

Notes on meeting with JIT at Ashfield, 13.10.00 at 11.30am

See attendance sheet for attendees

JIT, Police and Dept of Community Services representatives in attendance, investigate children assaults and sexual assaults.

Explained their roles: DoCS, care; Police, prosecutions, etc.; Health professionals from Children's Hospital, Randwick, help for victims.

Pauline: Interviewed 15 students.

Two main offenders: **DFA** and **DFB**

Two other secondaries: **DFD** and **DFC**

Two victims: **CLA** and **CLB**

Charges are likely to be laid.

- Assaults have been occurring since the beginning of the year.
- 50 times (**CLB**); 25 times (**CLA**)
- 5 charges are being investigated of aggravated sexual assault and aggravated indecent assault.

Paull Mayne: acting for boys who are alleged perpetrators. These boys could have been victims themselves in the past. Accusations of one of the victims being bound and tied down while assaulted. Sometimes the victims had only boxer shorts on.

The Police will be getting apprehended violence orders out on the four boys (**DFB**, **DFA**, **DFD** and **DFC**).

JIT cannot say that the boys are safe if the secondary offenders **DFD** and **DFC** remain in the Boarding House.

Advice from the Ombudsman's office: Must report incidents in case of action by parents. A duty of care issue.

AVO can't be used as sufficient protection. The School must remove **DFD** and **DFC** from the Boarding House.

Pauline: In conversation with **EAA**, he is concerned that the alleged perpetrators have not been suspended or expelled. Peter Green explained that this was not possible until the allegations were confirmed.

This afternoon, the police are meeting to continue planning their criminal investigations.

Staff will be interviewed next week.

At the conclusion of investigations there will be a joint planning meeting with DoCS and TGS regarding policy and procedures, within two weeks. The School will need to have all its documentation regarding bullying, assaults on students by staff and other students, boarding house procedures for daily routines, especially supervision of students. Need to have in place a method for boys to be able to confidently speak to Masters re problems.

DoCS and Police have confirmed that sexual assault and aggravated indecent assault has been committed by **DFA** and **DFB** and that **DFD** and **DFC** are secondary offenders.

The School cannot guarantee the safety of the other boys in the Boarding House and therefore the boys should be asked to leave.