



CathCommSA

Catholic Communications Adelaide

39 Wakefield Street, Adelaide SA 5000
GPO Box 1468, Adelaide SA 5001

Tel: 08 8210 8117
Fax: 08 8232 3740

Email: cathcomm@adelaide.catholic.org.au

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CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP ANNOUNCES INQUIRY

Prominent Queen's Counsel Chris Kourakis will head an inquiry into allegations of sex abuse at an Adelaide Catholic school between 1986 and 1991.

In announcing the inquiry, Archbishop Philip Wilson said he hoped the inquiry would eventually provide information on circumstances surrounding the alleged events.

It is not known how long the inquiry will take and how much information can be released publicly at the end of the inquiry. Any public statements by the Archbishop following the inquiry will be subject to legal privilege and defamation laws.

"I'm grateful to all those who have worked hard to put us in a position to be able to proceed with an investigation which, as everyone is aware, can pose major legal problems," Archbishop Wilson said.

"I hope this inquiry will provide us with information that will help us to understand more clearly exactly what happened and to use that information to review our current circumstances so we can put plans into place for the future."

The inquiry will involve extensive interviews and information from these interviews will be presented to Mr Kourakis for his advice to the Archbishop.

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"I am most happy that our process will produce material which will be reviewed by Mr Chris Kourakis who enjoys such an excellent reputation in the community as a legal practitioner and as man of principle," Archbishop Wilson said.