

# Salford Operation Encompass 7 Minute Briefing

## 1. What is Operation Encompass?

Operation Encompass is a police–education partnership that alerts schools when police attend a domestic abuse incident at an address where a child lives, whether or not the child was present. A secure electronic notification is sent to the school’s Designated Safeguarding Lead (called the Key Adult) before the next school day, enabling timely and appropriate support.

## 2. Why was Operation Encompass Created?

Operation Encompass aims to reduce the long-term impact of domestic abuse by enabling early support and intervention. Domestic abuse can damage social, emotional, physical and academic outcomes across a child’s life. By connecting police and schools immediately after an incident, Operation Encompass helps schools understand a child’s lived experience and provide timely, nurturing support. From 24 May 2024, the Victims and Prisoners Act makes participation in Operation Encompass a statutory duty for all police forces in England and Wales.

## 3. What Operation Encompass does.

Operation Encompass provides an efficient, confidential channel of communication between police forces and Key Adults within schools. Operation Encompass ensures that all incidents of domestic abuse are shared with schools, not just those where an offence can be identified. Operation Encompass does not replace statutory safeguarding procedures.

## 4. What are the benefits?

Children can receive support earlier, which can reduce the impact of the trauma. Schools receive timely information about incidents, which can lead to better informed assessments of risk. Children may feel more comfortable and secure talking about domestic abuse with a trusted adult at school. There is better coordination between service to support the child and family.

## 5. Practice Example.

High school child arrived at school following an Op Encompass notification. The Key Adult checked in with the child who disclosed they had not eaten breakfast. School provided immediate food and a safe space to talk enabling the child to settle and engage in learning. Staff could then plan further support and the child left knowing school was a safe place.

## 6. Talking about domestic abuse.

Children often struggle to talk about domestic abuse — they may feel scared, ashamed, lack the words, or believe it is normal or their fault. If a child discloses abuse: Give full attention with open, calm body language. Be compassionate and validate their feelings. Let them speak at their own pace. Reflect back to check understanding, using their words. Remind them the abuse is not their fault. Do **not** promise confidentiality — explain you must tell someone who can help.

## 7. Further information.

[Home : Operation Encompass](#)

[Domestic abuse | Childline](#)

[Safe in Salford - Domestic abuse support in Salford](#)

[Victim support • Salford City Council](#)

[National Domestic Abuse Helpline - Refuge](#)

[I need help - information and support on domestic abuse](#)

[Advice about domestic abuse | Greater Manchester Police](#)

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**Additional Information: The Schools Key Adult for Operation Encompass is the Designated Safeguarding Lead**

**Visit:** <https://safeguardingchildren.salford.gov.uk/>

**Email:** [SSCP@salford.gov.uk](mailto:SSCP@salford.gov.uk)

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