

Friday 7 October 2016

### **Information for the Preshil Community**

In August this year John McMillan, a man who taught at Preshil prior to 1996, was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment with 14 months suspended sentence for offensive behaviour and committing an indecent assault against a former student of Preshil, and a student of another school where he taught prior to being employed at Preshil. He was placed on the sex offenders register for life and was bailed after lodging an appeal against this sentence.

Earlier this week the appeal was withdrawn and he has now been taken into custody.

Preshil has apologised publicly for the crimes of this man, and these earlier communications are posted on the School's website, as this letter will be. We will continue to offer our wholehearted support to victims of these crimes and ask anyone seeking support to contact us directly, or seek help from others to contact us on their behalf.

Please forward this information to everyone you believe should know about this matter and who may not be in contact with the School.

The community is entitled to the assurance that every child is safe at Preshil; that children and their parents will be heard, their concerns acted upon and that every one of our staff commit to the highest standards of professional boundaries and behaviour and to a culture of vigilance and intolerance of any breach of those standards.

Our policies governing the safeguarding of children are available from the School and Preshil is in the process of completing our accreditation with the Australian Childhood Foundation's 'Safeguarding Children' program.

We invite any member of the Preshil community to contact either of us to discuss any of these matters.



Andrew McMeekin  
Chair of School Council



Marilyn Smith  
Principal