



— MV8 —

YMCA of Sydney

21st October 2011

School Principals
YMCA Children's Services
Via email

Dear Principal,

RE: YMCA Information to Principals of our Children's Services

Please be assured, at this very difficult time, the YMCA is doing everything possible to communicate with the families and communities we serve. Paramount in our communication process is the need to keep you, the critical and valued partners of our Children's Services program, as informed as possible throughout these challenging times.

We understand your challenging position as a community leader and will ensure you are regularly updated by the YMCA as information comes to hand from the Kogarah Joint Investigation Team (JIRT).

As you would already be aware, the JIRT has been established to complete the investigation and is a triage of support involving NSW Police, the Department of Families and Communities and NSW Health. They are the specialist response team and will continue to liaise directly with the YMCA throughout the entire investigation. As updated information is released through their Media Department we will directly communicate this to you and your school community.

As mentioned previously, the JIRT has an established Child Protection Helpline. The helpline is the official form in which concerns can be reported. Rest assured, this helpline is fully equipped to deal with all enquiries from parents and carers with any concerns and will support all enquiries with the full assistance they require.

It's imperative that parents and carers use the Child Protection Helpline for support – 132 111.

We would like to assure you that the YMCA operates our Children's Services at the industry's highest standards and we ensure we comply with all legal and industry guidelines. We are recognised as the preeminent Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) provider in NSW with endorsements from TAFE lecturers, School Principals, Industry partners and most importantly our families. Everything the Y does is based on providing the highest level of safety and care to children in our OSHC programs.

In addition to this communication to all Principals in the Sutherland Shire region, a subsequent communication will be delivered to all YMCA parents and families. As I am sure you understand, due to the current sub-judice status of the investigation, we cannot discuss the investigation, but will endeavor to reassure your communities of the YMCA policies, procedures and guidelines in place whilst providing our OSHC.

On behalf of the YMCA I would like to thank you for the opportunity to communicate with you at this time. We hope our communication meets your expectations.

Yours sincerely

Liam Whitley
General Manager
Children's Services