

THE SCHOOL

13 April 2011

Dear Parents

I am writing to you to update you on the outcome and actions taken as a result of the independent review of the School's Child Protection Policies and practices commissioned by the School Council late last year. As outlined to you in the letter from the immediate past Chairman of Council on 30 September 2010, the review was conducted by a committee comprising Mrs Audrey Jackson (Independent Chair), Mrs

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and Mr WM (Head of Preparatory School). The Council supports all of the recommendations made, and the School has implemented a plan to adopt and put into action all of the recommendations.

In summary, the key recommendations from the review, and the actions being implemented by the School in response, are:

**Recommendation:** The Council retain a 'third party support group' to provide enhanced support through counselling and legal support for the family of any child involved in a case of sexual abuse, that is reported to the Department of Child Protection and subsequently leads to prosecution of the perpetrator by the Police.

**Action:** Council will establish a panel to provide the third party support, which will include a lawyer who would be available to provide advice to the parents on the legal processes that may be involved (but not to act on behalf of any particular parents or students), an appropriately qualified psychologist and any other person deemed appropriate in the particular circumstances of the case.

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**Recommendation:** The School is proactive in the provision of education for members of staff, parents and students.

**Action:** The School requires all teaching staff to undertake a professional development program for Mandatory Reporting and all Preparatory School staff to have undertaken training in the Protective Behaviours program which supports them in providing education for their students.

**Recommendation:** All relevant policies are made available through a parent portal on the School's website.

**Action:** The relevant child protection policies are available at the School's website  
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**Recommendation:** Protocols to be added to the Staff Handbook.

**Action:** Protocols dealing with interactions between students and staff outside of formal teaching, sporting or pastoral care activities have been added.

**Recommendation:** The installation of an electronic security system in the Halls of Residence.

**Action:** External doors will be fitted with surveillance cameras and additional electronic security systems are being investigated.

**Recommendation:** The reception/administration office in each Hall of Residence is attended at all times.

**Action:** There will be at least two staff members on duty in Halls of Residence at all times.

**Recommendation:** Programs to educate students on cyber safety are introduced and should be made compulsory for boarders.

**Action:** Cyber safety is addressed as part of the Health Curriculum, with a particular focus on cyber bullying.

On behalf of the School, I would like to gratefully acknowledge the work done by the Committee chaired by Mrs Audrey Jackson and to thank the Committee Members for their diligent work and thorough report.

Yours sincerely

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CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL

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