

Forever a CLIPPER: students testimonies



Guilherme Amaral (2011-2012) **Physics - Imperial College London**

Saí do Brasil com o 10º ano do ensino secundário completo e vim para o CLIP, em 2010, após conhecê-lo em uma viagem de passeio no ano anterior. O colégio me deixou entusiasmado pelo currículo oferecido, pelas instalações, pelos vários esportes que poderia praticar, além das aulas de música, mas acima de tudo, pela certeza que me transmitiram de que eles tinham todo um trabalho eficiente, que me ajudaria a entrar em uma universidade na Inglaterra, meu grande sonho.

Nesse período, tive muitas aulas voltadas para os exames A Level, recebi orientações constantemente sobre o que estudar, exames anteriores para resolver e muito apoio de meus professores, colegas e da coordenação, por quem fui muito bem recebido e integrado no grupo.

Hoje sou aluno de Física no Imperial College London. Sei que sem a orientação correta dos meus professores e coordenadores, jamais conseguiria chegar aonde cheguei.

Sinto-me honrado por ter sido um "clipper"! Meus mais sinceros agradecimentos por tudo que fizeram por mim!



Catarina Tavares (2010-2011) **Gestão - Universidade Católica Portuguesa, Porto**

O CLIP teve e continua a ter, um papel fundamental na minha vida pessoal e académica.

Já saí do colégio há 2 anos e ainda verifico no meu dia a dia a importância de todas as peças de teatro, eventos de LTR, exercícios de teambuilding e outras tantas atividades em que participei nos 8 anos em que lá estudei.

Devido ao ensino distinto do CLIP sou hoje uma jovem "open minded" que pensa "outside of the box", com um conjunto de aptidões fortemente desenvolvidas que me ajudam a enfrentar os desafios que a faculdade me tem lançado.

Acredito que o CLIP me formou e dotou das ferramentas necessárias para enfrentar e progredir no futuro com sucesso.



Margarida Rosas Almeida (2011-2012)
Medicina - Faculdade de Medicina,
Universidade do Porto

Thirteen years at CLIP have gone by while constant change took its course unnoticeably during everyday life. Only now, that I've completed my academic pathway at CLIP, have I put thoughts in retrospective. Looking back, it seems as if, rather than a subtle change, I've suffered a complete metamorphosis – I, who once was a young toddler on her first day of school, left CLIP as a young lady, and prepared to take on today's globalized world. Naturally, time and science are to blame for physical change, but CLIP was there hand-in-hand as I built strong foundations for life. I take with me strong work ethics, integrity as a principled citizen and the urge for continuous challenge, which are pressingly important as I face Medical School. I'm curious to see where life will take me but comforted to know that "once a Clipper, always a Clipper".



Jocelino Rodrigues (2011-2012)
Aeronautical Engineering - University
of Bristol

CLIP provides an educationally enriching environment, where students develop a thirst for knowledge and drive to succeed. As a current engineering student in the United Kingdom, the Oporto International School helped me develop my multi-linguistic skills – being fluent in English was very helpful when moving to the UK - as well as my mathematical reasoning and leadership skills – both of which are invaluable in industry. Furthermore, an interest in general knowledge and debate is instilled early on through Model United Nations and LTRD, in addition to an artistic mentality through music, theatre and art, and a competitive spirit, which - although imparted through sports - translates into a desire to thrive in day-to-day. At CLIP, students develop a set of fundamental life skills and are given the opportunity to make the most of their potential, which can only make me very grateful and thankful for what I've learned as a student there.



Mariana Neves (2003-2004)
Consultora na Jason Associates

For me, who spent 13 years of my life at CLIP, it is a challenging task to try and pinpoint how CLIP has influenced my academic / professional life (as requested). The reason I feel this exercise is so challenging (believe me, I tried), is because CLIP's influence really goes so far beyond academics or career. Without any doubt, those 13 years defined who I am as a person - from my values and beliefs, to the way I think, feel and act. In my opinion, this is where CLIP's "magic" lies: it does not strive to develop only great students or professionals, but great human beings. It is a pleasure and honour to be part of this big family.



João Pedro Príncipe (2000-2001)
Gestão, Universidade Católica Portuguesa

Muitos associam o CLIP a uma excelente oportunidade para estimular crianças e jovens, dando-lhes a oportunidade de se tornem bi-(ou até tri)-língues. Enquanto considero este aspecto cada vez mais importante num mundo em constante expansão como o nosso, devo dizer que encontrei o maior valor do CLIP no contacto proporcionado com diferentes culturas e com os professores de todos os cantos do mundo (e não só ingleses), na participação em projectos vários, distintos dos da maioria de outras escolas, obrigando os alunos a sair da sua zona de conforto (e do país) desde o mais cedo possível. O CLIP dotou-me de uma grande versatilidade nas mais diversas áreas. Os valores incutidos aos alunos do CLIP são sólidos e vitais para uma vida em pleno na sociedade actual; valores para com os quais nem todas as escolas mostram a mesma preocupação. Por fim, a realização de diversas iniciativas como a Science Fair, entre outras, são um excelente espaço para testarmos e fazermos... e mesmo para errarmos! Em Portugal, infelizmente, o erro é "uma marca". Falhar é fatal e potencialmente cataclísmico... Mas, na verdade, os restantes 99.86% da população mundial encaram o erro como uma oportunidade de aprendizagem e melhoria. Tal como o CLIP. Uma postura que se reflecte no percurso formativo dos jovens, tornando-os mais capazes de criar, inovar e vingar no mundo profissional. Posso afirmar com toda a certeza e gratidão que o CLIP foi uma chave essencial para o desenvolver da minha personalidade de querer fazer, de querer contribuir para um mundo melhor e mais sustentável e de querer saber sempre mais e mais sobre o máximo de áreas que me for possível abranger.



Inga Campos (2011-2012)
Biomedical Sciences - University
College London

After moving to England to study at University College London (UCL), I find myself at a stage where I look back at the last 13 years of my life. Having been at CLIP since I was only 5 years old, it became my second home, my second family. At CLIP I was able not only to grow academically, but as a person too. I was highly motivated by my teachers, enjoyed good peer relationships, worked collaboratively with others and excelled in my studies.

I was encouraged to make the most of CLIP's extra-curricular opportunities and that is definitely what I did. I was actively involved in many different areas including sport, music, organising events, debating and community work. Taking part in all these activities did not prevent me from focusing on academics, but complemented them.

At the end of the day, I can most certainly say that my happy days at CLIP prepared me for my future in the outside world.



Mariana Coelho (2008-2009)
Biomedical Sciences (BSc) - Edinburgh
Napier University

CLIP has given me the opportunity to increase my interpersonal skills and not only a good academic preparation for university. All the extracurricular activities like the Model United Nations, British Parliamentary Debates and Global Young Leaders conferences during my last CLIP years increased my social and leadership skills.

CLIP's opportunities of extra curriculum activities increase and develop essential skills. Being a prefect, doing volunteer work, playing sports and performing in the arts festival boosted my CV for later internships and work experience applications.

The academic preparation for the A Levels gave me an excellent preparation for university with no major adaptation problems during the first year. Being a true Clipper will definitely prepare you for university life.



Mariana Torgal (2006-2007)

Madrid

Five years ago I was anxious about leaving the only community I remembered to ever have lived in. CLIP was my life. CLIP was where I spent most of my days. CLIP was where I had all my friends, where I was comfortable and cared for. I also left home to study a few hours away in Lisbon, but I wasn't sad about it because I knew I could always come back. But I couldn't come back to CLIP, not before I had found somewhere else to feel comfortable and cared for.

It was a long journey. It wasn't always easy to adapt to the Portuguese/university teaching style, catch up with the curriculum, learn to speak Portuguese on a daily basis... but everything was manageable. In the end everything worked out just fine and I know my perseverance, critical thinking and all sort of skills I learned in CLIP helped me out to be successful. I'm currently working as a consultant in the industry I wanted to and believe me when I say I learned the most not at university but in CLIP. CLIP was the foundation of all my education and I'm very thankful to have the chance of being a student of so many great teachers, of having participated in so many events that taught me to be a better speaker, so many debates which taught me how to build an argument and all the sports and team building activities which taught the importance of collaboration.

As soon as I adapted to university - and I guess it is always a chock in terms of workload no matter where you go, the UK, Portugal or elsewhere - I was riding smoothly my academic years, having fun, learning a lot and always keeping the eyes on the prize. The prize for me, and I understand it may be considerably different for other people, was to get a job that would keep me busy and excited, which was challenging, and luckily provide me with a lot of travelling and international experience. This is exactly what I'm doing right now. I've got a job that I like, I travel, I live in a foreign city and I work with people from all over the world. If it wasn't for CLIP maybe I wouldn't be as curious to explore different opportunities, to build dreams based on hard-work and to be proud to come back with a smile on my face saying "CLIP has made the whole difference".

Just to wrap-up I would like to share a secret with you. When I'm asked what I would do if I would win the lottery I answer proudly I would invest in providing youngsters the same education your having, the same education your providing, the same education I had.