

Feb 16 case management of man accused of sexually abusing minor

KUCHING: A 37-year-old man claimed trial at the Sessions Court here on Monday, over a charge of sexually abusing a schoolboy.

Judge Noorhisham Mohd Jaafar had fixed Feb 16 for case management and allowed the accused bail of RM10,000, undeposited, with two local

sureties, after he pleaded not guilty to the charge under Section 14(a) of Sexual Offences Against Children Act (SOACA) 2017, read together with Section 16 of the same Act.

Upon conviction, the offence provides for a prison sentence for a term of up to 20 years, and whipping.

The accused, a former teacher of a public semi-boarding school, was alleged to have touched the victim's private parts in the warden's office of the school in Petra Jaya, at around 10pm in October last year.

The schoolboy was 15 years old at the time.

Judge Noorhisham also ordered

the accused to report to the police station on the first day of every month, and prohibited him from contacting or approaching the victim.

Deputy public prosecutor Chuah Kai Sheng appeared for the prosecution, while lawyer Simon Siah represented the accused.