

## Media Statement if the story “breaks” and Knight is charged

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### **St Paul’s School Statement regarding police matter**

St Paul’s School, Bald Hills, has offered counselling for any current or past students upset by the laying of charges against a former teacher arising from alleged incidents approximately 20 years ago.

The charges, against a teacher who was at the school from 1981 to 1984, are upsetting for the school community, coming as they do following the conclusion of successful mediations between the Anglican Diocese of Brisbane and former students who had claimed sexual abuse by another former, deceased staff member.

The School believes the current case highlights the risks associated with the lack until very recently of a national background checking system prior to registration of teachers moving from one State to another.

St Paul’s Head of School Margaret Goddard said counselling was available to any students who were concerned by the matter.

“Our main focus at this time is on the welfare of those former students involved in this case,” she said.

“The St Paul’s School community has successfully dealt with similar issues in recent times displaying a healthy, robust and caring community spirit. Our key aim is to resolve these matters in a compassionate way in keeping with our Christian ideals. All of those involved are fully committed to demonstrating the fine reputation for quality student care for which St Paul’s is known,” she said.

“The systems for dealing with complaints of teacher misconduct of this type have been further refined by the Diocese recently and all procedures related to such matters as laid down by the Diocese are in place at St Paul’s to respond to any such complaint.”

#### **For further information contact:**

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