



Saturday 12 July 2025

Media Statement re: Healing Historical Harm in response to query from the *Herald Sun*

Background

The School was contacted by the *Herald Sun* regarding allegations of historical sexual abuse. As a guiding principle, the School does not comment on individual survivors, their claims, and the nature, merits, decisions, procedural steps within and/or the outcome of their claims. This is a choice for the survivor; the School respects their right to choose to share such information. The School continues to learn and iterate in its work with survivors. The School uses lessons from the past to inform and challenge current responses to student safeguarding.

The financial information reported by the *Herald Sun* has no basis in fact – the estimated cost and number of legal claims is manifestly inaccurate, the “working capital losses” cited have no reference to AASB (Australian Accounting Standards Board) accounting standards (the School’s usual billing cycle will always have a significant liability relating to collected fees for the following Term), and the School reports annual unqualified audited financial statements.

The School’s ongoing response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Response to Child Sexual Abuse (2013-2017) was outlined in the April 2025 issue of [Light Blue magazine](#).

Statement supplied to the *Herald Sun*

“I am deeply saddened that some members of our Geelong Grammar School community face significant challenges due to the ongoing impact of the crimes of the past.

In recent years, our School has been working to provide an authentic and trauma-informed response to survivors of sexual abuse.

Whilst we cannot undo the failures of the past, together we can acknowledge the harm and recognise the pain caused.

We remain committed to supporting and enabling a culture which fortifies against such devastating harms, and places student safeguarding, and the strengthening and enablement of student voice, at its core.”

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