence an admissions officer should see;
 1. The skills you have that would make you a good student
 2. Your knowledge of the subject/courses
 3. Why you would make a good student at university

Top Tip!

Remember quality over quantity!

Everything must relate back to what you're applying to. When telling an admissions officer about your knowledge or experiences always think **“why am I telling them this?”**

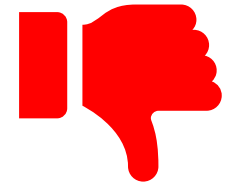
Example 2: Evidence

In my pursuit of expanding my view of the world and my desire to pursue a path into diplomacy, I had the privilege of enrolling into the Confucius Institute for Scotland's School's 'Summer Camp' within China in June of 2019. This trip has left a lasting impact on my ambitions. By immersing myself in Chinese culture and the intricacies of the Chinese language I have gained a greater appreciation of their influences beyond their domestic sphere. This experience has had such an effect on me that I have begun to study Mandarin in my personal time.

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- Great... But why is this relevant? Why is this evidence going to help you be a better politics student?
- They have used the thesaurus a bit too much
- Good sentence structure!



A good example: Evidence

In 2019 I took part in a leadership course with outward bound. Within the course I took charge of a team, asserting myself as the leader and led them through different activities. As a result I gained confidence in speaking in groups and was able to make quick, beneficial decisions. Being led by peers, I developed my team working skills, following instructions and contributing to discussions about the best actions. This course pushed my boundaries, helped me realise my potential for leadership in hard situations, and I believe this confidence in my capabilities will be useful when I need to make instant decisions to support and benefit baby and mother. I believe all these skills are vital and will prepare me for working within a team of health professionals.

- Relates everything back to Midwifery
- Uses relevant examples to demonstrate skills.
- Good sentence structure.
- Maybe a bit long?



Conclusion

- A final summary of your statement. An opportunity to sum up those skills & attributes you talked about earlier.
 1. No new information, just a summary of your passion & skills
 2. You might want to reflect on any jobs or career progression after you graduate

Top Tip!

Doesn't need to be long! 3-4 sentences is enough. Just a summary paragraph of the above.

Example 1: Conclusion

Looking ahead I am optimistic and eager to face new challenges that await me at University. I believe I have the determination, discipline, and skills to be a successful Astrophysics student & graduate. I look forward to sharing my enthusiasm for physics with others and commencing my own research in the future.

- Good short summary
- Mentions key skills
- Outlook to the future



Deadlines



UCAS Opens



Now



Deadline for Music @
Royal Conservatoire



October 1



Deadline for Oxbridge,
Medicine, Vet Medicine



October 15

UCAS Deadline



January 26



College Courses open



January/February



Apply for
Apprenticeships



All year but a lot around
January

Contact us

Edinburgh Napier
UNIVERSITY



Widening
Participation

If you would like more information about how we can support you, please contact Mairi & Nicola.

Tel: 01314 553 582 (Nicola) or
01314 552 996 (Mairi)

Email: wideningaccess@napier.ac.uk

Website: www.napier.ac.uk/study-with-us/widening-participation



Thank you!

www.napier.ac.uk/study-with-us/widening-participation

