

Operation Encompass



Domestic Abuse and Young People

Awareness Raising for Key Adults

Operation Encompass key points

- Children are affected by Domestic Abuse in the home
- Schools will be informed of a DA incident in a household where that pupil lives
- This is not in place of existing Safeguarding principles

How does the Government define domestic abuse?

Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality.

This can encompass but is not limited to the following types of abuse:

- Psychological
- Physical
- Sexual
- Financial
- Emotional



How does the Government define domestic abuse?

Controlling behaviour

Controlling behaviour is a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

Coercive behaviour

Coercive behaviour is an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim.



29th December 2015



It is estimated that **1 million** children in England and Wales alone live in homes where there is Domestic Abuse.



What children may experience

- Overhearing violent incidents
- The victim and children being degraded and belittled by the perpetrator
- Drug/alcohol misuse
- The destruction of property or belongings
- Other family members being hurt or intimidated; abuse of siblings and/or family pets
- Forced participation in the abuse and degradation of their parent
- Overseeing or being made to watch their parent being physically assaulted, raped or sexually assaulted



What children may experience (continued)

- The aftermath; their parent's injuries and distress
- Arrests; neighbours observing incidents
- Being deprived of family and social contacts which reduces the likelihood of disclosure
- Attempted suicide by their parent
- The death of their parent



Risks.....

Children in violent homes face 3 risks:

- The risk of observing traumatic events
- The risk of being abused themselves
- The risk of being neglected

On what legal basis
can this information
be shared?



Operation
Encompass

Supporting children through key adults

Operation
Encompass

Supporting children through key adults

“Information Sharing – Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people and carers. March 2015”

- Children’s Act 2004
- Data Protections Act 1998
- Article 8 European Court of Human Rights



*So...you legally have the right to
the information...
what is your role as a Key Adult?*



Operation Encompass

Humberside Police Domestic Abuse Team (Clough Road, Hull) forward 913 (Domestic Abuse notification) to EHaSH via:

operationencompass@eastriding.gcsx.gov.uk

NB the above is in addition to the 913 (Domestic Abuse Notification) also being e-mailed to the ppt.ehat.workflow@eastriding.gcsx.gov.uk for decision making purposes to safeguard / protect the child/ren.



EHaSH check the One IT Database to identify / confirm the school/s the child/ren attend and securely e-mail the child/ren's name/s, DOB/s and date of the domestic abuse incident to the appropriate school/s.

NB During the initial phase EHaSH will also ring the child / ren's school to make them aware an Operation Encompass notification has been e-mailed.



The Key Adult i.e. school based designated safeguarding lead retrieves the information from the e-mail and discusses with other appropriate school staff / makes contact with the child/ren (as appropriate). The designated safeguarding lead adds the operation encompass information (including any actions) to the child / young person's school file.

NB The designated safeguarding lead can contact EHaSH on (01482) 395500 for advice.

The Key Adult

The Key Adult will be the person available each day to receive the information. This will include the name and date of birth of the child and the date of the incident.



Who should the Key Adult be?

The Key Adult role is best placed with the **Designated Safeguarding Lead** and their deputy as both have received Op Encompass inputs and other higher level Safeguarding training and will be familiar with the management of confidential information.



Preparing the school community to be part of Operation Encompass

The Key Adult must inform the Governing Body that the school is part of Operation Encompass and the Governor with responsibility for Safeguarding should have a working knowledge of the project.

Informing the parents that the school is part of Operation Encompass. Options for this are the Op Encompass letter from the Head Teacher, prospectus and or websites.

All appropriate staff must understand the confidential nature of any information passed to them and that this information must be treated in the same way as any other Child Protection information given by other partners such as Social Care

The school should consider including information about Operation Encompass in the school's prospectus, thus ensuring that all new parents are informed of involvement.

The school should consider whether the information about Operation Encompass should form part of the school website.

Consideration should be given to updating your schools Safeguarding/Child Protection policy to include reference to Operation Encompass

Information storage

Operation Encompass information should be stored in accordance with the storage requirements for safeguarding/child protection files.

Where a child already has such a record, Operation Encompass information should be included within this.



What happens after the email?



Share the information necessary with the class teacher/member of staff who will have contact with the child

Each situation will need to be managed on a case by case. Approaching the parent and or child to inform them you are aware of the DA incident in most cases will not be appropriate. This can lead to further isolation.

Briefly record any decision you make e.g. spoke to adult victim.



What happens next?

- The DA incident will go through the usual safeguarding process.
- If there is further information sharing or intervention the school will be included as per the usual safeguarding process.
- If unsure please contact EHASH.

Do's and Don'ts

- Op Encompass does not replace existing Safeguarding processes/referrals.
- There is not a required outcome/action from this information sharing
- This enables the teacher and other relevant school staff to keep an eye on the child and act accordingly to their behaviour.

The Key Adult received an Operation Encompass email to inform them that there had been a domestic incident at the home of a reception child.

The Key Adult then spoke to the pupil's class teacher who was prepared for the young reception child to behave differently from his usual happy self.

The child arrived at school that morning with his mother and his teddy. His class teacher would normally have asked him to put his teddy in a safe place or suggested that his mother take his teddy home with her. She did neither, understanding that his teddy had been brought for a reason.

His class teacher quietly supported him all day, working next to him and just letting him know that she was there.

In the end the simple act of letting the child hug his teddy all day with no questions asked was a simple act, for the school it was nothing...

but to that little boy it was everything.





*Operation Encompass,
a million reasons that
it needs to happen...
it's every child's right.*

