**Critical Incident Case Study**

**Examples** of Critical incidents, Critical incidents are not limited to, but could include:

• missing students; • severe verbal or psychological aggression; • death, serious injury or any threat of these; • natural disaster; • issues such as domestic violence, sexual assault, drug or alcohol abuse; • non-life threatening events could still qualify as critical incidents.

**What do we aim to do in a critical incident**

• Provide support and to address immediate practical tasks and facilitate family, friends and loved ones

• Focus should also be on supporting the student population

• Establish levels of order and control as appropriate in what others may perceive as chaotic situations.

• Recognise our own limitations and boundaries

**Processes**

• Identify the issue • Who is affected by it • Who do I need to inform? • Who do I need to consult?

**Case Study**

Please examine the following case and record your advice as to how it should be handled to ensure the above aims are met and that appropriate process are put in place.

It has come to your attention via an expression of concern from a student friend of a young female Japanese student that last Sunday whilst out for a walk by the river the student was accosted by a male and it appears forced into shrubbery and sexually assaulted. The circumstances and information are sketchy and it seems from the information provided that the student whilst very upset by the incident is more upset if her family and school should find out and she be further shamed by the incident and required to return to Japan. You gather from the informing student that apart from some soreness due to grazing and bruising the student appears outwardly okay and has explained to her homestay she slipped. The student presenting this information to you also expresses to you, concern for her own and her other friends wellbeing and safety within the local community and it is obvious to you this ripple of concern is beginning to grow. At this point the incident has not been reported directly to you or any other persons in authority but is known amongst a close circle of the students friends. The student who has alerted you to the incident is from a Latin American country and feels something needs to be done but does not want to be known as the one who reported the incident.

For this case please provide notes from your discussion that reflect a concensus of agreement as to how this case should be handled consistent with the aims and processes generally recognised for best practice in critical incidents . Include recommendations you would make for the school associated with this student.