

ARH

Maclachlan, Anne

From: Nisbett, Adrian
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2001 11:30 AM
To: Crawley, Peter; Ward, Rex
Subject: Interview with Mrs AS, 23 Feb

For the record:

Mrs AS is the mother of AS (8), who is the boy about whom the ARH situation arose last year.

She requested a meeting with Mark McCrossin (Yearmaster) and myself today.

She described a conversation with AR last Friday night at the House swimming; during which AR expressed his anger at what had happened (to him). ASZ was taken aback - she thought the situation had been resolved. Mark and I reassured her that she and her husband were absolutely correct in expressing their concern at the close relationship between AR and her son. I also reassured her that we were completely satisfied that we had acted correctly and appropriately in responding to the parents' concerns. ASZ agreed with this.

Her real concern is that a similar situation may arise at School 2. As it happens, AS was at School before coming to Knox and she had asked AS's Year 6 Yearmaster for advice prior to contacting Mark about the situation last year. She mentioned no names to the School 2 teacher, but she was worried that should anything happen at School Knox could be seen to have covered up in relation to the situation here, in not telling School of the situation.

I told ASZ that the head of School had spoken to Norrie Cannon during the holidays, Peter and Rex both being away. I told her that Norrie would have spoken of AR from his knowledge of him and that Norrie would not have known of the situation regarding her son. I told her that the head of School may have contacted Peter at a later date.

I then told her that from our perspective, the situation was investigated fully, legal advice was sought, AR was informed verbally and in writing of the school's expectations regarding his relationships with students. Nothing untoward or illegal was discovered or suggested. In effect, there was no "incident" that warranted more than the verbal and written warning/advice. Therefore, there is nothing that Knox could tell School without placing ourselves in a potentially difficult legal situation. She seemed happy with all of that.

Peter, you may wish to check with Norrie as to what sort of things were asked of him and what sort of replies he gave, just to fill in that part of the picture.

Adrian

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