



# St James' Church of England Junior School

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Headteacher: Mrs E Gardiner



September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

We are writing to let you know that our school takes part in Operation Encompass.

Operation Encompass is a police and education information-sharing partnership which helps schools provide timely support to children and young people who may have been affected by domestic abuse.

Domestic abuse can have a significant impact on children, even when they are not directly involved in an incident. Children may see or hear abuse, witness the impact afterwards, feel frightened or unsettled, or be affected by changes in family circumstances.

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 recognises children as victims of domestic abuse in their own right if they see, hear or experience the effects of domestic abuse. Current safeguarding guidance, including Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026 and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2026, reinforces the importance of early identification, timely information sharing and effective multi-agency support.

Operation Encompass is now a statutory duty for police forces in England and Wales. This means that when police attend a domestic abuse incident where a child is connected to the household, the police will notify the child's education setting.

The information shared will be relevant, necessary and proportionate. It will usually be shared with the school before the start of the next school day so that we can offer appropriate support as early as possible.

At our school, notifications are received by nominated Operation Encompass Key Adults, who are members of the safeguarding team. This will usually include the Designated Safeguarding Lead and/or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

The Key Adults have appropriate safeguarding knowledge and will handle information sensitively, securely and confidentially.

Support will be considered in a child-centred and proportionate way. This may include a quiet check-in, reassurance, flexibility during the school day, support with routines, or referral to additional help where this is needed.

Taking part in Operation Encompass supports our commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. It helps us work in partnership with parents, carers, police and safeguarding partners so that children can receive the right support at the right time.

If you would like to speak to someone about Operation Encompass, or if you would like any further information, please contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs E Gardiner, Headteacher

Mrs E Faulkner

Please be aware that Operation Encompass is a police-led process. Any complaint about the police information-sharing process should be directed through the police complaints procedure.

Further information about Operation Encompass is available at <http://www.operationencompass.org/>

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in grey ink that reads "Gardiner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'G'.

**Mrs E Gardiner**  
**Headteacher**