

**Former Bursary Scholar (2007)  
Physics Graduate and Financial Analyst**

**“Without the Bursary I would not be able to recognise my life today”**

Being awarded a Bursary changes lives in ways most people can't imagine. The breadth of education and caring culture not only develop the pupil, but give them the inner confidence and ambition to be the best they can be, in whichever field they choose to channel their energy.

At my previous school, I remember that teachers spent significant amounts of time trying to control and sanction unruly children, so from my perspective St Aloysius' College was superior; from individual attention, quality of teaching, standards expected and diversity of experiences.

Putting on my Green Blazer for the first time, I was excited. For me, St Aloysius' College meant no barriers to academic excellence. The highest quality of work was expected and there was encouragement of your strengths, as well as supporting your weaknesses, by teachers who went far beyond the call of duty to help you achieve your potential.

Looking at my peers many years after leaving school, each of us seeks continual self-improvement as the highest standards were instilled in us to strive for excellence. It was also very beneficial for me to be around people who don't settle for 'good enough', but always ensure their output is the best it can be.

Attending St Aloysius' College was one of the most life-changing experiences I have had. Without the Bursary I would not be able to recognise my life today.

**Former Bursary Scholar (2013)  
Medical Graduate, Junior Doctor**

**“I loved everything about the College . . . it's where I developed a love of learning”**

Our family broke up while I was in my last year of primary school, so I missed out on applying to the College in P7 and went instead to my local Catholic secondary school. However, I was determined to go to the College, even at that young age, so I applied again the following year and can honestly say that I haven't looked back.

I loved everything about the College; my new friends, the inspirational teaching and it's where I developed a love of learning.

The Jesuit ethos of “men and women for others” is really important to me and maybe it's one of the reasons behind me wanting to become a Doctor. I had some amazing opportunities at school such as volunteering with the Children's Fund; getting experience through the Arrupe Programme of working with young children in a local primary school; caring for the elderly in a care home; and helping people who had suffered from mental health problems.

Getting the support from teaching staff definitely helped me achieve the 6 A's in my Highers and set me on the path to fulfil my ambition, so I went on to study Medicine at University. My first year at university was tough as I was living away from home for the first time and I had to take a part-time job to avoid taking out a student loan. I graduated in 2018 and am now in my second year as a Junior Doctor.

On reflection, the opportunity of a Bursary has made me realise that I want to wake up each morning and not worry about what the next day holds. I know that my education and work ethic, which I got from attending the College, will bring security to me and my family in the long term.