

13 November 2011

Dear School Principals,

We would like to inform you that some concerned parents have formed the Shire Before After School Care Parent Forum.

We have formed this group to address the significant number of concerns that parents have about child protection practices in Before and After School Care. We believe that these need to be re-evaluated in light of the recent allegations of sex abuse by a child care worker on children in Before After School Care and Vacation Care in our community.

We have forwarded you a copy of the letter we have sent to the YMCA asking them for parent participation in their evaluation process. That letter details our aims and the process we will follow.

We would like to express our thanks to all the schools who have, to date, organised a meeting/s for parents about this issue. In doing so, these schools have validated their commitment to helping their families at this very difficult time. In particular we appreciate the five public apologies given by one school principal for not organising their meeting sooner.

We ask you to consider helping us with our common goal of child protection. Preventing child abuse is everyone's responsibility. This is a real opportunity to show leadership and support for the YMCA families who use their services. If we, parents, BASC provider and schools all work together we have the greatest chance of preventing abuse from occurring to our children.

Please consider helping us in the following ways.

- i. Distributing via email and memo ,notification of the Parent Forum (to be supplied) endorsed by YMCA? and/ or endorsed by your school?
- ii. Assisting us by providing your school facilities for future meetings.
- iii. Attendance at our meetings in a supportive, non-participating role.

We look forward to your response and express our commitment to work collaboratively with the YMCA and our schools to achieve our common goal of preventing child abuse.

Yours Faithfully,

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On behalf of , Shire Before After School Care Parent Forum

Mobile: [REDACTED]