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### **Actions taken by Catholic Education Toowoomba**

In recent months, Catholic Education Toowoomba has been working closely with the relevant authorities to update our policies and systems and has already initiated the following actions:

- The appointment of a student protection officer in the field to coordinate and oversee all matters in relation to student protection within the Diocese. The position has been advertised and we expect the full-time position to commence in January 2010.
- A thorough review and update of the Diocese's Student Protection Kit.
- Thorough re-training of all relevant school and Catholic Education Office staff in the use of this Kit and what is expected of them. Additional training has been undertaken at the school where the alleged abuse occurred and for staff within the Toowoomba Catholic Education Office. Further training across the Diocese has been planned for the new year.
- Close collaboration with State bodies to share learnings and consider improvements to the current regulatory framework.

In addition, Catholic Education Toowoomba has also proactively undertaken the following measures since becoming aware of the allegations

- Childwise Student Protection sessions were presented to parents on 13 April and 14 July in Toowoomba (both sessions) Warwick, Dalby, Roma and Charleville.
- Childwise Student Protection sessions were presented to all school staff on 14 April and 14 July in Toowoomba (both sessions) Warwick, Dalby, Roma and Charleville and to Catholic Education Office staff in Toowoomba on 24 July 2009.
- All staff received a letter from the Toowoomba Catholic Education Office Director reminding them of their duties in relation to the well being and safety of the students in their care, with particular reference to student protection.
- All relief teachers are now required to have completed the Childwise Student Protection Inservice or a school-based training session before being offered relief teaching duties.
- A visibility audit was completed and follow up with Diocesan schools with identified needs has commenced.
- The planning and management for the provision of a parent information resource aligned to each Diocesan school library is still under development and should be completed shortly.