



A School of the
Anglican Church
of Australia



26 June 1997

Mr Ron Ashton
Minter Ellison Lawyers
PO Box 7844
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Attention: Mr N Doucas

Dear Mr Doucas,

Re: St Paul's School - Lynch

Thank you for your letter of 20 June.

I apologise for not responding earlier, but the end of term has been a very busy period.

With respect to the matters which you asked me to research, I now advise as follows:

The position of Student Counsellor to which Mr Lynch was appointed was a new one, created by the School Council following the receipt of the School Evaluation Report completed in 1988.

The position was advertised in the *Weekend Australian* of 15 & 16 October 1988, and Mr Lynch's application was received on 4 November. I have not been able to locate a copy of the advertisement, and other applications would have been destroyed some time ago. It is the School's policy not to retain unsuccessful applications beyond a short period after the position has been filled.

Mr Lynch was interviewed for the position on 9 November 1988 by myself, and by Mr RF Geise, who was then the Director of Studies, and by Mr JC Wright, who was then Senior Master.

At the time of his appointment Mr Lynch held a Primary Teaching Certificate from Sydney Teachers College, a Degree of Bachelor of Education from the University of Queensland, and a Diploma of School Counselling, also from the University of Queensland. He was a member of the Australian College of Education, The American Association for Counseling and Development, the Guidance and Counselling Association of Queensland, and the State Committee of Guidance and Careers Counsellors, of which last body he had been an Executive Member for 10 years.

ST PAUL'S SCHOOL

After teaching in New South Wales he had joined the staff of St Joseph's College Gregory Terrace at the beginning of 1966, transferring to Brisbane Grammar School in 1973. He had become the Student Counsellor at Brisbane Grammar School at the start of 1977. (I was not certain of this last date when I spoke to you.)

I mentioned to you when we met that a formal appraisal system for staff had been instituted at St Paul's only in 1996. Because of the number of staff involved, it was agreed to conduct the initial appraisals over a four year period. The Academic Dean, who has had responsibility for the introduction of the appraisal system, advises me that Mr Lynch was not appraised in 1996.

You asked me to check what the confidential information might be which two recent complainants alleged Mr Lynch had shared with the other. I believe there was some suggestion that these matters included the boys' concern about adequacy of penis size, but this was not expressed in any way which could have pointed to the suggestion that the boys' sexual organs had been sighted by Mr Lynch. This comment is added from memory: there is no detail on either boys' file.

There is one other matter which I have not mentioned before, because it seemed not to be directly related to the matters under discussion, but which I now include because of its obvious seriousness. Mr Lynch told the two Deputies at St Paul's that he had been raped by two men on one evening, the event occurring between approximately mid November and mid December 1996. There was no suggestion that the attackers had any connection with this or with any other School. He had sworn my two Deputies to secrecy, and they broke the confidence only on learning of his arrest and the reason for it. I later became aware of one other person, not directly associated with the School, to whom Mr Lynch had also told this story. This third person, at last report, no longer believes that the rape took place.

From my notes the above material covers all the matters which you asked me to research further. Please let me know if any additional details are required.

Yours sincerely,



GA Case
Headmaster