



Straits Primary School
Longfellow Road
Lower Gornal
Dudley
West Midlands
DY3 3EE

Tel: 01384 818575

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www.straitsprimaryschool.com

Head Teacher: Mr P. Freear

Chair of Governors: Mr L. Bourne

September 2022

Dear parent/carer,

Our school participates in a national project, which is run locally in partnership with Dudley Local Authority and West Mercia Police.

Operation Encompass is a process whereby the police and county council will inform a member of staff if a child or young person has experienced any domestic incident. This will be done prior to the start of the next school day. Information sharing between professional agencies allows school staff to provide emotional and practical support to their pupils experiencing domestic abuse.

Domestic abuse can broadly be defined as 'any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour; violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who have been intimate partners or family members. This can include but is not limited to the following types of abuse – psychological, physical, sexual, financial and emotional.

Operation Encompass ensures that a member of the school staff, usually the Designated Safeguarding Lead, is given special training, to enable them to liaise with the police and Local Authority in receiving and using the information that has been shared, in confidence.

The sharing of details under Operation Encompass is permitted under Statutory Safeguarding Lead and in respect of local authority schools under the Crime and Disorder Act (for the prevention of crime) and doing so without the child's or parent's consent is permissible, under both pieces of legislation and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

We want to offer the best support possible to all our pupils and we believe, that where necessary, this will be beneficial in helping us to achieve that goal. Please make contact with me or the school's safeguarding lead should you wish to discuss the content of this letter.

Signed,

Mr P. Freear

Headteacher

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Headteacher is:

Mr Freear

Email: pfreear@straits.dudley.sch.uk

Telephone: **01384 818575**

The deputy DSL and Deputy Head is:

Mr Wade

Email: dwade@straits.dudley.sch.uk

Telephone: **01384 818575**

The nominated safeguarding governor is: Lewis Bourne

Email: lewis.bourne@dudley.gov.uk Telephone: **01384 818575**

If a child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, or in immediate danger, speak directly to the DSL who will make a referral to Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and/or the police. If the DSL is not available, you may contact the police/MASH directly and then tell the DSL as soon as possible that you have made a referral directly.

Dudley Report it page: <https://safeguarding.dudley.gov.uk/tell-us/>

MASH: 0300 555 0050 / Out of Hours Duty Team: 0300 555 8574

West Mercia Police

101 (non-emergency)

999 (emergency)

Childline

0800 1111

www.childline.org.uk

Childline is the UK's free, totally confidential helpline dedicated to helping children and young people.

National Stalking Helpline

0808 802 0300

<https://www.suzylamplugh.org/Pages/Category/national-stalking-helpline>

The helpline provides guidance and information to anybody who is currently or has previously been affected by harassment or stalking. The Helpline can provide guidance on the UK law, reporting offences to the police, evidence gathering, and your personal safety.

Victim Assessment & Referral Centre

0808 16 89 111 (national)

www.victimsupport.org.uk

An independent charity offering free, confidential support to people affected by crime and traumatic incidents. Services are confidential, free and available to everyone. Victims are usually put in touch with this organisation by the police but they can also be contacted directly.

National Rape Crisis Helpline

0300 999 5428

help@galop.org.uk

Support for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people experiencing domestic abuse

Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (Clare's Law)

0808 2000 247

<https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/>

This scheme aims to provide a formal mechanism for you to make inquiries about your partner if you are worried that they may have been abusive in the past, or about someone else's partner on their behalf.

If police checks show that the partner has had a record of abusive behaviour, or there is other information to indicate that you may be at risk from your partner, the police will consider sharing this information with you or the person you were worried about. The scheme aims to help you to make a more informed decision on whether to continue a relationship and provides further help and support to assist you when making that choice.

Karma Nirvana

0800 5999 247

www.karmanirvana.org.uk

Providing support and advice around Forced Marriage, Honour based violence and female genital mutilation.

Cultural acceptance does not mean accepting the unacceptable.

One of their key principles is that they never talk to or engage with the family.

Their commitment and loyalty are to the person making the referral as they understand the fears when family members become involved.

Respect Men's Advice Line

0808 8010 327

www.mensadviceline.org.uk

Confidential helpline for men experiencing domestic abuse

Paladin - National Stalking Advocacy Service

020 3866 4107

<https://paladinservice.co.uk/>

Paladin is a trauma-informed service established to assist high risk victims of stalking in England and Wales. Our unique team of accredited Independent Stalking Advocacy Caseworkers (ISACs) ensure that high risk victims of stalking are supported and that a coordinated community response is developed locally to keep victims and their children safe.