

DAVID CAMERON MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Sir Christopher Meyer,
Chairman,
PCC,
1, Salisbury Square,
London. EC4Y 8JB

Thursday, 8 January, 2004

Dr Sir Christopher

I have received the attached letter from the Headmaster of Kingham Hill School. This is a small boarding school in my constituency. Mr Morris raises with me the issue of the ISC and BSA (Boarding Standards Association) guidance that they should not publish photos of students in the press or on websites if the full name of the students is used as well. This is to prevent approaches from prospective paedophiles who trawl the media for possible victims.

As a result they are now unable to do much in the way of PR. I should be interested to know what you think of the problem raised by my constituent and I look forward to hearing from you.

Tom
David Cameron

David Cameron

From the Member of Parliament for the Witney constituency in the district of West Oxfordshire, including Bampton, Burford, Carterton, Charlbury, Chipping Norton, Eynsham, Witney, Woodstock and Yarnton. 76

MOD100039343

KINGHAM HILL SCHOOL

Kingham, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire OX7 6TH Telephone: 01608 658 999 Fax: 01608 658 658

Email: secretary@kingham-hill.oxon.sch.uk Website: www.kingham-hill.oxon.sch.uk

From the Headmaster
Martin J. Morris, B.Ed., B.A.

David Cameron M.P.,
House of Commons,
Westminster,
London. SW1AA 0AA

15 December 2003

Dear David,

It was very good to see you here at Kingham Hill School recently. I do hope you enjoyed the visit as much as we enjoyed meeting you.

I have two things to ask you:

- a) Firstly, I am hoping to start up a Sixth Form Diners' Club next term, where we have a formal (relative) meal every fortnight to which we invite a guest speaker. Afterwards we would retire to the Sixth Form Bar where the students could chat informally to the speaker. The guest would speak for about 15-20 minutes maximum on a relevant topic of interest to the Sixth Form student, principally on politics, current affairs, business and employment, universities, GAP years etc. I would be very happy to invite you as a guest speaker, perhaps on one of the following dates should they be convenient to you: Friday 16 January, Friday 23 January, Friday 19 March

If none of these dates is available to you I would be happy for you to recommend dates you could make, this is assuming you are happy to speak to the students. As for the topic of a talk, I leave that up to you. Knowing however, that all the students will probably be voting at the next election and University Fees is an issue of the moment for them.....

- b) The other issue concerns publicity and how it can impinge on our students. The ISC and the BSA (Boarding Standards Association) have issued guidance to all schools not to publish photos of students in the press, on web sites etc. if the full names of the students are used as well. This is to prevent approaches to individuals by prospective paedophiles who trawl the media for possible victims. However, it is clear that the Press are not supportive of this advice, and are telling us that they will not now publish any of our pictures or stories as a result of us following the ISC advice. This is impinging on our PR. As an individual school, if we feel the advice is good, there is little effect we can have on the local press. I therefore wondered whether this is an issue that could be discussed in a wider national forum. Could advice to all schools, particularly boarding schools that are more vulnerable, be co-ordinated and communicated?

I would be happy to discuss this matter further with you. As far as I am aware the new National Care Standards' advice mirrors that of the ISC on this matter.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

