



YMCA of Sydney

8th December 2011

YMCA Staff
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 Via email

RE: Update of court proceedings

Dear YMCA Staff,

In light of some recent developments, we wish to provide you with a further update of the matter currently before court.

As you would be aware, the court has placed a Non-Publication order on this matter to date, preventing any media from publishing details about the case or the accused which could directly or indirectly identify the children and families involved and interfere with court proceedings.

However, at a subsequent hearing held yesterday at Central Local Court, the court ruled in favour of lifting the restrictions placed on naming the accused and the YMCA. The Non-Publication order now only places restrictions on the reporting of details of the charges and is in place until 5pm, 16th December when it is expected that NSW Police will conclude their investigations. The YMCA will respond to the media as required.

In light of today's outcome, we would like to reiterate that from the moment the YMCA was informed of the allegations we have taken steps to ensure both the safety of the children in our care and the course of open justice, and will continue to do so. Additionally, we have and will continue to implement a number of initiatives to ensure the Y's reputation as the leading Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) provider is maintained. Some of these were detailed in a letter sent to parents last week and include:

- Advertising for the position of Child Protection Manager to oversee all Centres in NSW. This new role will be responsible for ensuring all policies and procedures relating to child protection are adhered to across the Centres and to act as a central support to staff. In addition, the role will increase the already extensive training and awareness of Child Protection across the YMCA.
- Increasing the number of Child Protection briefings for all staff across NSW Centres to ensure the Y remains at the forefront of industry standards.
- Ensuring staff display training calendars in each Centre.
- Ensuring staff profile boards are displayed in each Centre for everyone to view.

We appreciate your ongoing cooperation and support during these difficult times. Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

Liam Whitley
 General Manager
 Children's Services