CULLYBACKEY COLLEGE

Principal: Mr D Donaldson, B.Ed., M.Ed, P.Q.H.

School Office Fax No.

(028) 2588 0771 (028) 2588 1440 Complexes collect

44 Pottinger Street, Cullybackey, BALLYMENA, Co. Antrim, BT42 1BP

January 2023

Operation Encompass

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to update you about our school's participation in Operation Encompass. Operation Encompass is an early intervention partnership between Police and Schools. It is aimed at supporting children who are victims of domestic violence.

Operation Encompass is already established across all of England and Wales and is now coming to Northern Ireland. It is a very simple idea, but one that will help us to support and protect vulnerable children. When the Police attend an incident of domestic violence where one of our pupils is present, they will inform the school's Designated Teacher for Child Protection at the start of the next school day. This information is shared in strict confidence and school staff are only told on a need-to-know basis.

Following any notification from the PSNI, our staff will provide immediate support to any child who has been the victim of domestic abuse. We know that when children do witness domestic abuse at home, this is a highly traumatic experience for them. By taking part in Operation Encompass, we can provide tailored and compassionate support to our pupils, in line with our school ethos. This builds on our existing commitment to child safeguarding.

Should you wish to find out more information, please contact our school's Designated Teacher for Child Protection, Mr C. McLaren or alternatively you can read more about Operation Encompass at www.operationencompass.org.

Yours faithfully,

Mr D. Donaldson Principal