



'Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility'

**Our school is part of a project, which is run between schools and the Devon and Cornwall Police.**

The project (Operation Encompass) has been designed to provide early reporting of any domestic violence incidents that occur outside school, which might have an impact on a child in school. This is done through a phone call to school following an incident.

We have two key members of the school staff at Sherford Vale School, known as the 'Key Adult' and they are trained to liaise with the police and to use the information that has been shared, **in confidence**.

The Key Adults at Sherford Vale School are **Mrs Helen Tipping and Mrs Emma Barrett**.

We aim to support each child who has been involved in, or witnessed, a domestic abuse incident. Operation Encompass was created to make sure that before school starts the next day, the school will be made aware of any child who has been involved in a domestic abuse incident the previous evening/night. This information, given to the school's trained Key Adult, enables the school to provide the most appropriate support, dependent on the needs and wishes of the child; and for that support to be available from the beginning of the school day.

In most cases the staff in school keep a careful eye on the child and make sure that appropriate action is taken should there be any concerns. The confidential information will only be shared with staff who need to be updated. All schools have a duty to share any information with other organisations if they feel a child is at risk of being hurt. The Key Adult may contact other organisations.

The sharing of Encompass information from the police is not usually child protection. It allows the school to be ready to help your child straight away, **and** it means that parents know the Key Adult is aware that something has happened. Parents can come and talk to the Key Adults, we are here to support you and your children.

We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our pupils and we believe this will be extremely beneficial for all those involved.



The term domestic abuse is covered in this definition

Domestic abuse as an incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening, degrading and violent behaviour, including sexual violence, in the majority of cases by a partner or ex-partner, but also by a family member or carer.

Domestic abuse can include, but is not limited to, the following:

- [Coercive control](#) (a pattern of intimidation, degradation, isolation and control with the use or threat of physical or sexual violence)
- Psychological and/or emotional abuse
- Physical or sexual abuse
- [Financial abuse](#)
- [Harassment and stalking](#)
- [Online or digital abuse](#)

Please come and talk to us if you have concerns regarding this project. We will do our best to support you as a family and find the right support services to help support your family and the children.

If you want more information on the operation you can find it on the following website. <http://www.operationencompass.org/>

Other useful websites include:

<http://www.safelives.org.uk/>

<http://www.nationaldomesticviolencehelpline.org.uk/>

<https://www.womensaid.org.uk/information-support/what-is-domestic-abuse/>

<https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/crime-info/types-crime/domestic-abuse>



## **Our Operation Encompass Protocol**

Step One: Report received from Operation Encompass by either Mrs Tipping or Mrs Barrett who are key members of the Safeguarding Team. Staff members i.e. class teacher informed of the received alert. Basic detail shared.

Step Two: Share with staff during meeting to outline that an Operation Encompass report has been received and give the child's name. No further details given. Just to make staff aware.

Step Three: Welfare of child, member of the Safeguarding Team to meet with the child the same day, to check on their welfare. This to be shared with relevant staff and any actions explained and monitored.

Step Four: Communication home (if appropriate) If appropriate call to go to parents to offer support for the child concerned from the Safeguarding Team. Consideration of Early Help for child and family (if required).

Step Five: Log incident and follow up Brief description of report added to CPOMS. Pupil meeting logged and any further action required. CPOMS log alert class teacher and senior Leadership Team.

Step Six: Safeguarding team and class teacher to monitor child concerned.