



**BISHOP'S HOUSE**  
73 Margaret Street  
P.O. Box 756  
Toowoomba Qld 4350  
Australia  
Tel: (07) 4632 4277  
Fax: (07) 4639 2251  
Email: [bishsec@twb.catholic.org.au](mailto:bishsec@twb.catholic.org.au)

Monday 16 November 2009

**Statement from The Most Rev. William Morris DD,  
Bishop of The Roman Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba**

**TOOWOOMBA CATHOLIC EDUCATION OFFICE RESPONDS TO COURT HEARING**

The matter regarding a Principal of a school within the Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba facing allegations of failing to report the sexual abuse of a minor came before the Toowoomba Magistrate's Court today.

At the Court today, the Magistrate heard evidence and has reserved his judgement to a date to be fixed.

Bishop William Morris, Bishop of the Diocese of Toowoomba, said today that it was important for the legal process to run its course.

"This continues to be a very difficult and distressing time for the many people in our community who have been affected by this tragic situation. We await the outcome of the proceedings and I will not be making any further comment until that time," he said.

"Our thoughts and prayers remain with the children and families impacted and we must continue our efforts to help ensure an incident such as this never happens again."

The school community involved continues to be kept fully informed and pastoral care and counselling have been provided.

Catholic Education Toowoomba is implementing changes to its systems and processes to ensure schools remain safe places of education for all students.

ENDS

Media enquiries:

Kathy Sperling  
Toowoomba Catholic Education Office  
Tel: 07 4637 1410  
[Kathy.Sperling@twb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:Kathy.Sperling@twb.catholic.edu.au)