



OPERATION ENCOMPASS

SUPPORTING CHILDREN
AND YOUNG PEOPLE
EXPERIENCING
DOMESTIC ABUSE

FOR EVERY CHILD

Understanding
the importance
of timely
information
sharing with
schools

Understanding the
impact of Domestic
Abuse and role
schools can play in
supporting children
and young people

An early intervention initiative for
safeguarding and enabling support for
children and young people who are
experiencing Domestic Abuse

Waltham Forest Approach: Operation Encompass

Engage Key Stakeholders

Waltham Forest Police

Local Councillors

Education Leads

Schools

LSCB

Front Line Officers



Council and Police
will lead sessions
together to train
Key Adults in
School (DSL/HT)

Lunchtime Staff

Office staff

Teachers

Parents

Governors

Support Staff



Website

Bbooklets

Posters



Community

Government definition of domestic abuse

Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality.

The abuse can encompass but is not limited to:



EMOTIONAL
ABUSE



FINANCIAL
ABUSE



PSYCHOLOGICAL
ABUSE



SEXUAL
ABUSE



PHYSICAL
ABUSE

definition of domestic abuse cont.

Controlling Behaviour

&

Coercive Behaviour

Controlling behaviour is a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

Coercive behaviour is an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten a person.

Domestic Abuse Facts

On average there are **35** incidents of Domestic Abuse before a call is made to the police

So... the first Operation Encompass call you receive for a child could indicate that they have experienced **34** incidents prior to this notification

In Every Class in Every School...



1:5 will be exposed to Domestic Abuse



1:10 will experience neglect



1:20 sexually abused



1:14 physically abused



1:10 will experience 4 or more ACEs

86%

Domestic Abuse is the highest predictor of 4 or more ACEs

What Children May Experience

- The tension of 'waiting' for it to happen
- Overhearing violent incidents
- Their parent and themselves being degraded and belittled by the perpetrator
- Drug/alcohol misuse
- The destruction of property or belongings
- Other family members being hurt or intimidated; abuse of siblings and/or family pets
- Forced participation in the abuse and degradation of their mother

What Children May Experience

- Being deprived of family and social contacts which can also reduce the likelihood of disclosure
- Day to day control of all aspects family life
- Overseeing or being made to watch their mother being physically assaulted, raped or sexually assaulted
- The aftermath; their parent's injuries and distress
- Arrests; neighbours observing incidents
- Attempted suicide by their parent(s)
- The death of their parent(s)



How Children Can Be Impacted

The traumatic stress of domestic abuse will affect every aspect of their school life. It can underlie physical and mental illness.

Some pupils will experience **symptoms of post-traumatic stress**.

These include:

- ★ Repetitive dreams, flashbacks nightmares
- ★ Joyless play
- ★ A feeling of 'going mad', self-abuse.
- ★ Over activity and irritability, impaired concentration and
- ★ memory
- ★ Bed wetting, soiling, poor sleep
- ★ Become aggressive
- ★ Display anti-social behaviour
- ★ Suffer from depression or anxiety
- ★ Not do as well at school - due to difficulties at home or disruption i.e. moving to and from refuges

Legal basis to share information

The Children' Act 2004 requires the Police and other agencies with responsibility for the protection of children to work together to ensure that children and young people are able to:



- Be healthy
- Stay Safe
- Enjoy and achieve.



- Make a positive contribution; and
- Enjoy economic well-being

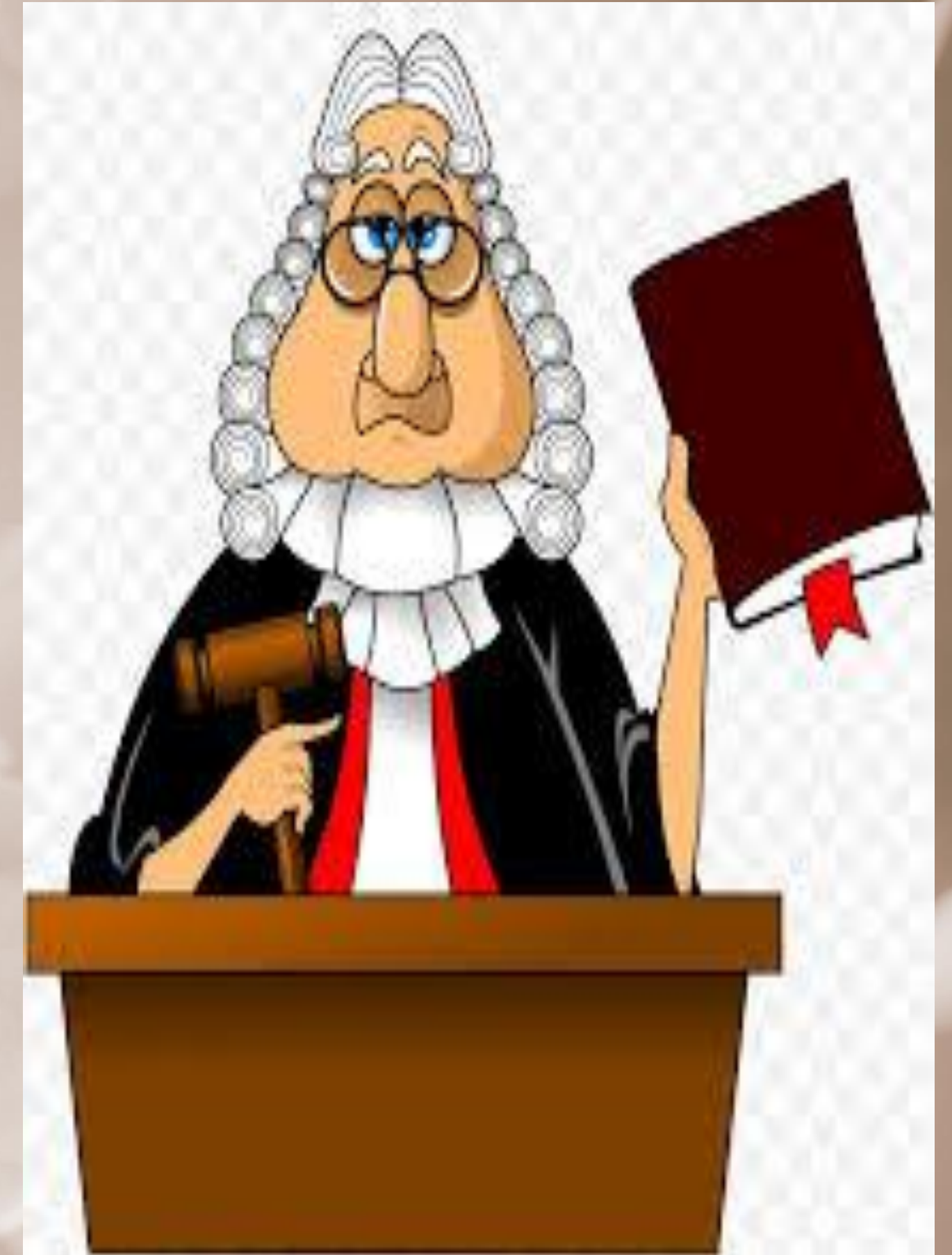
Legal basis to share cont.

Data Protection 1998: the sharing of information justified in sch 3, para 10



Data Protection Act 1998

Articles 8, European Court of Human Rights: the sharing of information relating to domestic violence satisfies the requirement of article 8(1)



How does it work

Following the report of a domestic incident to the Police. Police will respond to the call and upon arriving at the property will ascertain who is in the premises at the time of the incident.

If there are children and young people at the premises their names, date of birth and school/college attended will be recorded by the officer.

- This information will be recorded on the police computer and each morning (Mon-Fri) the Operation Encompass Police Officer will review all domestic abuse incidents reported and will make contact with the appropriate school and provide information that will assist the school to ascertain what support the young person may require



How does Operation Encompass help
support children who are experiencing
Domestic Abuse?

The Key Adult

The Key Adult will be the identified person available each day to receive the details of the incident which are often **raw, sensitive and dynamic** and then using their safeguarding experience will assess the type of **support** needed for the pupil.



The Key Adult Role

The **Designated Safeguarding Lead and/or their deputy**, familiar with the management of confidential information and part of SLT.

The Key Adult should:

- ★ Attend Op Encompass briefing led by Council and the Police.
- ★ Provide contact details to indicate the time from which they will be available to take the Operation Encompass telephone call.

The earlier the better.

- ★ Store the information received in accordance with the requirements for safeguarding/child protection files.

Where a child already has such a record, Operation Encompass information should be included within that file.

Preparing the School Community...

The Key Adult must:

...inform the **Governing Body** that the school is part of Operation Encompass and the **Safeguarding Governor** should have a working knowledge of this project.

...ensure that all **teaching staff** understand the confidential nature of any information passed to them and that this information must be treated in the same way as any other Child Protection information given by other partners such as Social Care

...**inform parents** that the school is part of Operation Encompass, using the basic template letter given to each school (on our website) which can be amended to the school's individual requirements.

...include information about Operation Encompass in the **school's prospectus**, thus ensuring that all new parents/guardian(s) are informed of involvement.

...include information about Operation Encompass on the **school website**.

The Call...

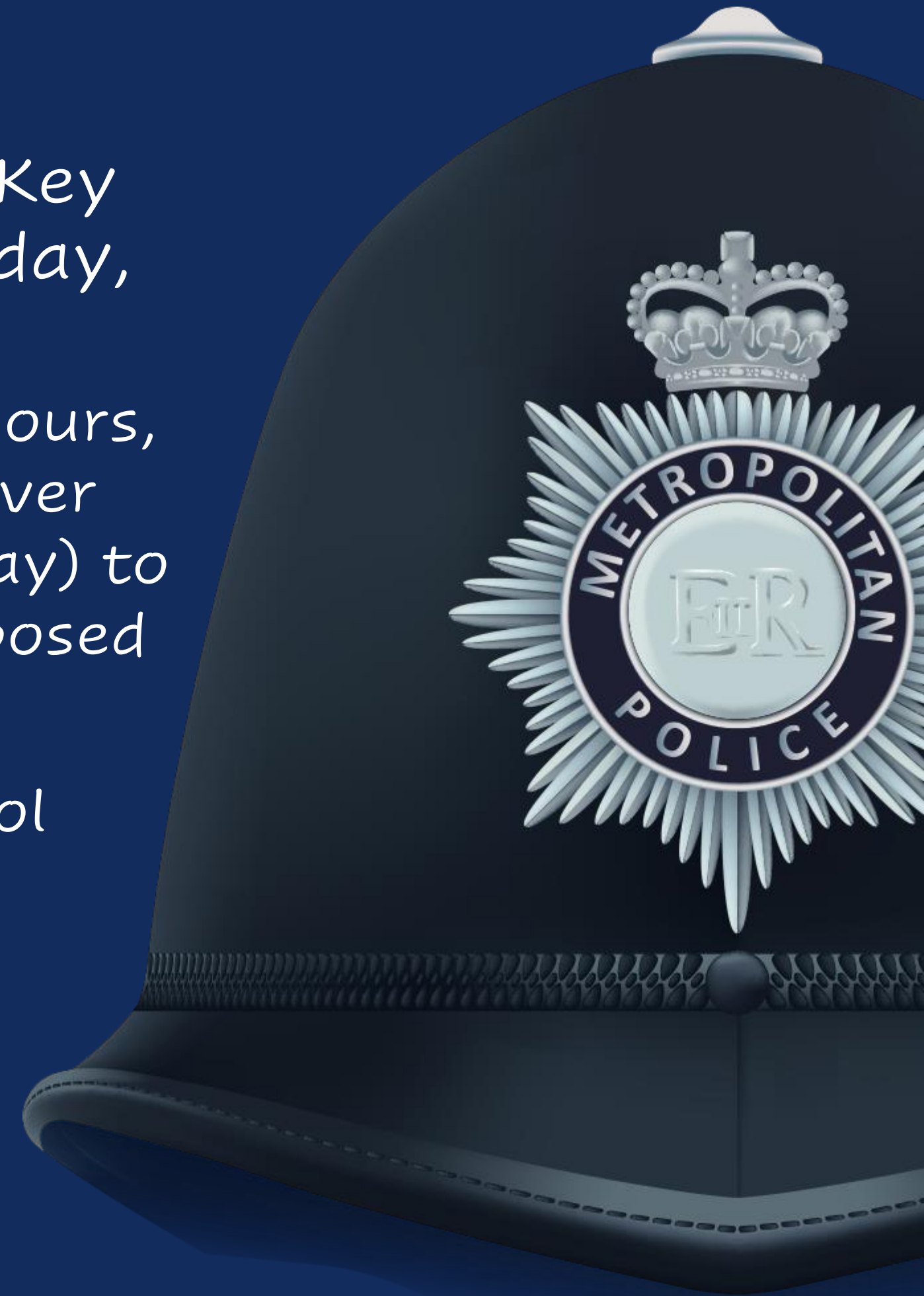
The call must always begin by sharing the child's name

Child's name and age & DOB Number	Henry Smith 7yrs 01/01/2008		
Police Reference	ED/ 2356	Date:	15/09/14
Date and time of incident Address	23.45hrs Monday 02/03/14. 4 St John Street Plymouth		
<u>Circumstances of incident</u> Father came home and after argument punched mother in face. Father arrested still in custody.			
<u>Additional school information including other Operation Encompass calls</u> No other concerns. Is father allowed to collect child from school any restrictions, can he return home.			
<u>Actions taken and Impact</u> Call to police later in day. Advise mother to engage with domestic support services.			

The Information From The Police

The Operation Encompass officer will inform the 'Key Adult', prior to the commencement of the school day, of the following information:

- The fact that the police were called out in the last 24 hours, during school term week days (or if the incident was over the weekend, the school will be informed on the Monday) to a domestic abuse incident and a child was present, exposed or was involved in the incident
- The name and date of birth of any child from that school who was present, exposed to or was involved in the incident when it took place.
- The police reference number
- The time and date of the incident
- Brief circumstances surrounding the event



What Happens After The Call/Notification?

- 1 Share as much as is necessary but as little as possible with the class teacher.
- 2 Consider existing information you may hold as a school about the family/ child which will help you to make the decision about what to do next.
- 3 Record any decision you make.
- 4 Do nothing that endangers the non abusing adult or child.
- 5 Do not share the information with any third parties other than Social Care and Health if required

What does support look like

- ★ Support
- ★ Transitional
- ★ Overt



10 Key Principles of Operation Encompass

01

Operation Encompass is a unique police and education early intervention safeguarding partnership enabling support for children and young people who have experienced domestic abuse.

02

Operation Encompass is every child's right. It should be embedded in every force, in every school, for every child.

03

Operation Encompass will ensure that ALL incidents of Domestic Abuse are shared with schools, not just those where an offence can be identified.

10 Key Principles of Operation Encompass

04

Through Operation Encompass a trained Key Adult in school (Designated Safeguarding Lead) will be notified PRIOR to the start of the next school day that a child has experienced an incident of Domestic Abuse when the police have attended.

05

The Key Adult must be a trained Designated or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead and should attend a mandatory Police and Education led Operation Encompass briefing. The Key Adult is the person who will receive the information from the police.

06

The Key Adult should cascade the necessary awareness training to Governors and all staff so that there is knowledge of the scheme as well as the knowledge about Domestic Abuse and its impact upon children.

10 Key Principles of Operation Encompass

07

The Key Adult must be notified PRIOR to the start of the school day in order to plan for timely support. This timely knowledge enables all interactions, from when the child first arrives at the school gates, to be of a positive nature.

08

Operation Encompass is an integral part of safeguarding and child protection and, as such, should be cited in the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection policies

09

Operation Encompass must lead to a secure record keeping trail. This may be electronic or paper based. All records must be managed at Child Protection level with the highest level of security and confidentiality.

10

As part of the school's participation in Operation Encompass the Key Adult must lead in informing all members of the schools community about the project. This includes, but is not limited to, placing information on the school's website, in the prospectus and sending the joint police/school letter to parents.

Remember...

...it is often the little
things which make the
biggest difference...

