

**Catholic Education Centre**

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MEMO

TO:	ARCHBISHOP WILSON FATHER DAVID CAPPO
FROM:	ALLAN DOOLEY
DATE:	31 JULY 2001
SUBJECT:	ST ANN'S SPECIAL SCHOOL

FAXED
3/17/01

Dear Archbishop Wilson,

Further to our conversations regarding St Ann's Special School I met with Pauline Verity for a couple of hours yesterday. The following is a brief summary of our recommendations for immediate attention and in further conversation with you I could brief you on the wide ranging discussion that we had about the complexity and range of issues associated with these allegations, our processes and response.

We first recommend in accord with our Policies and Principles for handling matters which involve criminal allegations that I write to the families concerned and advise that these matters should be referred to the police in order that statements and evidence can be collected by the police in the first instance. I have assured them of our support should they require such in contacting the police and have provided them with contact details for Detective Sergeant Paul Lewandowski of the Child Exploitation Section of the SA Police. Continuing support will also be offered.

I have attached letters that I have drafted to LJ [redacted], the parent who spoke with me, and to the other families whose details she provided for your consideration. I have also provided these drafts to Pauline and Jane for their comment.

One of the families phoned yesterday and indicated that they would like to speak with me. They could not meet for a couple of weeks and I haven't contacted them back at this stage.

We also recommend that once the police investigation is concluded including any court findings should that be appropriate, our own Towards Healing policies and procedures be engaged to further consider the complaints including pastoral and other support for these families given their particular circumstances.

In regard to on going pastoral care of the families I have indicated to the families that a support person will be provided and assured them of our on going care.

Pauline and I spoke about the care we should take with the staff of St Ann's at this time. We recommend that Jane Swift and I visit the school and indicate to the staff that that some allegations from the past have been received and talk to them about our processes and how we are proceeding. We would also assure the staff of our concern and ongoing support for them and their community in working through these matters. Your own involvement would be welcomed and appreciated should you consider such appropriate. It is likely that staff may

hear from parents and that they will be able convey contact details and information about Toward Healing policies and procedures.

I recommend that we brief Matt Abraham. We think that the media, if approached by the parents, would ask if the police and Church had been contacted and at this stage may not run with any story until such investigations have been concluded.

I will also ensure that we maintain contact with families and the school staff to support and monitor progress.

I am out of the office until about 3.30 and can be contacted by mobile on **REDACTED** until about 1.30 as I am attending the St Ignatius' Golden Jubilee Mass at 1.45.

I shall contact you further later today.

Regards,



Allan.