

9 October 2018

On 9 October 2018 former Jesuit Brother, Victor Higgs was found guilty of offences committed whilst teaching at the College between 1971 and 1981. Saint Ignatius' College, Riverview and the Province of the Australian Jesuits make the following statement in response.

“To those who suffered abuse by Victor Higgs we apologise without reservation for the pain and suffering they have endured as a result of the crimes committed against them.

“We express our deep regret and sorrow for what occurred.

“The abuse of any child is abhorrent and contrary to all our values.

“We acknowledge the breach of trust that these children, their families and the College Community placed in us and for that we also apologise.

“Those who have come forward have shown great courage in reporting the abuse and we pay tribute to their bravery.

“Both the College and the Province are ready to assist any person who may wish to make a complaint or needs support or assistance in relation to past abuse at the College. Any person coming forward should contact either the:

- Principal on 0455 231 777
- The Professional Standards Office of the Australian Society of Jesus on (03) 9810 7300 or professionalstandards@sjasl.org.au

“We also urge any person with evidence of criminal conduct – no matter how long ago it may have occurred - to take that to their local police or contact Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000.

“The safety of students at the College and across all the works of the Province is our highest priority. This commitment is backed by our stringent child protection training and policies, which are compliant with all mandated government requirements.

“These give full effect to our commitment to the protection, safety and wellbeing of all our students and children across any Jesuit works and programs.”



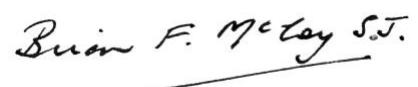
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