Theme	Protocol Domestic Abuse Notifications: Derbyshire Police Reporting onto Schools			
Version	2.0 Status FINAL	Published Feb 2020 Review 12 monthly		
Written by	D. Peacock CPM Education	Approved by	Derbyshire Police & Starting Point	
Helpful supporting information	 Derbyshire Domestic Abuse Guidance for Schools Jan 2020 a guide to support Primary, Secondary, Special Schools and other educational settings where a child/adult connected is a victim of domestic abuse in Derbyshire Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Procedures Derbyshire Domestic Abuse Service Derbyshire Domestic Abuse professional & Service User Helpline 0800 198608 Safer Derbyshire 			
The Notification	All Schools will receive a notification to every incident of domestic abuse if the police have responded to an incident in a household where there are children (up to 18 years) This is a police driven initiative supported by Derbyshire partners. This notification will concern any statutory school aged child residing in Derbyshire and attending a Derby City or Derbyshire school. This includes children who attend a local authority nursery school. Currently where there are children under school age the health visiting teams for the north and south of the county are notified and have processes in place to respond. Cross border police forces now have a similar protocol- e.g. Staffordshire, Nottinghamshire. The police will pass on a notification that an incident has taken place daily to Starting Point (contact and referrals Childrens Services). The school where it has been identified by the police where the child /children attend will receive directly from the police the notification			
The process				

Unborn babies, children, young people and families whose needs are complex and enduring will need more specialist support. More than one service is normally involved, with all practitioners involved on a statutory basis and a qualified Social Worker as the professional lead. It is usually the local authority C Social Care service which acts as the lead agency. Child Protection is the responsibility of the Local Authority and the role is to determine whether a child is suffering or is likely to suffer significant harm. Meeting a threshold that justifies compulsory intervention in family life in the best interests of children. Unborn babies/ babies and young children are particularly vulnerable and parental factors such as history of significant domestic abuse and/or substance misuse and/or mental ill-health. Significant harm could occur where there is a single event, such as a violent assault or sexual abuse. More often, significant harm is identified when there have been a number of events which have compromised the child's physical and psychological wellbeing. Increasingly extra familial risks such as child sexual exploitation or risks of other types of exploitation.

There will not be any notification received by a Head teacher/Designated Safeguarding Lead that will not have been screened and a decision made.

The Headteacher/ Designated Lead has the task of retrieving the notification from a school safeguarding@ e-mail account. This is now secure. The notification is for information only and to alert the school to the incident to help assist with managing the child/ren whilst in school.

If on receipt of the notification and or you are concerned about the **immediate** presentation of the child/ren in the school, or the child/ren are currently missing from school, in these

The Role of the School

circumstances you should contact Call Derbyshire (Starting Point) 01629 533190 choosing option 1.

Response by the School

When managing the child/ren in school, the HT/DSL must consider:

- the need to contact the principal allocated worker if known on an open case for further information, updates, advice;
- -disclosure to relevant teachers and support staff if appropriate;
- -the safety of the child whilst in school;
- -the possible impact for siblings/other children:
- -being mindful of the child's or young person's presentation;
- -how relevant teachers and support staff respond sensitively;
- -a strategy of day to day support in the school;
- -a need to provide time and space for that child/ren and that of the parent/s described as the victim who may have contact with the school;

Support for the child/ren in school may mean:

- -identifying positive play/nurture/time out of the classroom
- -the engagement with a named person in school who can support the child/ren
- -managing any contact with the parent/carer and restrictions on any parent/carer as a result of the incident/s
- -ensuring where possible a positive transition and continuation of school/home work if the child or young person is moved to a refuge or safe alternative place e.g. to a family or friend.

Further

The Domestic Abuse Guidance written by the domestic abuse service/Derbyshire

Support & Signposting

Community Safety provides information, helpful advice, and support & signposting services. This has been updated for 2020/2021

The Derbyshire Domestic Abuse Help Line offers advice to professionals (including schools) and they can be contacted on 08000 198 668, and the number can be provided to parents.

Derbyshire works with Safer Derbyshire to offer Domestic Abuse training.

The Children's Training Team offer domestic abuse training, contact 01629 531933 for details.

Your locality partnership group connects with local projects, training and programmes. You can find out what's happening in your area by contacting your locality head of service in the Locality.

Additional guidance, signposting services, local support and training on domestic abuse and what to do to support the child and their family can be found within the <u>Safeguarding</u> policies, guidance and protocols pages on SchoolsNet.

Record Keeping & Retention

HT/SDL must:

- Print the notification.
- Create or update the child's record held in the school with the information received and add any new information.
- Record the work undertaken by using the recommended welfare/child protection report form.
- Share any new information on a need to know basis in school and using the agreed safeguarding protocols.
- Treat as a confidential child protection record.
- Retain and store safely and securely on the child or young person records as per schools protocol.
- Retain for purposes of transfer for when a child moves onto another school within DCC or when transferring onto another school in another LA.
- Treat as any other child protection record when transferring.

For further advice on record keeping, retention and transfer there is a guidance for schools on the <u>Child protection record keeping guidance on SchoolsNet</u>.