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12 July, 2011

Ms N. Bendet  
c/o Yeshivah College  
88 Hotham St  
St Kilda East  
Vic 3183

Dear Nechama,

On behalf of the Jewish Community Council of Victoria, I would like to confirm that we regard the recent allegations that have been made against Yeshivah College most seriously, as I am sure do you.

The JCCV abhors the abuse of children in any way, be it physical, sexual, emotional or psychological, and particularly when it is perpetrated by those in positions of trust and authority at our communal institutions.

We are heartened to hear of your cooperation with Victoria Police in ensuring that Justice is done. It is also appropriate that school management puts procedures in place to ensure the welfare of the children in your care.

We would like to extend to you our assistance in dealing with any matters that may ensue over the near future, including liaising with police and the media, or gaining access to appropriate channels of support. Please also convey this offer to any victims of alleged abuse with whom you may be in contact.

Clearly, the safety and well being of our children is of paramount importance and the way in which the College responds to this crisis is also of tremendous importance. Accordingly, please do not hesitate to contact me if you believe that the JCCV can provide any assistance to you, your Board or the Staff of the College. However, in saying this, it must be understood that the welfare of students, past and present will always be of utmost concern.

Yours sincerely,

John Searle  
PRESIDENT