

DOMESTIC ABUSE AND OPERATION ENCOMPASS

Domestic abuse is any type of controlling, bullying, threatening or violent behaviour between people who are or have been in a relationship. It can also happen between adults related to one another. Both men and women can be abused or abusers. It can seriously harm children and young people, and experiencing domestic abuse is child abuse. It's important to remember that domestic abuse can happen inside and outside the home. It can take place over the phone, on the internet and on social networking sites. Domestic abuse can happen in any relationship and can continue even after the relationship has ended. ([NSPCC](#))

Grey Court School is signed up to Operation Encompass, a project which runs jointly between school and the Metropolitan Police.

When the police attend incidents of domestic violence or abuse where children are directly or indirectly involved, they notify the designated safeguarding lead at the child's school before the start of the next school day. The safeguarding lead then makes sure the child gets the immediate support that they need.

The information is given in strict confidence to the Designated Safeguarding Lead to enable support to be given dependent on the needs and wishes of the child.

If you are concerned about a child affected by domestic abuse speak to the designated safeguarding lead, Ms Price - vprice@greycourt.org.uk

Further information and support:

[click here for Domestic abuse - Victim Support](#)

[click here for Richmond Domestic Abuse support](#)

[click here for Kingston Domestic Abuse support](#)

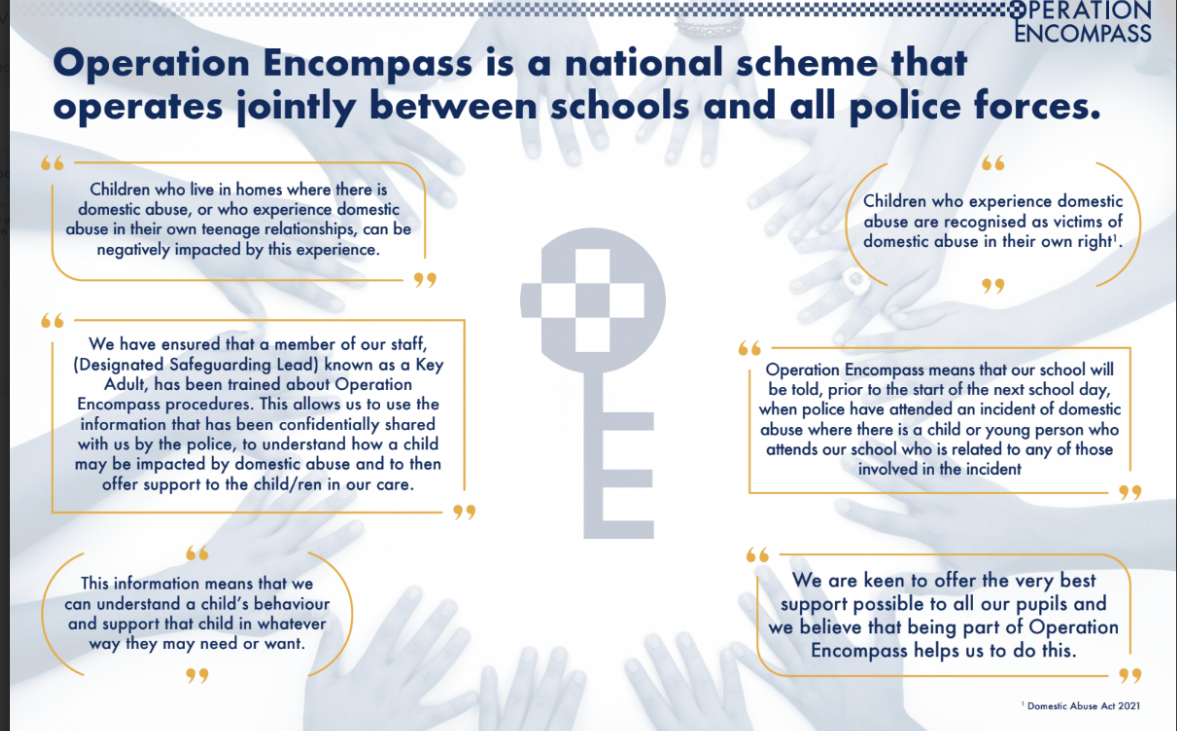
www.womensaid.org.uk –provides information on domestic abuse and also has a ‘Survivor’s Handbook’ which is free and provides information for women on a wide range of issues, such as housing, money, helping your children, and your legal rights.

<https://www.refuge.org.uk> Refuge provides specialist support to women, children and some men escaping domestic violence and other forms of violence. Refuge’s specialist services include refugees, independent advocacy, community outreach projects, culturally specific services and the 24 hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline.

<https://mensadviceline.org.uk/> – advice and support for men experiencing domestic abuse.

<https://www.relate.org.uk/relationship-help/talk-someone> – you can speak to someone about your relationship, including issues around domestic abuse. Also provides counselling for children.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/domestic-abuse/> – provides information on domestic abuse and also where to seek support for adults as well as children.



OPERATION ENCOMPASS

Operation Encompass is a national scheme that operates jointly between schools and all police forces.

“Children who live in homes where there is domestic abuse, or who experience domestic abuse in their own teenage relationships, can be negatively impacted by this experience.”

“Children who experience domestic abuse are recognised as victims of domestic abuse in their own right¹.”

“We have ensured that a member of our staff, (Designated Safeguarding Lead) known as a Key Adult, has been trained about Operation Encompass procedures. This allows us to use the information that has been confidentially shared with us by the police, to understand how a child may be impacted by domestic abuse and to then offer support to the child/ren in our care.”

“Operation Encompass means that our school will be told, prior to the start of the next school day, when police have attended an incident of domestic abuse where there is a child or young person who attends our school who is related to any of those involved in the incident”

“This information means that we can understand a child’s behaviour and support that child in whatever way they may need or want.”

“We are keen to offer the very best support possible to all our pupils and we believe that being part of Operation Encompass helps us to do this.”

¹ Domestic Abuse Act 2021

www.operationencompass.org