

## Final Output

My journey as a leader started during the application process for the Laidlaw Scholarship. During this period, I took the initiative to email all academics studying topics of interest to me until I found one willing to be my supervisor for a self-proposed project. This was the first time I had the chance to take such control over my own academic development, and I grabbed with as full a force as I could. I think the point when I developed from being just a leader for myself to being an ethical leader was during the residential leadership training weekend of my first year on the scholarship. Getting to know everyone in the cohort showed me how capable and, more importantly, how kind each person on the Laidlaw scheme truly was. I found myself more willing to throw myself into the training activities because if such genuine people are so willing to participate, I cannot let them down. I discovered a desire to work as a team for a common goal. I took this attitude with me during my summer research placement at the UCL Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience. The master's student I was working with (Cici) almost immediately divided up the workload evenly between us. We had quite a healthy working relationship, with both of us willing to cover each other if sickness or other obligations needed to be dealt with. Taking the step from ethical leader to global citizen was the biggest challenge for me. I initially applied to be a Laidlaw Scholar with a pure interest in the research side of the scheme and for the past year I had been dreading needing to go abroad to an unfamiliar place. Now that I am back, I realise that this was the most valuable aspect of the entire scholarship. Going outside the West for the first time, teaching in a Zambian primary school and living as part of a family with a culture so different from mine was the most enriching experience of my life. In Zambia, the people work harder than anyone else I have ever met but not out of a selfish desire to be the best or the richest but out of a genuine and devout belief that you should work for the benefit of others and your family. It taught me that being a global citizen is to bring the best aspects of yourself to the best aspects of a different culture. It taught me that to lead ethically in a new environment is to accommodate the differences of others while doing what is right. The main take away from this whole experience for me is to be open to growth. Before I was a Laidlaw scholar, I was reluctant to go outside my comfort zone but now that I have been forced out of it, I have also been forced to learn about myself and how to change for the better. If I want to keep growing as an ethical leader I cannot rely on the Laidlaw foundation to push me, I need to open myself up to growth. So that is what I will do.