



Catholic Education
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Catholic Education Centre

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F/e

TO: ARCHBISHOP WILSON
ORGANISATION: CATHOLIC CHURCH OFFICE
FAX NO: 8210 8187

RECEIVED
12 FEB 2002

FROM: ALLAN DOOLEY
DATE: 12 FEBRUARY, 2002

BY:

Number of pages including this page: 3 Please telephone if correct number of pages is not received

Message:

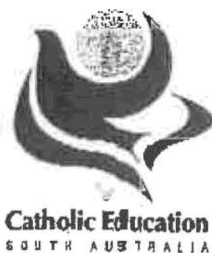
Dear Archbishop Wilson

Please find attached a memo from me regarding St Ann's Special School and a conversation I recently had with Karen Rogers.

Should you require any further information at this stage please do not hesitate to let me know.

Regards

Allan



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MEMO

TO:	ARCHBISHOP WILSON
FROM:	ALLAN DOOLEY
DATE:	12 FEBRUARY 2002
SUBJECT:	ST ANN'S SPECIAL SCHOOL

Dear Archbishop Wilson,

Over the weekend I had a lengthy conversation with Karen Rogers (Parent Advocate). She filled me on the meeting that took place on Monday 4th February.

The following are matters about which we spoke.

1. The police attended the meeting and advised that Brian Perkins was living in Gin Gin (QLD) and has come to the attention of the police in that area, although I am unsure about the focus of this attention. The police indicated that even if he were returned to SA and convicted that a fine might be all he would receive. The police were also of mixed views regarding the sending of a broader letter to families and indicated that they would speak to superiors re this matter. I had previously let the Public Advocate (John Harley) know that he should indicate to the meeting our wish to send a letter.
2. The police also indicated that because Brian has no conviction for these offences that a police check would not show any information. I am a bit concerned re this given his previous record and Tony Fuller is trying to gain formal information about his previous convictions.
3. Karen has met with the REDACTED of LH (the student who was interviewed on the tape by police) and advised them of the abuse he received. LH is currently living in Port Adelaide and NE was his RED mother at the time. We believe she does not wish to come forward. His REDACTED with whom he has contact were very upset and Karen believes they may well come and speak with us. It would appear that LH has tried to speak before with them about this matter. Karen said that the parents had contacted NE about LH's comments but were told not to listen to him about these matters. LH is currently seeing Malcolm Robinson (Counsellor) and, according to Karen Rogers has indicated that some girls were also involved, that he can remember the places where he was abused and that there was a room without a floor as well. His REDACTED have not attended any of the meetings yet.
4. Karen asked about counselling costs for LH and I said I didn't think it would be a problem and that she should contact Pauline. I have briefed Pauline.

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6. Karen said that a couple of the parents were still interested in the media and that she was getting some advice on how to handle this matter if the media are approached and what focus to put on any contact. The person she is going to ask to speak to the group is a friend who works with The Australian and has a disabled child. She advises me that she does not recommend to the parents any media contact at this time.
7. I advised her that we had approved some financial assistance for the meetings and that we would arrange a way to account for expenditure.
8. Karen indicated that she was writing to me from the meeting to invite me to one of the meetings. The next meetings are set for, 18/2; 4/3; and 18/3.
9. She was hoping that the internal investigations on our part could move forward as soon as possible.

Finally I again assured Karen of our wish to move this forward as quickly as possible

A few reflections:

1. I think it would be good to meet with the police to get up to date information ourselves perhaps prior to our meeting next week;
2. I believe it would be good for me and Pauline to attend a meeting;
3. I _____n;
4. I shall contact the Public Advocate and see where he is up to with his work on a possible draft letter to the broader community;
5. Tony Fuller and I have nearly completed the terms of reference for an independent enquiry for your further consideration.

Regards,

Allen