

During the time Fr Laurence was the Bursar he used to teach RE at times but he was too busy being Bursar to do too much teaching. He was also the Catholic Chaplin at [DPA] They very much lived him there.

The school had a middle school, a separate building, a house with its own playground and hall, a monk was in charge of this school. I can't remember his name now. Fr Laurence had been the Head of the middle school prior to my time there. I think it may have been a Layman in hindsight who was in charge, either way I cannot remember his name. The middle school took 11 and 12 year olds. I closed the middle school down, I can't remember exactly when but I did close it down and gave the building back to the monks, back to the Abbey. The middle school was slack and the kids cocky.

The first thing I did on day one as Head was to abolish corporal punishment. I announced it that this was now forbidden. As far as I thought physical punishment was abhorrent and no Teacher should ever lay a finger on any child, it had to stop. As far as I knew it stopped immediately. I do remember some people, staff in the middle school complaining that corporal punishment was forbidden by me saying things like the lads liked it because it was over quickly, dealt with and forgiven and they could move on. I was having none of it as far as I was concerned anyone who did this to a child was a thug.

I have been asked if there was a punishment book when I took over. I do not remember if there was or not but I do not think there was one, I never saw one. I did say there would have to be one for sanctions such as detentions and this would have been kept by the Head's Secretary who in my day was Chris GOODWYNN, a female I believe Christine, then a girl whose name I can't remember and then Penny KALLI. They had the sanction book as far as I know it should still be at the school.

I have been asked if I knew what type of corporal punishment was exercised before my time. I do not know, I believe it involved an implement, I do not know what and I do not want to know what. If I'd found it I would have confiscated it, in fact I may well have and then destroyed it, thrown it away, binned it.

During my time as Head I was not aware of any allegations of sexual abuse.

Signature: Tony DACHS
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Signature witnessed by: