



GEELONG GRAMMAR SCHOOL®
EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION

From the Principal:

25th May 2015

Dear Community Member,

I am writing to you on behalf of the School Council regarding a very serious issue related to the School.

As most of you would be aware, the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse has been gathering information from institutions and schools from across Australia. In response to Notices to Produce received from the Royal Commission, Geelong Grammar School has provided material to it, relating to conduct by some former staff members, dating back to the 1960s, some of which has already been dealt with by the courts.

To aid its inquiry, the Royal Commission proposes to publish a notice in the media, in the near future, calling on former students of the School to come forward if they suffered any sexual abuse while they were at the School. I strongly encourage them to do so.

We are cooperating fully with the Royal Commission and we will be sending out the notice to former students and the wider School community. Accompanying the notice will be the name and telephone number of an independent counselling service arranged by the School to provide further confidential help and support. This would complement any approaches to the Royal Commission and should not be seen as an alternative to approaching the Royal Commission. In addition, the Victorian Victims of Crime Helpline can be contacted on 1800 819 817.

The School is appalled at any form of abuse. I commend the courage of all those who have already brought, and any who will bring, matters before the Royal Commission.

The School deeply regrets the wrongful conduct by some of its former staff. I assure you that the current School leadership is doing all that it can to address these matters in an understanding and caring manner to support those who have been affected.

The wellbeing, safety and care of our students are at the heart of everything we do as a school. Importantly, this also extends to former students who are victims of abuse.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Meek
Principal