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Dear Parent/Carer

This letter is to inform you that our college is participating in Operation Encompass.

Operation Encompass is a unique Police and Education early intervention safeguarding partnership which ensures that a child's college is informed, prior to the start of the next college day, if there has been an incident of Domestic Abuse to which the child or young person has been exposed, and which might then have an impact on them in college the following day.

Each college is informed of all Domestic Abuse incidents, not just those where an offence can be identified or those which are graded as high risk. The partnership recognises that all incidents of Domestic Abuse can be harmful to children and young people.

This information will be shared throughout the year, including college holidays and the weekends. Information will only be shared with the college by the police where it is identified that a young person was present, witnessed or was involved in a domestic abuse incident.

A nominated member of staff, known as a Key Adult, has been trained to liaise with the police. At Unity College our Key Adult is Mrs Bev Worthington.She will be able to use information that has been shared with her, in confidence, to ensure that the college makes provision for possible difficulties experienced by children or their families. The Key Adult will keep this information confidential and will only share it on a need to know basis. It will not be shared with other college students.

Operation Encompass was first introduced in Plymouth in February 2011 and has proved very effective in providing appropriate and timely support to young people affected by domestic abuse. This initiative has been implemented across the whole of the Lancashire Police area. If you would like some more information about it, you can view it online at www.operationencompass.org.

We are keen to offer the best support possible for our students and a recent review of Operation Encompass showed that it is beneficial and supportive for all those involved.

Yours sincerely

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Mrs S Cryer

Headteacher