

Family Meeting 04th March 2002

Present

LK	Parent
LO	Parent
LI	Parents
NL	Parents
LN	Parent
NO	Parent
LS	Parents
John Harley	Public Advocate
Richard Bruggeman	IDSC
Karen Rogers	Parent Advocate
Linda Clifford	Parent Advocate

Guests

Father David Cappo	Vicar General Catholic Church
Allan Dooley	Catholic Education Office

Apologies

LL	NM
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Introductions were made.

The Vicar General explained his position as the deputy to the Arch Bishop in the Catholic Church. He stated that the Church was shocked and upset by what had happened. They agree that there were serious mistakes made and can find no excuses for the lack of action on the part of those responsible. Allan Dooley, the Vicar General and the Arch Bishop have read the letter sent on behalf of the group and agree with everything that was stated in the letter.

The Arch Bishop has agreed there needs to be action from within the Church.

Action will include

- ◆ Letters going to all families who had a child attending St Ann's between 1986 & 1991
- ◆ A major internal investigation
- ◆ The Arch Bishop has met and will continue to meet with the Commissioner of Police on a regular basis

- ◆ Catholic Church and SA Police working together
- ◆ The Arch Bishop will meet with the Premier of SA to support legislative changes to enable people with intellectual disability to be treated differently when appearing as witnesses and will support any Parliamentary Investigation
- ◆ The Arch Bishop will make a public apology to all families.

The Arch Bishop also agreed that although it cannot be dealt with in the usual manner, the issue of compensation needs to be open for discussion. Families will be financially supported to access counsellors of their choice for as long as they (the families themselves) believe it is necessary.

Allan Dooley addressed issues related to schools.

- ◆ CEO are teaching all school staff to recognise pedophiles
- ◆ Response to allegations is now much quicker and more thorough
- ◆ All staff receive Mandatory Notification Training
- ◆ All principals are met with on an annual basis and reminded of the obligations
- ◆ CEO is looking at addressing the criteria of dealing differently with students with intellectual disability
- ◆ Queries and rumours are now acted upon immediately
- ◆ CEO are incorporating protective behaviour and sexuality in the curriculum of all special schools and units

Allan Dooley also requested that all families with concerns come and speak to CEO. CEO welcomes the presence of advocates at interviews.

There was general discussion about individual issues.

We will meet again with The Vicar General, Allan Dooley and Pauline Verity who is handling statements on Monday 8th April 2002.

Next meeting Monday 18th March 7:15pm.