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THE SCHOOL

Attachment 25
COPY

30 September 2010

Dear Parents

As advised by [WD] in his letter to parents on 9 September 2010, the School is undertaking a comprehensive review of child protection policies and procedures following the gaoling of a former member of the Preparatory School staff.

Whilst the audit undertaken during the recent Department of Education Services school re-registration process in August 2010 reaffirmed the robust nature of [THE SCHOOL] policies in this area, the review will identify any areas where our policies and procedures may still be improved.

The review is being conducted with the purpose of commenting and reporting on the quality and effectiveness of the School's child protection policies and procedures. The aim of the review is to ensure that the School continues to provide best practice child protection policies and procedures for students in our care, which are fit for purpose in preventing abuse of the power relationship between staff and students.

The review committee will be headed by an independent external Chair, Mrs Audrey Jackson. Mrs Jackson is widely respected for her extensive experience in the independent school sector. She is past Principal of St Mary's Anglican Girls' School, past Executive Director of AISWA, and has held numerous board and leadership positions across the independent schools' sector ranging from Federal Government taskforces to governance positions at PLC, Perth College and Wesley College. Mrs Jackson has also served the education sector as Pro-Vice Chancellor of Curtin University, and is currently a member of the State Training Board WA. Her experience on various consultative groups and review committees includes a strong emphasis on pastoral care and student welfare in a range of educational settings.

Members of the committee comprise a cross section of the School, including a Fellow of Council, a senior member of staff, and parent representatives from the P&F and Boarding Parents Association. In addition there will be an independent appointment to the committee with no affiliation with the School or the Anglican Church.

The review committee report is anticipated to be completed by the end of Term IV 2010. Review results and recommendations will be reported to the School Council and as a courtesy to The Archbishop of Perth. Recommendations will be reported to the School community and incorporated into School policies and procedures.

We acknowledge your ongoing support and encouragement, and we remain committed to providing a high quality and safe education for our students at [THE SCHOOL]

Yours sincerely

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Chair of School Council

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