



# YMCA of Sydney

17<sup>th</sup> November 2011

AW

Shire Before After School Care Parent Forum

Dear AW

I wish to thank you for your letter dated 13<sup>th</sup> November 2011 and for expressing your concern and that of other YMCA parents in the Sutherland Shire area.

As we have previously communicated, we share the concern of our community and are doing everything legally possible to keep you informed on the matter before court and to reassure our parents of the Y's commitment to providing industry-leading, safe and quality Outside School Hours Care (OSHC).

We are happy that both you and our other parents want to work with the Y to ensure our organisation upholds its reputation as a leader in before and after-school care, and welcome the opportunity to discuss with our parents ways of improving our services in the future. One of the ways we aim to do this is through our Parent Information Sessions that are taking place next week in your local community and which we hope you are attending. The aim of these sessions is to ultimately inform our parents and families about YMCA child protection policies and procedures; which has been highlighted in your letter as a main area of concern. We wish to reiterate that given the nature of the suppression order on this case, we are restricted to what we can say publically on this matter.

In response to your specific requests regarding the Y's participation in upcoming Parent Forums, we would be happy to provide all YMCA policies and procedures to any interested parent. However, given our own Parent Information Sessions are taking place next Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November, Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November and Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November, we feel it is not appropriate at this time for us to distribute material relating to these other meetings. We will also be unable to contribute financially, given our own meetings. And, as these were organised and communicated to parents prior to our knowledge of the Parent Forums, we are unable to reschedule.

We would like to reaffirm our commitment to listening to and discussing any suggestions for improving Y policies and procedures moving forward. As you mention, it is vital we put the welfare of our children and families first and we wish to work with you to achieve these outcomes.

Thank you again for your correspondence and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Kind regards

Phillip Hare  
Chief Executive  
YMCA of Sydney