



Op Encompass – Early years

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- Domestic Abuse Act 2021 Section 3, recognises children as victims of domestic abuse when they see, hear or experience domestic abuse perpetrated by a parent, those with parental responsibility, or a relative.
- On the 24th of May 2024, Royal Assent was granted to the Victims and Prisoners Act. The new act placed Operation Encompass into law, and puts a statutory obligation upon police forces to share Op Encompass notifications with schools, when the police have attended domestic abuse incidents, concerning children.

What is Op Encompass

- Operation Encompass is a charitable organisation created in 2010, which has since enabled effective interventions to many thousands of children who have experienced domestic abuse.
- It is a police and education early information sharing partnership, enabling schools and colleges to recognise and where necessary offer immediate support to children experiencing domestic abuse.

Op Encompass Principles

- DA Incidents are shared even when the child isn't present.
- The aim is for Sussex Police to send the referral before the start of the next day, so that the setting can be aware and support where necessary.
- Op Encompass is currently aimed at primary and secondary aged children up to 18yrs. Early years are not currently specified in statute
- *Sussex Police has decided to introduce it into Commercial nursery settings for children aged 2 and above.*

- The introduction of a new IT system SIGNS will mean the referrals will be automated and therefore the Nursery will automatically receive the notification.
- I have been working with early years leads in the Local Authorities to ensure that nurseries are ready to receive the referrals, and this communication will be coming out very soon, with instructions and a sample referral.
- If we don't know where the child goes to nursery, we will contact the Early years lead for that local authority for their help in getting this information.
- There is a wealth of knowledge on the Op Encompass website and also some key adult training that I recommend the DSLs undertake. Its very important that you understand the dos and don'ts when you receive a referral.
- This will all be shared with you very soon.

Early Years and Childcare

Right from the start

Operation Encompass

What do settings need to do?

- Key Adult/DSL accesses the training - [Online Key Adult Training : Operation Encompass](#)
- Identify/set up an appropriate email address
- Complete a [Staff Update form](#) for the individual staff member. The email for Operation Encompass will need to be added to the DSL section of the form.
- FIS will then process this form and add the DSL details to their secure database. They will then share the DSL details with the police to enable you to receive notifications.
- Respond to notifications in line with the purpose of Operation Encompass

Questions???