

Joan Worrall



In 2002 I decided to change from a state school system to the Accelerated Christian Education (A.C.E.) curriculum. The transition afforded some big changes not only in my learning skills, but also at a deeper, personal level. Ermelo Christian School (E.C.S.) filled the gaps in my learning, that were skipped over in the government school and built a solid foundation for my future. I will always cherish the memories of the people I met there and the different connections I made. The one-on-one interactions with both the Supervisors and Monitors allowed me the chance to receive the personal assistance that most students often need; this relationship also allowed me to approach them on a more personal, yet respectful manner.

Thanks to E.C.S. and A.C.E. I've been allowed to start my studies through the University of South Africa (UNISA) and complete my BA in psychological counselling. The experience provided by the individual and mostly independent pace-based learning has taught me to plan out my studies per day and kept me focussed on completing each assignment and studying for every exam without distraction. The PACEs are underlined with emphasis on varieties of character traits Christ portrayed.

I am forever grateful to have been allowed to graduate through Ermelo Christian School. I will always remember my experiences and the friends I made there. No matter how many years might pass, I will carry the good times and my matric year with me. It was not just about academics, but about building character, focussing on and studying the Bible, which included daily devotions ; these were some of my favourite moments where we could share thoughts and express ourselves in a relaxed and meaningful setting, making friends and developing our personal talents. Sports, then and now, has been an integral part of school activities – thanks to SACSSA (South African Christian School Sports Academy) sports has continued to grow and has encouraged students to compete against other schools and compete at higher levels. Every week we were presented with the opportunity to learn basic computer skills with FutureKids. I can easily say that I have thrived there more than I would've in any other school. I am now privileged to be part of the staff and looking at the other side of the system. 14 odd years later and I still see the value of A.C.E and E.C.S. in my own students and I know that, like me, they will carry the experience wherever they go and I would recommend that anyone send their own children to an A.C.E. school as I know they will benefit highly from it.