

28th February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you may be aware the school is part of a jointly run scheme between Luton Council, Bedfordshire Police and our School, called Operation Encompass, which was set up to help schools provide support to children who may have been affected by incidents of domestic abuse in the home. We are writing to inform you that this now includes notification of missing children and young people.

Operation Encompass is the reporting tool sending the relevant information to schools, before midday of the next school day when a child or young person has been reported missing to the police, whether that is by yourself or respective guardian.

This is to enable the school (as professional safeguarding partner) to be made aware of the missing incident for their information and be in a position to support the child should they still make their way into school. As a professional partner the school are also able to complete a 'safeguarding check' on the child and we can close a missing report based on the information. This would then not require a police presence which may affect any disclosures or information being provided.

The school are not being asked to be information gathers but to provide support and guidance when speaking with the child. In the interest of safeguarding the child and their environment though the information may be shared with respective safeguarding partners following partnership sharing agreements already in place.

Operation Encompass will ensure that a member of the school staff, known as a Key Adult, is trained to allow them to liaise with the police and to use the information that has been shared, in confidence, while ensuring that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families of the child/young person who has been reported a missing.

We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our pupils and we believe this will be extremely beneficial for all those involved.

Yours sincerely,



K Hand
Headteacher