

MEDIA RELEASE

Royal Commission announces details of public hearing into allegations of sexual abuse at Toowoomba Primary School in 2007



20 January 2014

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse has announced it will examine allegations of child sexual abuse in 2007 at St Saviour's Primary School in Toowoomba, Queensland.

The public hearing will take place in Brisbane and is scheduled to run for two weeks from 17 February.

The hearing will look into the response by the Catholic Education Office of the Diocese of Toowoomba in Queensland, to the allegations made against a teacher at the primary school in September 2007.

The teacher was sentenced to 10 years jail in 2010 for the rape and molestation of 13 students aged between nine and 10-years-old.

The Commission will also examine the response by the Principal and other members of staff at the time to the allegations.

This will be the Royal Commission's sixth public hearing and the first to be held outside of Sydney.

See Royal Commission media release on Toowoomba case study here:

<http://www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au/sixth-public-hearing-by-royal-commission-to-be-held-in-brisbane-in-february/>

This week the Commission will conclude its first hearing into the Catholic Church's *Towards Healing* protocol which commenced in December last year. The hearing is scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday this week.

On Tuesday 28 January the Commission will open its fifth case study at a public hearing in Sydney when it examines the response of The Salvation Army (Eastern Territory) to child sexual abuse within homes it operated in NSW and Queensland.

The Commission is scheduled to release an interim report on its work in June this year.

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The Truth Justice and Healing Council is coordinating the Catholic Church's engagement with the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

For more information on the Truth Justice and Healing Council go to: www.tjhcouncil.org.au

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