



**CATHOLIC EDUCATION OFFICE
DIOCESE OF TOOWOOMBA**

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**Student Protection
Biennial All Staff Inservice
16 April 2007 (Toowoomba)**

Presenter;
Suzanne Brooks BA, MEd, LLB (Hons)

"What Parents Want"

An Independent Schools Queensland Survey 2006.
A total of 4116 parents took part: 85 schools.

KEY FINDINGS

Parents want to ensure their children have the best possible life and learning environment in a school with a good reputation.

Top 3 factors:

1. Child to reach full potential.
2. Good discipline
3. Responsible attitude towards work.

TABLE 2: Factors of Importance.

Category	Factors	Importance of Factors in Decision	
		A Lot	Very
School Type	Religious affiliation	16.9 %	23.3 %
	Non-religious affiliation	6.8 %	7.7 %
	Teaching methods/philosophy	35.4 %	57.4 %
	Both sexes at school	24.9 %	25.9 %
	Single sex school	6.3 %	8.3 %
	School offers P-12 schooling	19.9 %	38.5 %
	School offers only primary (or secondary)	4.2 %	4.3 %
	School operates a junior, middle, senior structure	22.2 %	22.5 %
	Small class size	31.1 %	49.7 %
Size of school	31.5 %	38.9 %	
Curriculum	Artistic & musical opportunities	31.4 %	31.5 %
	Oppunities to learn languages	27.3 %	23.5 %
	Sports opportunities available	33.2 %	26.3 %
	Provision for special needs	18.2 %	21.2 %
	Range of subjects offered	40.1 %	37.4 %
	Facilities for science & technology	37.2 %	35.0 %
	Provision for diverse learning pathways	30.0 %	35.8 %
Characteristics	Encouraging responsible attitude to school work	29.5 %	66.0 %
	Developing a sense of community responsibility	33.7 %	57.2 %
	Students from similar social backgrounds	18.9 %	15.6 %
	Good discipline	26.0 %	68.7 %
	Strong academic performance	35.3 %	44.4 %
	Preparation for student to fulfil potential in life	23.1 %	72.4 %
	Prospects for school leavers	28.9 %	47.6 %
	Reputation of school	29.6 %	59.3 %
Service	Mix of students from all social backgrounds	25.0 %	22.2 %
	School seemed right for student's individual needs	30.5 %	59.9 %
	Level of school fees	31.4 %	22.2 %
	Closeness to home	29.5 %	24.8 %
	Ease of access via rail or bus	14.4 %	11.8 %
People	Availability of before or after school care	10.8 %	12.0 %
	Presence of child-care facility on site/adjacent	7.1 %	8.1 %
	Experience of friends with children at the school	30.5 %	29.3 %
	Past experience of having a child at the school	12.8 %	21.9 %
	Own or spouses personal experience at the school	7.8 %	9.7 %
	Child's own choice	17.3 %	10.7 %
Appearance/behaviour existing students	36.2 %	43.4 %	

Activity 2: Risk management practice scenario

Activity	Risks – What could go wrong?	Level L/M/H/E	Risk control measures – Action taken to prevent harm, limit damage, reduce liability	Rate your controls			
				N	D	I	NA
Overnight activity	Inappropriate person volunteers for supervision duty	High – extreme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Careful recruitment process including screening of all staff and volunteers attending/involved in the activity 				
	Adult and child alone together in sleeping quarters	High - extreme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure appropriate child/staff ratios at all times Staff/volunteer training in all procedures Code of Conduct training 				
	Emotional/ physical/sexual abuse by staff member or volunteer	High - extreme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Conduct training for all staff/volunteers Staff supervision 				
	Emotional/ physical/sexual abuse by another child/young person attending	High - extreme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of conduct for children/young people Protective Behaviours training for children/young people Buddy system for children/young people Staff/volunteer training in procedures for reporting abuse 				
	Emotional/ physical/sexual abuse by an outsider	High – extreme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision by staff/volunteers based on site-related risks Staff training in procedures for conduct of activities Training children/young people in code of conduct, their responsibilities during activities and reporting (risks of) harm Protective Behaviours training for children/young people 				

CODE: N – Not done D – Developing I – Implementing N/A – Not applicable Signed/Date: _____

Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian

2

RISK MANAGEMENT TEMPLATE

SCHOOL: _____

Activity	Risks - What could go wrong?	Level L/M/H/E	Risk Control measures - Action taken to prevent harm limit damage, reduce liability	Rate your controls			
				N	D	I	NA

CODE: N - Not done D - Developing I - Implementing N/A - Not applicable

Signed/Date: _____

3

Country School/Rural School

Transport Risk Management –

Foreseeable Problems	1. By Bus owned by school %	2. By Private Contractor %	3. By Parents %	4. By Student Driving %	5. By Foot By Bike Skate Board %	6. Remedies
Issue 1 Sexy stuff Not wearing safety stuff Not going straight home Rudeness to other people						
Issue 2						
Issue 3						

Athletics Trip to Lismore 21 mixed gender years 9, 10, 11	Foreseeable	Remedies
1. Travel is by bus 2. (5hours)		
3. Wed Thursday Friday		
4. 21 students male & female		
5. Years 9, 10 & 11		
6. Billeted with families x 3 schools		
7. One School is venue		

FORM THREE

BILLETING INFORMATION & AGREEMENT CRICKET TOUR 2006

EXPECTATIONS OF BILLETING PARENTS – TO BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED

1. Please tick boxes to show you have read and accepted these expectations.
 - a. The student will be provided with clean accommodation, room, comfortable bed, cupboard space and have access to bathroom facilities.
 - b. Three meals per day will be provided for the student (except on Wednesday when no lunch is required).
 - c. Any laundry will be done by the billeting family.
 - d. The billeting parents will act "in loco parentis" for the student and as such, are responsible for his care. Proper care of the student is expected at all times.
 - e. The legalities of having a student in your care are "in loco parentis" i.e. the same as being a parent caring for your own children. Since the safety and welfare of the student is of paramount concern, the billeting parents have the authority to and are expected to report inappropriate behaviour to the teacher in charge.
 - f. The student is to be treated as part of the family and to be included in family outings and leisure activities organised for the evenings and other free times.
 - g. The student must not be left alone at home without any companionship from members of the family.
 - h. The student will have his own pocket and spending money and is expected to pay his own way on family outings.
 - i. **Please ensure there is a curfew in your home.** The College asks that all billeting parents set times for the student to be home depending on the age of your student. Students must phone the billeting parents if they will be home after these times. It is the preferred option of the College that students should not go out in the company of other students only – but as part of a family outing. You must be

aware of the whereabouts of your billeted student at all times.

j. Smoking, the consumption of alcohol, the possession and/or use of illicit drugs and inappropriate behavior are not to be tolerated and must be reported immediately to the Teacher in charge. Phone/contact numbers will be provided.

k. Billeting families will deliver and pick up boys from the match ground daily (except for Wednesday 18th January – Rest Day)

NB. Please read attached Form Seven – Helpful Hints

2. Please note:

- Any special (medical) information will be shared confidentially with the billeting Mother and Father.
- The School will arrange for pick-up and delivery of all boys from the Airport.
- Rest day (Wednesday) activities are arranged independently of Iona.
- They are arranged by each visiting school to suit their own recreational preference.

BILLETING AGREEMENT

3. Acceptance of Offer to Billet Visiting Student Cricketer, 15th – 20th January 2006

I (print) Mother

I (print) Father

- Have read this document and the information provided and confirm our family agrees to accept a billet for the 2006 Cricket Team in accordance with the Expectations of Billeting Parents.
- Declare there is no moral or legal reasons which prevents us from being suitable to billet visiting students.

I/We understand and accept these responsibilities.

Signature Mother

Signature Father

Names of host family Sons attending College:

Name Age Grade

Name Age Grade

Scenarios

Transport Primary Secondary/Catholic Schools in close proximity

One

- a) Students travel 15k to and from school on a private-bus contracted by the School.
- b) Students get on and off at known stops.
- c) Ages of students range from Year 1 to Year 12.
- d) Year 11 boy exposes himself in the bus causing great consternation and immediate strong parental complaints by parents to the 2 Principals.????

Two

Parts a), b) and c) the same. The bus driver and the School have been informed that the parents of one student will always meet the bus at that student's stop. They are not infrequently NOT at the stop when the bus arrives.

What to do?

Would it be different if it was a school owned bus?

Three

Urban school. Teacher see students safely on to private buses contracted by the School. One student decides not to ride on her normal bus but goes with a friend on another bus. They have "fun round the town" and arrive home at 11pm.???

Parents very angry with the school.

Four

"School" bus (private contractor *Richlands Transport*) hits a cow on the journey. Two students hurt. Driver found to be over the limit. Parents want to sue the school.????

What to do?

8

Five

Year 12 boys from St Mary's , traveling home by public transport .One throws another's back pack out the window. It hits the windscreen of a car .Car able to stop and "no damage done."
Driver demands action from the school????

Six

Two year 11 girls in fist cuffs over a boy in the town mall. One gives the other a bloody nose and threatens to "fix her" if she tells.

She tells her mother who demands action from the school.???

Seven

There are 122 boys in year 8 at St Xavier's. All decide (as a prank) to email and text message ONE boy. "YOU are a homo" All messages are sent on the one night.
The boy is devastated.
Parents demand full investigation and action.

Eight

One year 9 boy at one catholic school "outs" another year 9 boy on MY Spacewith photos of him in his uniform!!!! Parents outraged.
School outraged.
???

Nine

Year 11 male student , (troubled and troubling boy) caught in the playground showing year 4 boys how to snort powder "practising for later when they can get the real stuff" Parents want expulsion

Ten

Anorexic girl student (year 11, parents will NOT accept she has a disorder) wants to go on the year 11 adventure camp. The student rarely can do physical exercise at school. The school is not wanting to take her.
Can the school do anything ???

SCENARIO 1

Catholic school

1. Maths teacher employed at school for 18 years.
2. For at least the last 5 years this man is a known alcoholic.
3. His wife died on cancer in 2000.
4. Arrives at school smelling of alcohol.
5. Everybody knows – including students.
6. Students “accept” that if they have lessons with him before morning tea he will be very bad tempered if there is any noise.
7. **Silent study** is required during these times.
8. Students are not infrequently thrown out of class if they do disrupt in the morning.
9. “Everybody” accepts this as “the norm” – including the kids.
10. Basically the man is a “good bloke.”
11. Years continue to pass.
12. It is now 2006.
13. Some teachers are very worried about the situation.
14. One day during silent study a “naughty boy” drags a metal ruler across the leg of his desk. It makes a piercing screaming sound.
15. The teacher loses it, grabs the student. The student's eye is struck by the metal ruler. Student collapse, ambulance called.
16. The student loses the sight of the eye.

10.

EVALUATION SHEET

Professional Development
CEO Toowoomba Diocese Staff
DALBY

16 04 07

RISK MANAGEMENT AND STUDENT PROTECTION TRAINING

SESSION _____ (1-10)
SESSION _____ (1-10)
SESSION _____ (1-10)

In evaluating this Presentation g, please ✓ the appropriate number with 1 representing LEAST EFFECTIVE and 10 MOST EFFECTIVE.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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COMMENTS

FUTURE NEEDS IN THIS AREA

COMMENTS ON THE DAY
