

Croft Road,
Hurworth-on-Tees,
Darlington DL2 2JG
Tel: 01325 720424 / 721188
Fax: 01325 721788

E-mail: enquiries@hurworthschool.org.uk
Website: www.hurworthschool.org.uk
Chief Executive: Mr D Judson, B Ed, NPQH
Head of School: Miss N Peaker, B Sc (Hons)

24th September 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Operation encompass

A project, called Operation Encompass, is being introduced and aimed at supporting children affected in any way by domestic abuse. The project is a joint initiative involving Darlington Borough Council, Durham Police and schools across Darlington.

The safety and wellbeing of children and young people is our greatest priority. Our school is one of many in Darlington that will be taking part in a new project aimed at providing extra support to children and young people who are affected by domestic abuse within their home or family life.

Witnessing domestic abuse is really distressing for a child or young person, often with them seeing and/or hearing the abuse, seeing a parent's injuries and distress afterwards, or they can be physically hurt themselves. Started in January 2017, following any serious domestic abuse incident being reported into Durham Police, specialist staff identify which school the child attends, make contact with the school and communicate relevant and necessary information. This will ensure that the school is made aware of the earliest possible opportunity of any incidents to enable the trained staff within the school, known as 'key adults', to provide support, depending on the needs and wishes of the child or young person.

The key adults in school have attended training to ensure that they have a full understanding of the impact of domestic abuse on children. I believe our school's involvement in this project demonstrates our commitment to providing the best possible care and support for our pupils.

In the meantime, if you would like to speak to someone about the project or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me in school. You can also find out more information at: www.operationencompass.org.

Yours sincerely



Mr B Sutherland
Head of Student Support