

## **A report from Sevenoaks School on an investigation into an allegation about Jimmy Savile at Sevenoaks School**

Sevenoaks School was advised by the Department for Education that an allegation had been made about a visit by Jimmy Savile to Sevenoaks School. A telephone report by a former pupil said that "Savile attended Sevenoaks School re a charity event for Stoke Mandeville and took a boy called 'X' in his car who came back having possibly been abused." A team was set up, under the authority of the Chairman of the Governors, to investigate the allegation.

The investigation established that whilst undertaking an 80-mile sponsored walk from London to Eastbourne, Jimmy Savile stopped at Sevenoaks School for a brief rest on the afternoon of Monday 24 April 1978. That was the only occasion on which Jimmy Savile visited the School. He did not enter any School building.

The investigation identified, located and then contacted 'X', the person referred to by the informant as the alleged victim. 'X' responded immediately giving his recollection of the visit by Jimmy Savile. He concluded his reply by saying that "nothing inappropriate happened or could possibly have happened" during the visit by Jimmy Savile.

After this was put to the informant, he readily and immediately withdrew the identification of 'X' as the alleged victim, but then indicated that the alleged victim must have been one of the other boarders. He did not know which. Further interviews corroborated 'X''s account in all relevant respects.

The investigation therefore concluded that the suggestion made by the informant that 'X' might have been abused was unfounded, and that there was no evidence to show that any other pupil was the victim of abuse by Jimmy Savile.

In carrying out this investigation the School has sought to comply fully with its legal and moral duties towards pupils, including former pupils. There are no matters that require immediate attention or give rise to any concern as regards the School's current policies and safeguarding arrangements. An inspection of the School by the Independent Schools Inspectorate in February 2013 concluded that the arrangements at the School for pastoral care, welfare and health and safety of pupils are excellent.