



Parent/Carer,

The school continues to take part in a project that runs jointly between schools, Luton Borough Council and Bedfordshire Police.

Operation Encompass has been designed to provide early reporting to school to schools of any domestic abuse incidents that occur in which a child was present, ordinarily resides at the incident location or with an involved party. We know that children can be significantly affected through witnessing or being exposed to domestic abuse and the operation will allow us to better support our pupils and their families.

Operation Encompass also informs the school if a child goes missing. Sending the relevant information to schools, before midday of the next school day when a child or young person has been reporting missing to the police, whether that is by yourself or respective guardian.

This is to enable the school (as professional safeguarding partner) to be made aware of the missing incident for their information and be in a position to support the child should they still make their way into school. As a professional partner the school are also able to complete a 'safeguarding check' on the child and we can close a missing report based on the information. This would then not require a police presence which may affect any disclosures or information being provided.

The school are not being asked to be information gathers but to provide support and guidance when speaking with the child. In the interest of safeguarding the child and their environment though the information may be shared with respective safeguarding partners following partnership sharing agreements already in place.

Operation Encompass will ensure that a member of the school staff, known as a Key Adult, is trained to allow them to liaise with the police and to use the information that has been shared, in confidence, while ensuring that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families of the child/young person who has been reported a missing.

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.

Signed

Head Teacher

