

North Yorkshire Police – Operation Encompass



Changes to the North Yorkshire Police Operation Encompass Process

North Yorkshire Police has undertaken a review of the Operation Encompass process to ensure that it delivers an efficient, timely, and effective service which is compliant with the statutory duty (section 49A Domestic Abuse Act 2021).

Following the review several changes will be introduced which are designed to strengthen safeguarding arrangements and ensure that children can be supported by the relevant professionals at the earliest opportunity.

By providing one single notification, partner agencies will be better equipped to identify and respond to the needs of children who may require additional support or safeguarding interventions.

These changes will be introduced on a transitional basis throughout the summer period, with full implementation of the revised process scheduled in advance of the 2026/27 academic year.

Immediate Change

With immediate effect, there will be a move to a single Operation Encompass notification process. The current 'Early Alert' notification will cease.

Under the new arrangements, from September, one Operation Encompass notification will be sent before the start of the next school day following the incident.

Notification will include:

- Child's name and date of birth.
- Police incident reference number.
- Date, time and location of the incident.
- Confirmation of whether the child was present during the incident and, where applicable, the voice of the child.
- The child's relationship to those involved.
- Relevant safeguarding information relating to the child, including details of any arrest and any applicable bail conditions.

Where there are multiple children within the same family unit, attending the same school a single notification will be sent. However, individual details and the voice of each child, where recorded, will be included to ensure that their specific needs and circumstances are appropriately considered.

Expansion to Include All Children Aged 0–18 Years

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. To ensure that no child is missed, North Yorkshire Police have expanded Operation Encompass for all children aged 0–18 years.

Notification arrangements will be as follows:

- **Children aged 5 years and over** – notifications will be sent to the relevant educational setting or to the Local Authority nominated SPOC where the child is Home Educated.
- **Children under 5 years of age who attend a school nursery setting** – notifications will be sent directly to the nursery.
- **Children under 5 years of age who do not attend a school nursery setting** – notifications will be sent to the appropriate health professionals.

These changes will ensure that safeguarding partners are provided with the information they need at the earliest opportunity, enabling them to assess risk, provide support, and take any necessary action to safeguard children effectively.

The safety and wellbeing of children remain a shared responsibility, and these enhancements to the Operation Encompass process represent an important step in ensuring that vulnerable children receive timely and effective support.