

Encompass Statement

Our school works in partnership with Bolton Safeguarding Board and Greater Manchester as part of the Bolton Encompass project. The purpose of Bolton Encompass is to safeguard and support children and young people who have been involved in or witness to a domestic abuse incident. Domestic abuse impacts on children in a number of ways: they could be at increased risk of physical injury during an incident, either by accident or because they attempt to intervene and even when not directly injured, children will often be greatly distressed by witnessing the physical and emotional suffering of a parent or carer.

Encompass has been created to address this situation. It is the implementation of key partnership working between the 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.

The project has been designed to provide early reporting to schools of any domestic abuse incidents that occur outside of school but which might have an impact on a child attending school the following day. Following the report of an incident of domestic abuse the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Mrs Riley) will be informed that the child or young person has been involved in a domestic incident by email. Miss Lund will use information that has been shared, in confidence, to ensure that the school is able to support children and their families. Information will be shared where it is identified that a child or young person was present, witnessed or was involved in a domestic abuse incident.

We always strive to offer the best support possible to our learners and believe that Bolton Encompass is beneficial and supportive for all concerned children and families. If you would like more information about Bolton Encompass, further details can be found in the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy on the school website or you can contact Mrs Riley, our Designated Safeguarding Lead by email at office@brandwood.bolton.sch.uk or by ringing the school office on 01204 333444