



THE  
GEELONG  
COLLEGE  
*sic itur ad astra*

18 September 2015

Dear Community Member

The Geelong College strongly condemns sexual abuse and stands ready to acknowledge, apologise to, and support any student who was harmed while in the care of the school.

The College has been in contact with a victim of sexual abuse who was harmed while a boarder in the College Junior School in the late 1960s. He has reported his case to the media with the intention of encouraging anyone else who suffered abuse to come forward. The school fully supports him in doing so.

This is one of three cases that have been notified to the College in the past twenty years. Each case, concerning abuse 40-50 years ago, has been addressed. As we have observed through the experience of other boarding schools, there may be more victims and offenders.

The College encourages any student who has been the victim of abuse to come forward. We will treat any report with sensitivity and understanding, and provide counselling and other support should this be required.

The College has appointed an independent facilitator. Any former or current student or family member who has concerns or wishes to make or discuss a report can confidentially call 1800 260 038 in business hours and speak with the independent facilitator.

The College has in place policies and procedures that protect students from abuse, as well as protocols to report any concerns they may have in this regard.

We hope that by reaching out to our community, those who have experienced abuse will be encouraged to come forward, enabling us to assist their progress.

Yours faithfully

Dr Hugh Seward  
Chair of The Geelong College  
Council

Roger Smith  
Acting Principal

David Waterhouse  
President of the OGCA

SHAPING THE FUTURE

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[www.geelongcollege.vic.edu.au](http://www.geelongcollege.vic.edu.au)