

22 July 2021

**Statement from Our Lady of Mercy College Heidelberg
and the Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea**

On 25 February 2021, Our Lady of Mercy College (OLMC) and the Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea (the Institute) issued an [unreserved apology](#) to former students and parents following the outcome of an independent investigation into alleged historic professional misconduct by former OLMC staff during the 1990s.

Despite extensive searches, the personnel file of one of the former teachers subject to the allegations was unfortunately not able to be located and included in the independent investigation.

The OLMC Archivist continued to search and has now found the missing personnel file, which was in an unmarked document box that included other staff files.

The personnel file does not contain any record of complaints from students or parents regarding misconduct by the former teacher. It does contain a couple of complaints from staff about his treatment of them and alleged inappropriate comments made by him.

OLMC and the Institute stand by our [public statement](#) in February. We again affirm the independent investigators conclusion that there is no reason to doubt the validity of the evidence provided by those former students and staff who participated in the investigation. We are deeply sorry for any suffering or harm that was caused to these former students and staff.

As was the case with the independent report and other relevant material, the recently located personnel file has been made available to the Victoria Police.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judith Weir".

Judith Weir
Principal
Our Lady of Mercy College Heidelberg

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Crotty".

Sister Eveline Crotty RSM
Institute Leader
ISMAPNG