

# Operation Encompass



Operation Encompass is a project, supported by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, that aims to safeguard and support children and young people who are involved in or affected by incidents involving domestic abuse. Witnessing domestic abuse is distressing for a young person, who may see the abuse, hear it from another room, see a parent's injuries or distress afterwards or be physically hurt trying to stop the abuse. Following an incident, children will often arrive at College upset and unprepared. Operation Encompass aims to ensure that the College's Safeguarding Lead is aware so they can support young people in the best way possible.

Sussex Police have recently rolled out Operation Encompass across schools and colleges in Sussex and in Brighton and Hove. Operation Encompass does not replace or supersede existing protocols, or singularly address child welfare. The process exists in conjunction with current safeguarding procedures to ensure young people's well-being is the highest priority. You can read more about the aims and benefits of Operation Encompass at [www.operationencompass.org](http://www.operationencompass.org), and read testimonials in their [information booklet](#).

## How will it work?

Officers who attend a DV&A incident where there are young people present or where young people usually reside will email a member of the Safeguarding Team at their place of education with limited but important information. This system will allow us to better support young person following an incident, proactively or passively whichever is most appropriate.

The information shared by the police will tell the Safeguarding Team member:

- Whether the child was present – Y/N
- If they ordinarily resides at the location – Y/N
- If they ordinarily resides with an involved party – Y/N
- Time and date of incident
- Time and date of police attendance
- Sussex police reference
- Child's name and date of birth
- Relationship of Involved parties to child
- Did the child witness the incident – Y/N
- Child spoken to by police – Y/N
- The College will *not* be given specific details of the incident or the parties involved

BHASVICs Frontline Safeguarding team are all level three Child Protection trained and information will only be able to them in the first instance, allowing them to decide on the most appropriate course of action to support the young person involved. Please be assured that all information received will be dealt with with the utmost discretion and confidentiality.