

**Darlington Campus**

Ryecroft Rd DARLINGTON
WA 6070
+61 (08) 9299 6626
darlington@helena.wa.edu.au

Glen Forrest Campus

Bilgoman Rd GLEN FORREST
WA 6071
+61 (08) 9298 9100
glenforrest@helena.wa.edu.au

16 August 2023

Dr D.J. Honey MLA
Chair
Community Development and
Justice Standing Committee

Dear Dr Honey,

I am writing in response to your 28 June 2023 letter requesting information regarding cases of institutional child sexual abuse in Western Australia.

**1. How many claims have been made through:
a. the National Redress Scheme?**

Helena College is currently in the final stages of joining the Scheme. Therefore, currently no claims have been made.

b. civil litigation both, before and after the introduction of the 2018 Act?

There have been five claims regarding historical cases of abuse at the school. All five relate to one former teacher for incidents which occurred between 1988-1989.

c. any other allegations dealt with outside a) and b)? None

2. Of those claims or allegations, how many (for each category) have resulted in financial payment to the claimant?

The two claims that have been resolved have resulted in financial payments after mediation with our insurance providers.

3. What was the average payment for each category?

Both payments were substantial, more than \$1m. The actual figures are subject to disclosure agreements.

4. How many claims are still to be finalised in each category?

There are currently three claims in process.

5. How many individuals in your organisation have had allegations of child sexual abuse made against them?

One

6. How long did it take on average to finalise the claims in each category?

The timeline for the two completed claims varied, but both were nearing 12 months.

Please let me know if you require any further information on this important issue.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Peter Coombs
Principal
[REDACTED]