Personal Statement Draft 3 – Emma Harrison

I have always held a keen interest in Business and Financial matters. By studying these subjects at school, my business related knowledge has increased and this has made me want to undertake a degree course in this field at University. I also have previous experience of working with accounts within a family run business.

Within school, I am part of the Finance Committee with responsibility for the Senior Formal and Charity events. I attended the ‘Accelerate’ programme at Strathclyde University for five days during the summer of 2013, which allowed me to meet lots of other students. Taking part in this course, helped to develop my social skills and increased my confidence. Last year, I volunteered to participate in Outward Bound where I learned teamwork and time-management skills. It also boosted my confidence and taught me to solve problems under pressure. I became a buddy at the start of fifth year and this has improved my level of responsibility and reliability. I am also a peer tutor and this has made me become more considerate and has led me to receive the Diana Award of Excellence. I am a hard working and motivated person. This is demonstrated by my achievement of gaining the Saltire Award. Throughout my years at school, my attendance and timekeeping have been of a high standard, which shows commitment and punctuality. I often assist at school events such as Parent’s evenings and school shows. This illustrates my approachable, caring and helpful nature coupled with my enthusiasm, motivation and contribution towards whole school events.

Outside of school, I continue my positive work ethic by being employed in my parent’s business. I have responsibility over some of the accounts. Having this experience I have learned professionalism and time management, which are skills that I could bring to my studies at university. It has developed my understanding of financial accounts by seeing it being put into practice in everyday life and has increased my passion for the subject. I created the company website and maintain both that and stock control. This has given me an insight of the world of work. This experience is invaluable and will benefit me in a range of ways at university and beyond. Computing skills have always been one of my strengths and I have generally excelled in this area. I am regularly asked to represent the school in sporting events across the county such as cross country events and triathlons. This is further evidence of my competitive attitude. Through these competitions I have been able to develop my determined personality and win titles such as the overall female champion triathlete across the whole of Lanarkshire. In my fourth year at school, I was given the opportunity to achieve the Duke of Edinburgh award at bronze level, which shows I enjoy new challenges and experiences. I learned leadership and team working skills. During my time in the school community, I have been involved in organising many charity events. One of which, I arranged as part of a small team, a charity Easter egg event, where we raised just under £100 for St Andrew’s Hospice. This reiterates my motivated and organised nature. Some of the other extra curricular activities I contributed towards include assisting in running a girl’s football team for younger pupils, which conveys my approachable, caring and supportive nature together with commitment and enthusiasm. One of my many other interests is snowboarding. I find that this sport benefits my concentration and focuses my mind proving that I can balance my studies and social aspects of my life.

I am a very ambitious person and I would like to graduate University and begin a career in an accounting firm, in which I could improve my prospects and project myself into a successful profession.