



THE KING'S SCHOOL

25 February 2014

EAE and EAG

REDACTED

Dear EAE and EAG

I have received your letter of 20 February 2014.

In relation to the matters raised, I make the following points:

1. I am not sure of the relevance or the accuracy of your recall of a telephone call of 11 October 2013. In reality, a Headmaster has to deal with all sorts of matters including financial matters.
2. Your accusation that:

‘the Headmaster ... only saw fit to address the matter personally many weeks after the incident coming to light ...’

Is inappropriate. As soon as I was made aware of the Cadet Camp incident, I immediately coordinated a response that included seeking guidelines from the Police, ensuring your son was offered counselling and removing the offender from the School. All of the above happened within days of my becoming aware of the incident.

3. In relation to alleged bullying after the Cadet Camp incident, a network of people worked to help CLC when it became known he was being bullied. We involved the Housemaster, Counsellor, student leaders, room-mate and various members of the School Executive. I was also involved and, among other things, coordinated the sanctioning of the main offenders. I was well aware that several of my colleagues were liaising closely with you throughout this period.
4. That the incident at Cadet Camp happened is not denied. What is denied is your claim there was no ‘adequate system of supervision’. I ask you once again, what measures should have been taken, that was not taken, that would have prevented this incident happening? Having reviewed the incident, I totally reject your claim there were inadequate ‘strategies to prevent bullying’.



5. I cannot understand your logic in saying you didn't urge 'greater clemency' for the two bullies identified by ^{CLC} when you candidly admit you lent support to ^{CLC} s pleas for clemency.
6. With words like 'repugnant' and 'offensive', you reserve your greatest condemnation for me because you believe I suggested ^{CLC} was to blame for the sexual assault and bullying. This is totally incorrect and I find your accusation as inflammatory as it is inaccurate. What I did say was that the School could not have reacted earlier to the Cadet Camp matter because ^{CLC} did not tell either you or me about the incident until many weeks later.
7. The School understands your anger about ^{CLC} being bullied. Indeed, we share that anger. However, that anger is better directed at the bullies rather than the School. I say this because the School's stance against bullying is uncompromising as demonstrated by our swift and strong reaction to your son's bullies.

In relation to the second matter of your indebtedness to the School, I am informed by the Bursar that the outstanding monies owed are \$24,428.25. This sum needs to be paid within 7 days, or some other mutually agreed arrangement entered into that sees this amount repaid with an appropriate time period.

Yours sincerely



Dr T F Hawkes
Headmaster