

The National Decision Making Model

We encourage schools to use the National Decision Making Model...



National Decision Making Model Prompts

1 Gather information & intelligence

Who is/are the Key Adult(s) that will receive the call? They must be a DSL/DDSL.

If the Key Adult is not available to take the call who is the deputy?

What is the contact number? A mobile can be better as the call should come through prior to 8.30a.m.

How will you record the information? (Information sheet template provided) Where is it kept? Do all DSLs know?

If the main school number is used, office staff need to be briefed to understand the importance of an Operation Encompass call and that whatever the DSLs are doing they must be contacted immediately.

Other people who may answer the telephone prior to the start of the school day must also be aware of actions to take if an Operation Encompass call comes in.

Consider your knowledge of the child after the call.

2 Assess risk & develop working strategy

Check Child Protection /CiN /Concern records, check with class teacher for recent concerns. Brief Class teacher on Operation Encompass call received and Key Adult's decision about type of support to provide.

Initial Support ideas: how to meet and greet, initial nurturing support and welcomes, breakfast, uniform, silent support, homework, scripts to give the child to enable them to answer questions from friends.

If CP concerns call Social Care out of hours (before 09:00) or MARU

4 Identify Options & Contingencies

Use for consultation around the level of support required, school level support, nurturing school environment, Early Help, CAF CIN CP, Brief ant specific school staff available

File completed, information kept in same way as other CP information sheet in CP records of those children already on CP

Following initial support consider school based pastoral support, locality support, signposting to PDAS, other agencies

3 Consider Powers & Policy

Inform parents of school's participation in Operation Encompass (letter provided). As part of the project police will notify schools if they attend. Include the information in safeguarding policy, prospectus, school website, entrance hall, link to Operation Encompass website.

The supportive culture of the school. School Pastoral Support, if available (PSA, Learning Mentor, Counsellor), locality Pastoral support, LA, Multi Agency.

Staff training for Domestic Abuse signs, symptoms and support, signposting and parent self-referral, building resilience (mother, child) plans for temporary/ refuge admissions. Tell pupils of the school's involvement, website, Operation Encompass Website, other national websites such as Hideout, Women's Aid.

Integrate DA into existing curriculum/ policy (PSHE, RSE,) Assemblies, Behaviour. Healthy Relationships.

5 Take Action & review what happened

School's Internal monitoring arrangements. Possible consultation with pupils and parent.

DO NOTHING THAT WILL PUT THE NON-ABUSING PARENT OR CHILD IN DANGER

Be prepared to come across situations and contexts which you could not have planned for.