

REDACTED

CABRAMATTA NSW 2166

28 October, 1997

Ms Sue Dixon
Principal
Mater Dei
PO Box 3090
NARELLAN NSW 2567

Dear Ms Dixon,

Our son, REDACTED, has been attending your school for the last 3 years. We have been very pleased with the progress REDACTED has made during this time.

However, we have been deeply disturbed by several incidents that have occurred in recent times. For the last few weeks, we have noticed that REDACTED has been returning home from school with various bruises, scratches and bite marks. These mainly appear on his arms and back. We have expressed our concern about this to REDACTED's teacher, Gayle Roberts. The reply was that the teachers are unable to supervise every student all of the time. We do not find this a satisfactory response considering the markings that have been appearing on REDACTED's body. These markings, in our opinion, are not due to normal playground activities.

We are deeply concerned that REDACTED is being mistreated in some way. It is now at the stage that REDACTED refuses to board his regular morning bus to school. REDACTED becomes very distressed and agitated by the sight of the bus. I now have no choice but to drive REDACTED to school myself, which takes approximately 40 minutes. REDACTED has also been very withdrawn and lethargic at home and is not his normal self. These matters were discussed with you in our meeting of 20/10/97.

Last year, REDACTED came home with two bruises and a blood blister on his head. This blister was so severe, that REDACTED's head could not be touched without causing him pain. We raised these issues with the then Principal, Mr Green who basically brushed the incident aside. Mr Green first told us that REDACTED was very aggressive. He then later changed his story and said that it was another student who was aggressive and this student was hitting other students with a stick. Mr Green did not take any action in regards to this.

In our next meeting with you on 22/10/97, we discussed the matter of another student at the school who in the past had been displaying aggressive sexual activity. It was indicated by you that this student has not displayed these tendencies in the last four years and has sought psychiatric assistance. We are not saying that this student is responsible, or for that matter, an adult. However, something has happened within the school grounds in the last few weeks that have shocked and disturbed REDACTED.

We are requesting that these matters be investigated by yourself. We are also requesting a written reply from yourself within 14 days as to what course of action will be taken by you. Our son has been greatly affected by this and we will have no hesitation in persuing this matter further if a satisfactory response is not received.

Yours Sincerley,

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