

# Operation Encompass

Operation Encompass is an initiative to share important information between the police and schools when there has been a domestic incident.

The purpose of the initiative is to make sure that the school has the correct information in order to support children sensitively when they come into school.

Police share information with Social Care who ring the school the following morning between 8.00am and 8.30am and speak to the Headteacher and let them know the name of the child/ren involved and the date of the incident.

The Headteacher will note down the call and ensure that the child is supported appropriately, an example of this can be seen below. The information will be treated confidentially as with all safeguarding information.

Here is how Operation Encompass worked in one school....

Police attended a case of domestic abuse at the home of a reception-aged child.

The next morning, when the child arrived at school with his mum he had his teddy bear tightly clutched in his arms.

Normally, he would have been asked to leave the toy with mum or in the classroom. The teacher did neither – understanding his teddy had been brought in for a reason.

The boy hugged his teddy all day while the teacher quietly supported him, occasionally letting him know she was there.

The Head Teacher said: "The most important thing she did was not to ask him to let mum take his teddy home, not to put his teddy out of the way in the classroom and not to even make any comment about him hugging his teddy all day."



**"It was nothing – but to that little boy it was everything."**

(Evening Herald, July 2011)

If you have any questions please ask ....