

“The single most critical factor in how children exposure to domestic violence is the presence of at least one loving and supportive adult in their life. Children without any support, who are isolated or lack nurturing adults in their lives, are more e negatively affected by their exposure to domestic abuse.”

(Osofsky J.D.)

Our school has been part of Operation Encompass since 2017. It is a national police and education early intervention safeguarding partnership which supports children and young people who experience Domestic Violence and Abuse and which is in place in every police force in England and Wales.

Children were recognised as victims of domestic abuse in their own right in the 2021 Domestic Abuse Act. Operation Encompass means that the police will share information with our school about all police attended Domestic Abuse incidents which involve any of our children PRIOR to the start of the next school day.

The designated key adults (DSL, Gaby Wood) and Jeff vanZyl attended an Operation Encompass briefing and have brought the principles of Operation Encompass to all teaching colleagues and Governors. As a staff we have discussed how we can support our children who are experiencing Domestic Violence and Abuse on a day-to-day basis and particularly following the Operation Encompass notification. We have used the Operation Encompass Handbooks to inform our thinking. We are aware that we must do nothing that puts the child/ren or the non-abusing adult at risk.

The Operation Encompass information is stored in line with all other confidential safeguarding and child protection information.

Our parents are made aware (via parent handbook, school posters) that we are an Operation Encompass school.

Helpful Contacts:

- [Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse](#)
- Devon's domestic abuse helpline - 0345 155 1074
- Rape crisis helpline - 0808 802 9999
- [Stop Abuse For Everyone \(SAFE\) 030 30 30 0112](#)
SAFE specialised services to those affected by domestic violence and abuse
- [Victim care unit](#)
The victim care unit will help victims navigate and make informed choices about the organisation they wish to receive support from. T 01392 475 900
- Splitz: Devon Domestic Abuse Support Service: www.splitz.org , T helpline: 0345 155 1074 and admin@splitzdevon.org. We accept self-referrals and agency referrals. For self-referrals please call our helpline.