



09 September 2020

Dear Old Blues,

The School has been informed that Peter Webb, who taught at Christ's Hospital until 1984, has today been convicted on three counts of the indecent assault of a boy, then aged 11, between 1 Sept 1973 and 30 June 1974. Mr Webb had recently completed a sentence for a series of indecent assaults on four other boys between 1974 and 1982. He has just been sentenced to a further twelve months in prison.

We are deeply sorry for the impact that these actions, and those of other former convicted teachers, have had on their victims. We have supported the police fully and wholeheartedly in all their investigations and encouraged other former pupils to come forward. The survivors of these incidents have shown great courage in bringing them to justice and it will always be a matter of regret that they have had to do so. We have written to every survivor of these previous offences to apologise, to convey our dismay and to offer any support that may be needed, an offer which remains open. We will, of course, be in contact with the most recent victim as soon as we have his consent.

Confronting this period in the School's history remains a difficult and humbling process. We know that it may be of little comfort to those affected, but the School today is a very different place, one in which the happiness, safety and wellbeing of our pupils is at the centre of all we do. All staff receive regular child protection training; appropriate and clearly-defined boundaries exist between staff and pupils; a framework of safeguarding processes and procedures are effective across all houses and departments; and our dedicated safeguarding team maintains strong links with local statutory agencies to ensure that our practices and decision-making are compliant and effective. Anyone seeking further information about our child protection and safeguarding procedures can access our policy [here](#) or contact my team directly.

We continue to encourage anyone else who may have suffered abuse at the School to come forward if they feel able to do so. A report can be made in a number of ways:

- Our dedicated email address – safeguarding@christs-hospital.org.uk – which is staffed by a small team of specialists who can respond to your concerns or pass them on to the relevant authorities. All approaches will be dealt with sympathetically and in complete confidence.
- Sussex Police can be reached on 01273 470101.

Headmaster's Office, Christ's Hospital, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 0LJ

Tel: 01403 247432 • Email: hmsec@christs-hospital.org.uk • www.christs-hospital.org.uk

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Website: www.christs-hospital.org.uk

• Registered Charity No. 1120090 • VAT Registration No. 777313705
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- There are a number of organisations providing support for victims of child sexual abuse including NAPAC (the National Association of People Abused in Childhood) on 0808 801 0331 and the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000.

Kind regards,

Simon Reid
Headmaster

Christopher Steane
Treasurer and Chairman of the Council