

Date: 17 August 2024

Below is a full statement released by the College regarding an incident at our Officer Campus on Thursday 30 May 2024.

Following comments are from Mr Mohammed Taksim, Executive Principal of Minaret College

"Minaret College staff responded promptly and professionally to care for a student who was injured while playing soccer on the school oval during a physical education lesson.

I have received extensive reports from staff and students who witnessed the incident and were involved in the student's subsequent care.

These detailed reports were compiled in accordance with our policies and procedures which are designed to ensure the health, wellbeing and safety of all of our students.

In this incident, the injured student was taken to the school sick bay immediately after the incident.

When it was clear the student was in pain, staff prudently and properly called an ambulance. This was no more than 10 minutes after the student was injured and within a few minutes of him arriving in the sick bay.

A staff member accompanied the student to hospital and continued to provide him with emotional support for several hours, until the boy's father arrived.

I am fully confident that our staff acted quickly, appropriately and with compassion to support our student. We are continuing to support him and his family.

On the morning after the incident, the College attempted to contact the family at least 15 times.

In response to a complaint of bullying the College launched an extensive investigation into the incident in keeping with our policies.

While there was no evidence of bullying, the matter was investigated as a serious incident and has been resolved appropriately.

A complaint was made to Police by the family of the injured student but Police did not take the matter further.

Please understand that we are obliged to protect the confidentiality and privacy of our students and staff.

What I can say is that, prior to this incident, we have not received any reports from this student or his family relating to any bullying concerns since he joined the College last year.

We do all we can to prevent bullying and respond promptly if it occurs. The College runs a very extensive anti-bullying program for all students across all year levels.

Minaret College has detailed policies designed to protect the wellbeing and safety of our students. These include policies to prevent bullying and to intervene when it occurs. Please see link <u>Bullying prevention and intervention policy (minaret.vic.edu.au)</u>

Our students, their parents and our staff are all aware of these policies.

Any student who suffers bullying should contact our staff. Any parent who has concerns in this area should contact the Head of School, Head of Campus, or me."

Statement ends.