

A.M.D.G



THE ALBERTO HURTADO PROGRAMME

OVERVIEW AND IMPACT REPORT

15 YEARS – 100 OPPORTUNITIES FULFILLED

The Alberto Hurtado Bursary Programme [AHP], in operation since 2007, is a bursary scheme which offers opportunity to boys who might not otherwise fulfill their potential because of socio-economic disadvantage.

Inspired by the desire to remove barriers to the unique educational experience that a seven-day boarding school can offer, the AHP has matured into an integral part of the fabric of Clongowes life. The programme aims to provide up to seven bursary places each academic year and AHP students now amount to almost 10% of the student population at Clongowes Wood College.



CLONGOWES
FOUNDATION

TO ACCOMPANY THE YOUNG IN THE CREATION OF A HOPE FILLED FUTURE¹

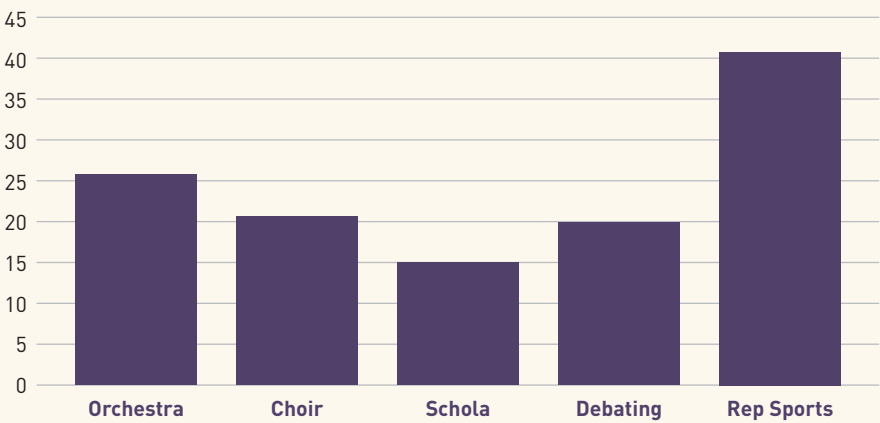
Jesuit education seeks to educate the whole person; the AHP reflects this mission encouraging all students to give commitment and strive for excellence in everything they do. There are currently thirty-eight² bursary students in a total school population of 450. Sixty-six students have graduated from the Programme having completed their six years of secondary school education at Clongowes. The vast majority of these graduates have gone on to 3rd Level education and are on a pathway to success in their chosen field across a broad spectrum of disciplines including Economics, Law, Science, Computing, Medicine, and one student has gone on to enter the Jesuit Novitiate having completed his Degree and Masters at Cambridge. Three graduates of the AHP are currently in their third year at Georgetown University having been offered scholarships to undertake their third level education there. These scholarships were provided with the support of an OC and his wife. The impact of the programme has been significant and positive for the entire Clongowes Community with the AHP students standing shoulder to shoulder with their classmates participating, and oftentimes excelling, in the range of academic, co-curricular and sports that the College offers.

"THROUGHOUT MY SIX YEARS, I HAD A PLETHORA OF OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS ACADEMICS, RUGBY, MUSIC AND OTHER CO-CURRICULARS TO DEVELOP SKILLS AND CULTIVATE INTERESTS IN DIVERSE AREAS. AS THE LEAVING CERTIFICATE APPROACHED AND THOUGHTS BEGAN TO TURN TO WHAT LAY BEYOND, MY TIME AT CLONGOWES ENCOURAGED ME TO AIM HIGH AND GAVE ME THE SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE NEEDED TO THRIVE BEYOND ITS WALLS."

FORMER AHP STUDENT

The levels of participation in co-curricular activities along with academic pursuits demonstrate that the boys are receiving the broad education that Clongowes strives to provide for all its students.

% AHP STUDENT INVOLVEMENT IN CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



¹ Fr Arturo Sosa SJ, Superior General of the Society of Jesus. The Universal Apostolic Preferences 2019-2029
² Sept 2022

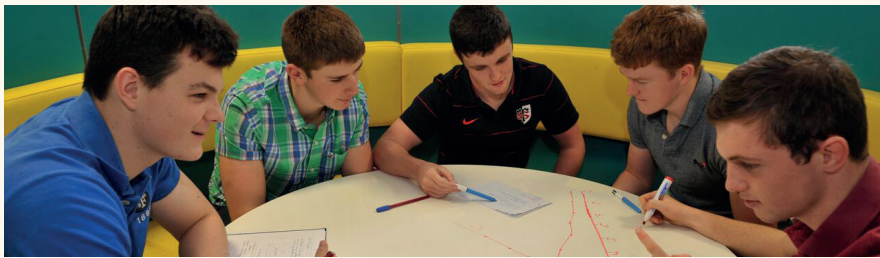
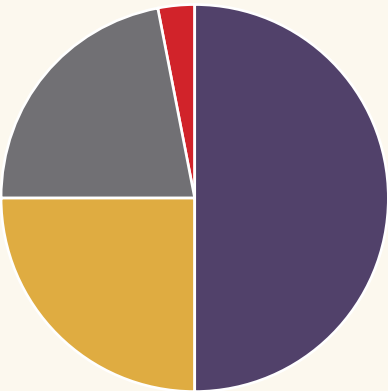
In recent times AHP students have successfully auditioned for the Dublin Youth Orchestra, with 26% playing with the College Orchestra (and ensemble) versus 18% rate for the whole student body. Rates of involvement in Choir and Schola are strong at 21% of 15% respectively. Some 20% participate in the Debating society honing their public speaking skills, while membership of the Academy, with the focus on developing research, analysis and presentation skills, is also favoured by a significant number. Some 41% of the boys have played sport representatively for the school with involvement across a variety of disciplines, rugby and athletics dominating.

In recent years 50% of AHP students have achieved the honour of being House Leader in their final year at Clongowes, providing leadership, pastoral support, and friendship to the boys in their House.

Academically, results show that the average Leaving Certificate points for AHP graduates is some 8% below the average for the college, putting them in the top 38% of the national average of results³

GEOGRAPHIC SPREAD OF AHP STUDENTS

- Greater Dublin
- Rest of Leinster
- Munster
- Connacht



"LOOKING BACK ON MY TIME IN CLONGOWES, THOUGH I MAY HAVE NOT REALISED IT THEN IN THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF DAILY STUDENT LIFE, EACH DAY WAS GRADUALLY PREPARING ME FOR THE WORLD OUTSIDE CLONGOWES AND INFLUENCING THE MAN I WAS TO BE. WITHOUT DOUBT, MY ACCEPTANCE ON TO THE ALBERTO HURTADO PROGRAMME HAS AFFORDED ME OPPORTUNITIES THAT I COULD NEVER HAVE IMAGINED GROWING UP IN MY HOME TOWN AND HAS SHAPED MY PERSONAL GROWTH AS WELL AS MY DIRECTION IN LIFE."

FORMER AHP STUDENT

³ Based on the 2022 distribution of Leaving Certificate results.

THE BURSARY SELECTION PROCESS

In line with the objective of the AHP, applicants for the bursary are not selected on academic, sporting or musical ability. They are selected on the basis of eligibility and suitability, family ambition and their potential to thrive in a boarding school environment. Candidates for selection are sourced mainly through the school's links with the DEIS⁴ primary school network; however applicants can apply directly independently of the primary school link. With the help of various Primary Schools networks, such as the Irish Primary Principals Network, the AHP Coordinator continues to extend the network of partner schools throughout the country.

Following applications, the families of candidates are first invited to visit Clongowes. Later the AHP Coordinator, along with staff from the College and/or members of the Board, undertake a series of visits to shortlisted families of applicants. The shortlisted candidates have to meet eligibility and suitability criteria. A candidate is deemed eligible if they meet the criteria as outlined in the AHP Application form and deemed suitable if they have the support of their family and they exhibit those personal qualities that will enable them to cope with the vagaries of a seven-day boarding school environment, qualities such as a sense of self-worth, good social skills and an aptitude for co-operative activities. Eligibility and suitability can be judged by contact with the candidate and his family within the environment of their own home and the college. Members of the AHP subcommittee make a final selection from the list of candidates and submit these to the Schools Board of Management for approval. The selected students and their families then join the induction programme led by the Admissions Dept for all incoming students. The AHP Coordinator works closely with the boys, their families, and their Primary schools to ease the transition to a new environment.



⁴ DEIS – Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools: an action plan for educational inclusion

WHY THE ALBERTO HURTADO PROGRAMME?

The Alberto Hurtado Programme (AHP) offers opportunity to boys who might otherwise not fulfill their potential because of socio-economic disadvantage. From the very outset, when the Bursary programme was being conceived, there was a clear intention to avoid any associations with notions of charity or access. Instead, the AHP is viewed as an inclusive programme that resonates explicitly with three global identifiers of Jesuit schools around the world: a commitment to justice, interculturality and accessibility. Clongowes Wood College is a better living and learning environment for all as a result of the AHP.

“AS SOMEONE WITH THE OVERVIEW THAT COMES FROM FORTY-THREE YEARS’ EXPERIENCE OF THE COLLEGE, I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE TOLERANCE AND APPRECIATION OF DIVERSITY THAT OPERATES NOW IN THE SCHOOL HAS BEEN SHAPED SIGNIFICANTLY BY THE AHP.”

MARTIN WALLACE, RECENTLY RETIRED DEPUTY HEADMASTER

For every AHP student there is a remarkable story of challenge and resilience. To date the sixty-six students who have graduated from the AHP have grasped the opportunities provided and flourished in their journey to become ‘men for others.’ Thirty-eight others are currently attending Clongowes with the hopes and expectations of a successful future path on the horizon. All this is made possible through the generous support of donors to the AHP.

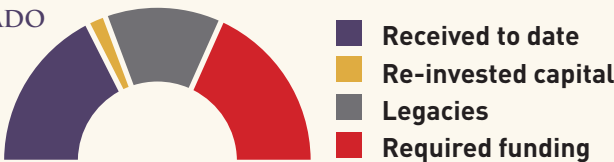
FUNDING THE AHP AND THE ALBERTO HURTADO ENDOWMENT FUND

The Clongowes Foundation is committed to the funding of the AHP. Ambitious in its scale its financial demands are commensurate with an annual cost circa €850,000. Donations from past pupils, current parents and the Jesuit Province have been crucial in supporting the programme since its foundation in 2007. A long-term objective of the Foundation is to make the AHP self-financing, thereby securing it into the future.

To this end the **Alberto Hurtado Endowment Fund** was launched in January 2020. It is estimated that the Fund, managed by Goldman Sachs, in the longer term would need €20m of assets in order that it can generate sufficient income to make the bursary programme fully funded. The Fund currently stands at circa €6.5m⁵ and will have no draw down on funds until 2025/26. In the interim the funding of the AHP and further contributions to the AHEF are reliant on the generosity of past pupils and parents who recognise the impact these contributions make to fulfilling the promise of the AHP and changing each boy’s life.

You can find information on how to support the AHP on www.clongowes.net or contact the Foundation at foundation@clongowes.net 045 902334

THE ALBERTO HURTADO
ENDOWMENT FUND
LAUNCHED JANUARY 2020
TARGET 20M



⁵ August 2022



ALBERTO HURTADO

Alberto Hurtado is a modern Chilean, Jesuit saint. A priest, a lawyer and a social worker, Alberto Hurtado established a foundation to care for children in need of food, shelter and education. He was canonised on October 23, 2005, by Pope Benedict XVI.

As a child, impoverished by the untimely death of his father, Alberto was offered an opportunity to attend St. Ignatius College, a prestigious Jesuit school in Santiago, as a 'scholarship boy'. He went on to study Law while working in the afternoons to help his mother and brother. With his mother's blessing, Alberto was able to enter the Society of Jesus in 1923, at the age of 22, when his family no longer needed his help. During his formation he trained in Europe – including Ireland – and became an accomplished academic and teacher.

After his studies and his ordination Fr Hurtado SJ dedicated the rest of his life to helping the disadvantaged and especially in helping young people to access education as a way of escaping from poverty.

"THROUGHOUT ITS MORE THAN TWO-HUNDRED-YEAR HISTORY CLONGOWES CONSCIOUSLY HAS SOUGHT TO EDUCATE YOUNG MEN OF COMPETENCE, CONSCIENCE AND COMPASSION, YOUNG MEN WHO SEEK TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND AT THE NATIONAL AND EUROPEAN LEVEL."



CLONGOWES
FOUNDATION

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