

## 01 Background

Operation Encompass is a police and education early information sharing partnership enabling schools to offer immediate support for children and young people experiencing domestic abuse. Information is shared by the police with the DSL prior to the start of the next school day after officers have attended a domestic abuse incident thus enabling appropriate support to be given, dependent upon the needs and wishes of the child.

## 02 What is Operation Encompass?

Operation Encompass is a charitable organisation set up in 2011, which has since enabled effective interventions to many thousands of children who've experienced domestic abuse. Their volunteers, trustees, and patrons are working tirelessly to ensure that police and schools throughout the country are able to address victims of domestic abuse consistently and coherently. Operation Encompass believes that children are victims of domestic abuse in their own right and should be acknowledged as such.

## 07 The next steps

Operation Encompass the Next Steps seeks to provide support for schools to teach about Domestic Abuse through the RE/RSE and HE curriculum.

The broad aim of this project is to form part of our wider strategy to break the cycle of Domestic Abuse.



## 03 Why it matters?

Children experiencing domestic abuse are negatively impacted by this exposure; domestic abuse has been identified as an Adverse Childhood Experience and can lead to emotional, physical and psychological harm. Operation Encompass aims to mitigate this harm by enabling immediate support, making a child's day better and giving them a better tomorrow.

## 06 A proven partnership

Having been exposed to domestic violence, a child goes to school the next day often requiring urgent emotional help and assurance but unable to express what they have witnessed and the support they need. Operation Encompass is vital to ensuring the true partnership required to safeguard these children, ensuring that police and schools deliver the necessary support at the right time.

## 05 How the police participate

All frontline officers within the force are fully trained in Operation Encompass - its purpose, when to apply it and how to apply it correctly. The force briefs every school's Designated Safeguarding Leads - these briefings ensure that the highly confidential information the police supply to the DSL is treated with appropriate care and sensitivity, in situations which are frequently rapidly evolving.

## 04 Operation Encompass for Schools

Operation Encompass is an integral component in child safeguarding and protection policies and, as such, should be cited in the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection policies. Participation in Operation Encompass mandates a secure record-keeping trail, which may be electronic or paper based. Within Operation Encompass all records are managed at Child Protection level with the highest level of security and confidentiality.