

This is Exhibit "F" to the Statement of
AW

Dated: 4 October 2013

To the Principal
Mr Tony Davidson
Our Lady of Fatima
Caringbah

25th October 2011.

Dear Mr Davidson,

I would like to request a meeting with you regarding before and after school care. This request is driven from the recent incident involving the YMCA and the fact that my daughter [REDACTED] is currently in before and after school with that organisation.

I telephoned the school today about this and your receptionist [REDACTED] took a message and consulted with Mrs Gaunt. I have to be honest in saying that I was not very happy with [REDACTED] returning my call and am sure that it would be of a concern to you to know that she was very unsympathetic towards the current situation and bluntly stated that the arrangements are staying as they are. I feel that it would have been more appropriate to be contacted by yourself or Mrs Gaunt regarding this matter. It has been emphasised by your school that the executive are very open towards discussing any situation which may be of concern. So I am expressing my dismay with the response I have received about this.

Whilst I am satisfied that no harm has been done to [REDACTED], there are safety issues at the YMCA BASC which need addressing. I do not understand the relationship which your school has with YMCA, and situations like this are difficult to deal with, however I have spoken with other parents and the general feeling is that it is unrealistic and perhaps negligent to expect the YMCA to continue to operate as it has been until the investigation is complete and then implement recommended changes. I am urging you to call a special school meeting for the concerned parents to make you aware of these issues. I have no doubt that you would agree that the safety and wellbeing of our children is paramount and is one of the core values of a Catholic School. I believe most parents preference would be to care for their children until such time as they drop them at school but unfortunately many families, mine included, require both parents to work and often before their particular school is open. Whilst this is of course an emotional issue it has given my husband and I cause to reassess not only the operation and procedures of the YMCA but also explore other options rather than stand by helplessly and watch this sad situation unfold without making people who can make a difference aware of the issue and explore options for change including those which have not been considered or put in the too difficult basket. This is about attempting to prevent child abuse in our community from occurring again. Whilst I do not know of any victims personally, I am driven to act by a strong Christian conviction, moral conscience and maternal instinct to protect.

My husband and I would appreciate the opportunity of discussing this matter with you and Mrs Gaunt and exploring potential ways in which the school and school community may work together in assisting parents in addressing this issue and alleviating concerns, including the potential for extended school hours in the morning.

Kind Regards

AW