

Interviews with **RC-A621**

Thursday 10th January 2008

RC-A621 had missed his two AS repeat modules and had gone away from home having told Mum he needed space. Mum contacted my PA Diana naturally concerned. I was able to contact **RC-A621** by text and agreed to meet with him at 5.45pm.

During our conversation it was clear that **RC-A621** was in a state of stress. He confirmed that he had been distressed to discover that the priest to whom he went to confession did not have his full faculties so that his confessions were not valid. **RC-A621** did state at the time that this was a priest outside the Community at Ealing Abbey. He had been given the advice by a priest from the Liverpool Archdiocese whom he had originally met through the SVP Youth Camp at Ampieforth last summer.

*I did not question **RC-A621** more closely and there was no indication at this time that any inappropriate behaviour had taken place. I assured **RC-A621** that I would speak to the teacher whose modules he had missed, advised him to return to school on Friday and encouraged him to open up to his parents. I also advised him that he could contact me at any time if he wished to discuss any matters. He did come to school the next day.*

Tuesday 15th January 2008

At approximately 2.45pm Dr Carlo Ferrario, the Deputy Headmaster and Child Protection Officer for the St Benedict's asked to see me as a matter of urgency. He informed me that during the course of an interview at the request of **RC-A621** disclosed that he had been subject to inappropriate sexual behaviour by a priest and further more that this priest was a member of the Monastic Community at Ealing Abbey. **RC-A621** agreed that I should join the interview meeting.

Dr Ferrario and myself pointed that our professional responsibility demanded that we disclose any allegations and that we would be informing the Child Protection Unit in Ealing.

RC-A621 was extremely stressed and yet held himself with dignity throughout the subsequent interview.

During the interview the following was disclosed.

RC-A621 works in the **DPA** at the Monastery at weekends. His task is to **DPA**. **DPA** The actions below were those of one member of the Community whom **RC-A621** named as Fr David Pearce – to all associated with School or Abbey he is known as Fr David.

Initially Fr David had hugged **RC-A621** but had compounded it by putting his hands on **RC-A621** bottom. This was the first of a number of indiscretions and occurred sometime in the late summer of 2006 (though **RC-A621** found it difficult to be specific and was unsure exactly what month).