

Queensland Primary school parents rocked by sex scandal

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By Tanya Chilcott

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A THIRD of pupils have been taken out of school after a raft of alleged sexual incidents.

There have been 18 recorded cases at the Queensland school since last year with 11 incidents reported to police.

Both males and females were the alleged offenders and experts said the children could be copying each other's behaviour.

Education Queensland admitted there was a crisis of confidence at the school on Brisbane's northern outskirts.

Queensland Teachers Union members have also taken a vote of no confidence in the principal, who is under a separate investigation by the department.

[The Courier-Mail revealed](#) earlier this year two girls had allegedly been sexually assaulted by two year 1 boys in toilets at the school and a number of girls were allegedly inappropriately touched outside the classroom.

Education Queensland director-general Julie Grantham acknowledged what was happening at the school was "not normal."

Staff have since been given extra child protection training, teacher aide time has been increased in the playground, a psychologist was giving specialised support to children and parents were also being addressed by Family Planning Queensland.

"We think we have done as much as we can . . . we will do whatever it takes," Ms Grantham said.

"With the sexual assaults, we have done a separate investigation into the full handling of this and the school has followed all the appropriate behaviours.

"They have followed the checklist in every one of the cases."

So far, parents have withdrawn 85 students from the school this year and one student has been suspended.

Griffith University School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Professor Stephen Smallbone said children could be influenced by their peers' behaviour.

Ms Grantham said all "sexualised behaviour" involving alleged inappropriate touching had been reported by staff to police.

The department's student protection policy requires principals to form a reasonable suspicion that a student has been harmed or is at risk of harm prior to making a report.

An investigation into the school principal's leadership is expected to be completed in the coming week.

<http://www.news.com.au/national/primary-school-sex-scandal/story-e6frfkvr-1225806812144>

<http://www.news.com.au/adelaidenow/story/0,,26439118-911,00.html>

