



# Community Languages Schools

## Ambassador Program Student Profile



### Felipe Ferreira Basioli

My name is Felipe Ferreira Basioli. I attended Brazilian-Portuguese community language school from Kindergarten to Year 6.

Community language schools are not just about learning languages – they are about building communities. The most rewarding part about being involved in community languages schools is that you can engage with your own cultural background. The part I enjoyed the most was not only learning about, but being immersed in, my cultural background. I was able to learn about my history, cuisine, festivals, events, geography and so much more, as well as develop friendships that have continued into my adult life.



Without my experiences, I would not have had the amazing opportunities to further my own growth in my language and community. I studied Portuguese at the Secondary College of Languages from Year 7 through to Year 12. The solid foundation which I had accessed through my time at my community language school, enabled me to achieve the successes that I did in my high school language learning and gave me the opportunity to hone and develop my understanding of Brazilian-Portuguese, which helped me further develop my language skills. I was the first student in New South Wales to have studied Portuguese from primary through to secondary school and include it as one of my Higher School Certificate subjects. I hope I will be able to inspire future students to pursue this path and achieve fantastic goals along the way.

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I am currently an English and Portuguese teacher, teaching Portuguese at the Secondary College of Languages. I continue to work very closely with my community language school, using my experience to help guide and inform parents and students about the importance and reward of pursuing a second language, and supporting the community languages schools program.

I cannot stress enough the positive value that being part of the community languages program had on me personally. The memories and lessons that I experienced has helped me find my calling as a language teacher. I feel incredibly lucky to have this position as a Community Languages Ambassador to help promote the importance of community languages programs.