



## **Operation Encompass**

At The Bridge, we are working in partnership with the Metropolitan Police and Children's Service to identify and provide appropriate support to students who have experienced domestic violence in the household; this scheme is called Operation Encompass.

The purpose of Operation Encompass is to safeguard and support children and young people who have been involved in or witness to a domestic abuse incident. Domestic abuse affects children in a number of ways. Children are at increased risk of physical injury during an incident, either by accident or because they attempt to intervene. Even when not directly injured, children are greatly distressed by witnessing the physical and emotional suffering of a parent.

Encompass has been created to highlight this situation. It is the implementation of key partnership workings between police and schools. The aim of sharing information with local schools is to allow 'Key Adults' the opportunity of engaging with the child and to provide access to support that allows them to remain in a safe but secure familiar environment.

In order to achieve this, the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) will share police information of all domestic incidents where one of our students has been present, with the Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL). On receipt of any information, the DSL will decide on the appropriate support the child requires, this should be covert dependent on the needs and wishes of the child. All information sharing and resulting actions will be undertaken in accordance with the Metropolitan Police and MASH Encompass Protocol Data Sharing Agreement. We will record and store this information in accordance with the record keeping procedures as outlined in this policy and in accordance with the school's record keeping procedures as detailed in the school's 2021 Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

The purpose and procedures in Operation Encompass have been shared with all parents and governors, and is in addition to the information detailed in the school's Safeguarding Policy, which is published on the school website.

The Bridge Encompass Lead is Toni Cox