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**CLEVELAND
POLICE**



**Operation
Encompass**

Dear Parent/Carer,

Whinney Banks Primary School is participating in the Operation Encompass partnership scheme. This is an arrangement between educational settings and Cleveland Police.

Operation Encompass was created to provide early reporting about any domestic abuse incidents that occur outside of school hours to which any pupils attending may have been exposed and which might then have an impact on them. This information will be shared on academic days during term time. Where incidents occur on a weekend or during a school holiday, the Police will contact us the next school day.

The Children Act 2004 places a duty on agencies to share information for the purpose of child safeguarding and welfare. Information will only be shared with us by the Police where it is identified that a young person was present at the time and is focused solely on identifying and addressing child welfare concerns.

A nominated member of staff, known as a Designated Safeguarding Lead Officer (DSLO), has been trained to liaise with Police. They will use information that has been shared with them in confidence to ensure that we make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children or their families. The DSLO will keep this information confidential, and will only share it on a need to know basis, for instance to teaching staff to ensure the child's welfare needs are met.

Operation Encompass was first introduced in Plymouth in February 2011, and has proved very effective in providing appropriate and timely support to young people affected by domestic abuse. This initiative has been implemented across the whole of the Cleveland Police area since 2016. If you would like some more information about it, you can view it online at www.operationencompass.org.

We are keen to offer the best support possible for our pupils and a recent review of Operation Encompass showed that it is beneficial and supportive for all those involved.

Mrs S Thorpe
Head Teacher

