

**2009 Student Protection Inservice**

**20 April 2009**

**Downlands College**

**Good morning**

**The safety and security of our students is our number one priority.**

**Our commitment to this goal brings us together today.**

**2005 Bev Patterson – legislative requirements of mandatory reporting**

**2007 Queensland Police Service – Project Argus internet pedophile focus**

**2009 Childwise**

**Last night presentations were held for parents here, in Warwick and Dalby with**

**90 present. → 12 July in the main**

**This biennial professional development session is an important part of our student protection policy and procedures. It is supported in every school by school based staff development. It has featured in the last 7 of 9 information days for principals since 2007.**

**For the first time today we have relief teachers present. They must now complete a student protection requirement to be listed as relief teachers in this diocese.**

**I thank you for your commitment to teaching and working in Catholic schools in this diocese.**

**It is a matter of public record that a former teacher of a Catholic school is currently in prison on remand for 46 counts of sexual abuse against 13 students.**

**I have been asked as Director - CAN YOU GUARANTEE THAT HIS WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN?**

**No I can't but I can do everything within my power to make it almost impossible. And for this I need your help. Be vigilant, understand boundaries, be courageous.**

**I thank Margaret Hendriks and Ian Hunter and many others for bringing this day together.**

**The safety and security of our students is our number one priority.**