

Extract from Newsletter article ...

Thursday 28 February 2019

Volume 70 No 4

Dear Parents

We are now most of the way through talking to all boys about child safety and to the secondary students informing them of the conviction of Cardinal George Pell. As you would have understood from my letter yesterday, we must accept the rule of law absolutely and always consider and respect victims.

We have a long history of ensuring that our child safe policies are strong and well-known to staff and boys, and I have spoken of these to our community regularly across recent years.

Below is the text of the plaque which stands just inside the College gates as an ongoing testimony to St Kevin's position of support for victims of sexual abuse. It was part of the Ceremony of Recognition and Apology held here at St Kevin's, subsequent to the National Apology to victims of abuse issued by Edmund Rice Education Australia.

This memorial acknowledges the pain and hurt experienced by victims of sexual abuse in our school, St Kevin's College, and in other schools conducted by the Christian Brothers in Australia. We remember and acknowledge all victims of abuse, men and women, nationwide. St Kevin's College joins in the heartfelt apology expressed by the entire Edmund Rice family to which we belong. This memorial has been created in a spirit of healing and hope.

Omnia pro Deo

September 2017

Kind regards
Stephen Russell



Cardinal George Pell's conviction
St Patrick's Cathedral Choir & St Kevin's College
Wednesday 27 February 2019

The Archdiocese of Melbourne was responsible for the St Patrick's Cathedral Choir and for rehearsals in 1996 and 1997. Enquiries regarding the Choir at this time, should be directed to the Archdiocese.

St Kevin's College is committed to child safe practice. The care, the safety and the welfare of students are embedded in policies and practices which ensure a commitment to zero tolerance of child abuse. All actions and programs will maintain high ethical standards and work in accord with child safe practices and child protection reporting guidelines. The participation and empowerment of all children is a consideration in decision-making, as we seek to provide a safe and nurturing environment where children are respected and listened to. All student choristers in 1996 and 1997, as is the case today, are students at St Kevin's College.

(for the full statement, please refer to <http://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/digistorm-websites/skc-au-vic-239-website/documents/policy/CS-Statement-of-Commitment-Aug-2018.pdf?mtime=20180827163414>)

Should any person who was part of the Cathedral Choir or the St Kevin's College community, past or present, need support or wish to report a Child Safety issue, please contact any of the following. As Headmaster, I will meet with any past or current pupil and their parents needing support.

Mr Shane Wall
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Victoria Police