

Linthorpe Community Primary School

Roman Road Middlesbrough TS5 6EA Telephone: (01642) 885222

Headteacher: Mrs. G. Mitchell

28th February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

This is a reminder that Linthorpe Community 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 to schools 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 school the following Monday/ next working day.

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

Nominated staff from the Safeguarding Team, known as the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Safeguarding Lead, have been trained to liaise with Police. They will be able to use information that has been shared with them in confidence to ensure that school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children or their families. They will keep this information confidential, and will only share it on a need to know basis, for instance to teaching staff for the child or young person to ensure their 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.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Whittaker
Deputy Headteacher/Designated Safeguarding Lead