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Headteacher Mr K Ahmed

Date: Autumn 2025 Review Date: Autumn 2026

Dear Parent / Carer

Icknield High School has been a part of a safeguarding initiative called **Operation Encompass** since April 2021. This is a joint partnership between schools and Bedfordshire Police, designed to provide early support to children who may be affected by domestic abuse.

Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools when a child has experienced any form of domestic abuse. When the police attend an incident of domestic abuse where children are present or have been affected, they will notify key safeguarding staff at the school before the start of the next school day / as soon as possible. This ensures that we can offer appropriate support to affected child(ren) in a timely and sensitive manner.

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, who have experienced a domestic abuse incident.

We want to reassure you that this information is handled with the utmost confidentiality and shared only with key safeguarding staff within the school. The aim is to ensure that children feel safe, supported, and able to thrive in their learning environment. We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our students and we believe this will be extremely beneficial for all those impacted.

If you have any questions about Operation Encompass or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact the school. You can also visit the <u>Operation Encompass website</u> for further details.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us safeguard the wellbeing of all our students.

Yours sincerely

Mr K Ahmed **Headteacher**