



**uniting
church**

in Australia,
Synod NSW & ACT

Media Release

22 January, 2015

The following statement is provided by Rev. Myung Hwa Park, Moderator of The Uniting Church in Australia, Synod of NSW and the ACT.

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses into Child Sexual Abuse has announced it will hold a public hearing commencing on February 23, 2015 into matters relating to the sexual abuse of students by teachers that occurred at Knox Grammar, a Uniting Church School.

In 2009 one teacher and four former teachers at Knox Grammar were charged and later convicted of offences relating to sexual abuse of students during the 1970s and 1980s.

Knox Grammar and The Uniting Church issued a joint public apology in 2009. The Uniting Church affirms it is deeply sorry for what occurred and that sexual abuse of children is intolerable.

The Uniting Church acknowledges the pain and suffering of those who have been affected. We commend the courage of the survivors and their families for coming forward.

The Uniting Church is working openly and transparently with the Royal Commission. It is an important and vital opportunity for survivors to tell their stories and we will work with the survivors and their families to achieve healing, justice and reconciliation for those who have suffered.

The Uniting Church looks forward to responding to the recommendations from the Royal Commission and working to create a safer Church.

For further information please contact:

Lisa Sampson, Media Relations
M: 0414 947 000 T: 02 8267 4303
E: lisas@nsw.uca.org.au