

1 June 2004

LL & Mrs LK

REDACTED

Dear LL & LK

I am writing further to you regarding St Ann's Special School.

You will be aware that I referred a number of specific questions (detailed in the attached report on pages 1 and 2) to Mr Brian Hayes QC, and commissioned him to provide me with a report in relation these questions.

I have now received that advice and report.

As your son LB was a student at the School at the time of those events I am enclosing a copy of the report for you to consider. You will notice that some names have been deleted from pages 26 and 27. I have done this because we are prohibited by law from publishing any information which might tend to identify a victim or potential victim of child sexual abuse.

I am conscious that in the past the Church has been accused of "covering up" events at St Ann's and I know there has been a good deal of speculation and anticipation about Mr Hayes' report as to the response of the School and Church authorities at the time.

While ordinarily Mr Hayes' report would be subject to legal privilege, I feel I have a strong moral obligation to waive that legal privilege so that you and other affected families can be assured of complete openness in our dealings with those issues.

You will be aware that in the spirit of Towards Healing the Church has already provided spiritual, pastoral and financial support to many families of former students and has made monetary gifts without in any way limiting any rights those families may have to take legal action or to speak out against the Church.

I hope that you will accept that the release of the report is a further demonstration of my commitment to deal meaningfully and with a real sense of justice with any grievances which anyone may properly have against the Church.

I am truly sorry for all the past failings in dealing with those matters.

Once again I ask for your forgiveness and give you my promise that I will continue to do all I can to ensure that the safety and well-being of all children in our care is paramount in our work.

Yours sincerely

Most Reverend Philip Wilson DD JCL
Archbishop of Adelaide