

Operation Encompass Guidance 2020

The Operation Encompass Scheme within Cumbria Police aims to inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) within an educational setting about incidents whereby a child in their setting has been exposed to domestic abuse or hate incident. This enables the DSL to respond appropriately in order to ensure the appropriate safeguarding and support is in place within their setting. The purpose of the scheme is to share information in order to reduce the risk of harm to the child/children and to reduce the number of cases reaching crisis levels before intervention.

What is domestic abuse?

Cumbria Constabulary has adopted the cross-Government definition of domestic violence and abuse:

Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexual orientation. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to:

- Psychological
- Physical
- Sexual
- Financial
- Emotional

The definition includes ‘honour’ based violence (HBV), female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage and is clear that victims are not confined to one gender or ethnic group.

What is a hate incident/hate crime?

Hate motivations

Nationally, the police and the Crown Prosecution Service record hate crimes and hate incidents that have either been or perceived to have been motivated by hostility or prejudice due to a person’s:

- Disability
- Race
- Religion / belief
- Sexual orientation
- Transgender identity or a combination of the above

Hate incident

‘Any non-crime incident which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on a person’s disability, race, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity.’

Hate crime

‘Any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on disability, race, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity.’