

10 things you should know about Operation Encompass



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Operation Encompass is a joint operation between NCC Children's Services, Northumbria Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner.

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Operation Encompass was initiated in February 2011 with the purpose to *'safeguard children and young people (4-16 years old) who are affected by domestic abuse by ensuring appropriate services are made aware of an incident at the earliest possible opportunity.'*

3	<p>Domestic Abuse Act 2021 – Definition of ‘domestic abuse’ Behaviour of a person towards another person is ‘domestic abuse’ if -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both are aged 16 or over and are personally connected to each other, and • the behaviour is abusive <p>Behaviour is abusive if it consists of any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical or sexual abuse • Violent or threatening behaviour • Controlling or coercive behaviour • Economic abuse • Psychological, emotional or other abuse <p>And it does not matter whether the behaviour consists of a single incident or a course of conduct. Children are now viewed as victims if they live in households with domestic abuse.</p>
4	<p>Operation Encompass Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police attend a domestic abuse incident in a home where a young person lives • Police record details of any child living at the address: name, age and school • Child Concern Notification (CCN) created and sent to Children’s Social Care • Children’s Social Care takes any further action if appropriate • Operation Encompass admin notify school key contacts via email • School inform relevant staff • Young person supported as appropriate
5	<p>Children and young people causing harm – In Northumberland this is known as Child to Parent Violence and Abuse (CPVA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All professionals need to be aware of the Home Office Guidance ‘Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse’ (APVA) • We have a CPVA Pathway in Northumberland to ensure families are receiving appropriate support • We must ensure that the child/young person and the adult are being safeguarded and supported. • Any concerns regarding Child to Parent Violence and Abuse should be discussed with Children’s Social Care or Adult Safeguarding - 01670 536400.
6	<p>School Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform parents that the school is part of Operation Encompass at the start of each academic year • Consider school prospectus and website awareness • Key adult to check their mailbox by 10am and again at lunch for any Operation Encompass emails • Ensure that Operation Encompass information is secured to ensure that information remains confidential.
7	<p>Whole School Awareness</p> <p>It is important all staff have a basic understanding about domestic abuse and the impact it can have on children:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children living in households where there is domestic abuse are victims of domestic abuse. • Domestic abuse can affect children in serious and long-lasting ways

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where there is domestic abuse there is often child abuse • Children will often blame themselves for domestic abuse • Alcohol misuse is a common contributing factor when abuse occurs in families • Pregnant women are more vulnerable to domestic abuse.
8	<p>The school's child protection and safeguarding policy must refer to the Operation Encompass duty, recognising that the school see this as a safeguarding issue.</p>
9	<p>Support for Adults and Children Northumberland Domestic Abuse Integrated Services https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Protection/Violence.aspx</p>
10	<p>Key Contact Justine Clephane Schools' Safeguarding Consultant Justine.clephane@northumberland.gov.uk</p>

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