Year Six Across- the-Curriculum- Extension (ACE) Student Reflections

St Anthony’s has had a Gifted and Talented Programme since 2009. The withdrawal programme has been for students in Years Four – Six who have demonstrated above average ability or a high commitment to self-motivated learning. The following are reflections, Year Six ACE students have written to share their thoughts about their participation in the programme.

Mollie Duffy

I joined ACE in Year Four. I have really enjoyed ACE and working with my friends. My favourite activity (special night) was the Night of Notables, I completed in Year Five. It has been lots of fun working in the extension class. I recommend you go if you are selected.

I have been participating in ACE since Year Four. I am very grateful that I have been selected to be in the ACE programme where I feel like everyone is one. I love the projects that we do in ACE as they are fun and you can work at your own pace. Our latest assignment has been Tony Ryan’s Thinkers Keys. Thank you Mrs Barton for all your hard work.

Angelina Casotti

I joined ACE in Year Five, all the way up to the end of Year Six. There have been lots of fun events. My favourite event was the big ACE night when we used Tony Ryan’s Thinkers Keys to build up a project of our own choice.

I built a diorama with two mountains in the corners, with a river going down the middle and a hydro-electric power plant on the left side. I have set up wind turbines and on the right side is a house with a working solar panel.

Over all I had a great time in ACE completing many creative activities.

Abbigail Higgins
I started ACE in Year Four (2012). What I’ve really liked about ACE is working with like-minded people. In Year Four we read ‘Nathan Nuttboard Hits the Beach’ by Anthony Eaton and in Year Five ‘Hitler’s Daughter’ by Jackie French ‘and selected Gardner’s Multiple Intelligences activities to complete our responses to the books.

In Year Five we did budgeting to begin with and later in the year ‘Night of Notables’ where I selected Sir Peter Scott. He was the founder of the World Wildlife Fund.

This year we completed budgeting task of purchasing and furnishing a unit with a budget of $3000. To finish the programme we learnt about Tony Ryan’s Thinkers Keys. ACE has been really fun!

Alyssa Scarfone

I began ACE in Year Four so I could challenge myself and show all of my abilities. I found that all of the projects have more than one subject and I think this allows kids to show the strongest abilities in all tasks.

I enjoyed our budgeting and ‘Night of Notables’ projects/tasks the most because I liked looking into/studying Fiona Wood.

I think ACE is an amazing programme that allows us to work to the fullest of our abilities.

Amberley Parker

I joined the ACE programme in Year Four. I have worked with my friends but I have also made friends with other people who had a similar intelligence to my own.

I have many challenges but with the rules that I have learnt during ACE, I feel I will be able to use later in life. I also enjoyed the technology part of the programme.

Sophie Gianatti
I have been in ACE since Year Four. I liked working as a group. It was very different types of learning.

I learnt a lot of strategies that I feel will help me in high school and even beyond that.

In ACE everything is up for discussion and all opinions are heard.

I really enjoyed the opportunity.

Victoria Pavy

I have been in ACE since halfway through Year Four when I first enrolled at St Anthony’s school. I have loved being in ACE because of the challenges and in my normal classes we have to wait for others. In ACE we can go ahead and push ourselves.

For our Tony Ryan’s Thinkers Keys presentation I did the importance of education because I love learning and that’s why I love ACE.

All in all I love ACE and learning in general.

Jade Mellowship

I started in the ACE programme when I was in Year Four (2012). The ACE programme is an extension programme that benefits students that are willing to be challenged to a higher level than others.

At the end of Year Three I was invited to join this programme for the following year. My ACE experience was very worthwhile as it has helped me to not only extend my extension work but to also extend me in my class work as well.

It was great fun and interesting experience that taught me skills to use in the future. If you ever get a chance to join ACE I recommend you take it!

Laura Outred
I joined ACE in Year Four which was when I started to think it’s great that we are working in a small group of students. We are withdrawn from our normal classes to take part in ACE in the afternoon.

We get to work at a speed of our choice and not at the speed of other students. We do difference activities like profiles and maths – buying and furnishing a unit and ‘Night of Notables’.

I enjoyed doing ACE with my friends and people who I don’t normally work with from the other class.

The whole experience was great!

Abbey Everley

I started ACE in Term Three, Year Four. I have enjoyed looking at things in difference ways. My favourite was our budgeting project where we had $275 000 to buy a unit and $3000 to furnish it.

I also particularly liked working with Tony Ryan’s Thinkers Keys to look at things in a further extended way.

My time in ACE has been enjoyable. I have learnt a lot more in ACE considering I started later than the other students.

Shayla Flendt

I started in the ACE extension programme when I was in Year Four. ACE has been really good for me because I get to do activities that challenge me which I really enjoy.

The activity I have enjoyed the most was Tony Ryan’s Thinkers Keys because it has shown me different ways to think. We studied the Thinkers Keys over two terms this year. We started in Term Two where we looked at the keys and we bought all our learning together in Term Three.

In Term Three we choose a topic; mine was ‘Laughter’ and we used the keys to research our topic and present it. I really love ACE and would recommend it to any children who love challenges.

Natasha Povey
Out of my three years in ACE I have learnt a lot more than what I thought I would. I started in Year Four and worked my way through to Year Six.

I like how I worked with a group of smarter children so I could understand them better.

I had a couple of ‘stumbles’ throughout ACE and I learnt from my mistakes. That is another think I liked about ACE when I made mistakes I learnt from them. This is particularly why I like being in the programme. **Nicholas Piccioni**

I started in ACE in 2012 and have loved doing extension work since. ACE has pushed me up and above the standard expectation for such subjects as English. ACE encourages you to work harder so that you not only use your ability but helps to prepare us for High School. **Connor Rullo**

I started Ace in 2012 in Year Four and have in the programme ever since. I have enjoyed doing all the big projects such as ‘Night of Notables’ and Tony Ryan’s Thinkers Keys. We were able to dress up and present our work that we had completed over the term.

I also enjoyed being with a group of people with similar ability to learn.

ACE was a great adventure! **Zoee Spadano**