



**From:** [EDU, NGS concerns](#)  
**To:** [EDU Complaints CECA](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Genital Assault on My Daughter at Emmaus Christian School  
**Date:** Monday, 5 August 2024 3:14:17 PM  
**Attachments:** [17 July 2024 medical report.jpg](#)

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Hi

The email below was sent to NGS concerns, I think it is a CECA matter because it relates to a holiday care program for a preschool student.

Kind regards

Non Government Education | Education and Care Regulation and Support | ACT Government  
Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning, Fremantle Drive, Stirling | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601  
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**From:** [P01 P01 P01](#) <[P03](#)>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 2, 2024 5:15 PM  
**To:** EDU, NGS concerns <[NGS.concerns@act.gov.au](mailto:NGS.concerns@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Genital Assault on My Daughter at Emmaus Christian School

You don't often get email from [P03](#). [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Registrar of Non-government Schools,

I wish to bring to your attention a grave incident that occurred at my daughter's school, Emmaus Christian School (ECS) in Dickson. I have read your webpage regarding concerns/complaints against ACT Non-government Schools (NGS) ([Concerns about Non-government schools - Education \(act.gov.au\)](#)) and I firmly believe the incident itself and the school's inadequate response amounts to non-compliance with the *Education Act* 2004 (the Act) and the Registration Standards, and warrants further investigation by the Registrar of NGS.

On Tuesday 16 July 2024, my 4 year old daughter attended the holiday care program at ECS's preschool. After coming home, she complained of severe genital pain to the point of tears and crying. She continued to complain of genital pain during the evening, and after several attempts to soothe her, she revealed what happened. According to her, she was drawing while seated on a table when a classmate crawled under the table and poked her in the genital with a pointed object (a texta marker according to her). This caused her a lot of pain and she informed a carer (carer 1). Additionally, another carer was present (carer 2). My daughter also informed me that this same classmate had struck her head several times with her hands that morning and raised this with carer 2.

The next day, Wednesday 17 July 2024, I went to ECS to speak with carers 1 and 2. However, carers 1 and 2 were not present and so I reported this incident to another carer (carer 3), who informed us carer 2 would be present later in the afternoon. That day, I took my daughter to see a GP and told him what happened. He examined my daughter's genital region and confirmed the presence of redness in her vagina consistent with what my daughter had described. Please see his medical report attached. In the afternoon, I spoke with carer 2 and she told us that she had

not witnessed the poke in my daughter's genitals but she did receive a complaint from my daughter about hits on her head that day. Carer 1 was apparently not present at school on Wednesday 17 July 2024. Furthermore, on this day, the Preschool director, P01 P01, called my wife and said that this incident has been reported to her and that ECS's principal, P01 P01, is aware of this incident.

On Thursday 18 July 2024, P01 reached out to us to arrange a meeting to further investigate the incident. We agreed to a sit-down meeting at the school later in the afternoon. Prior to the meeting, my wife and I arrived at school earlier and talked to carer 1 (the carer whom my daughter had reported the genital poke to). Carer 1 denied that my daughter had reported this incident to her nor did she witness the incident. Her reaction to our query was to question the mechanics of how a poke in the genital from another child could have occurred, displaying some level of doubt on how this incident could have taken place. In the midst of our conversation with carer 1, P01 had arrived at ECS preschool and said something to the effect of 'let's stop this conversation and take it someplace else'. Our conversation with P01 included filling out an incident report form containing details of the assault. We felt disturbed during our conversation with P01 when she told us to refrain from speaking to carers about this incident. That day, I emailed P01 and P01 to ask what would be the consequences for this classmate's place in the school in light of this incident.

On Friday 19 July 2024, P01 responded that the school was developing an action plan and further details of this plan would be available early the next week. However, she declined to provide details of the school's response toward the offending classmate.

On Wednesday 24 July, I requested an update on the progress of the action plan and details on how the school planned to respond to my daughter's classmate. We also informed the school that our daughter had been experiencing psychological trauma and has been referred to a psychologist after assessment by our GP. Neither P01 nor P01 provided details of either request.

On Thursday 25 July, we informed ECS that we wish to withdraw our daughter effective immediately to which they agreed.

To our knowledge, the offending classmate is still attending ECS and there has been no consequences towards the offending classmate or their parents. As such, we strongly believe that ECS has not taken reasonable steps to ensure that the school has a safe and effective learning environment, both prior to and following this genital assault on my daughter. We believe this represents a breach of at least Part 2.14(2) of Schedule 2 of NGS Registration Standards ([EDUCATION REGULATION 2005 - SCHEDULE 2 \(austlii.edu.au\)](https://www.austlii.edu.au/au/other/dfat/special/education/2005/schedule2.html)).

Furthermore, we believe that ECS has not taken reasonable steps to ensure that the school has a safe and effective learning environment because at no point in our interactions with ECS was there any mention of potential exclusion, suspension, or expulsion of the offending classmate given the serious nature of the assault. We believe at least Chapter 2A of the Act is relevant here because the offending classmate's actions clearly reduces the safety or effectiveness of the learning environment of the school because it poses an unacceptable risk to the safety or well being of another student at school (Chapter 2A - Part 2A.1 - 17B(1)(b)(i) of the Act).

Given the severity of this incident and the inadequate response by ECS, I respectfully request that the Registrar investigate ECS and compel ECS to take further stronger action against the offending student to ensure the safety and well-being of students at ECS.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your reply. In your reply, could you please advise if this matter will be referred to ACT Policing. We wish to refer this matter to ACT Policing as well, due to the potential sexual nature of this assault.

Please note my contact details below. You may contact me at any time of your choosing (office

and out-of-office hours). I would gladly assist in providing any further information that you require for your investigation.

Sincerely,

**P0P01 P01**

Mobile: **P03** [REDACTED]

Address: **P03** [REDACTED]

Alternate email: **P01 P01** [REDACTED]