



## **DDSCP Briefing Note Updates to Domestic Abuse (SDAT) Notifications to Schools**

Domestic Abuse notifications to schools, also known as Stopping Domestic Abuse Together (SDAT), is the local Derby and Derbyshire version of a national initiative called [Operation Encompass](#).

Derbyshire Constabulary lead on Stopping Domestic Abuse Together (SDAT) which was rolled out to all Derby and Derbyshire schools in 2018.

### **What are Domestic Abuse (SDAT) Notifications?**

Domestic abuse notifications are sent from Derbyshire constabulary to schools in Derby and Derbyshire. They are an early notification system to schools to quickly notify them of any incidents of domestic abuse where the Police have attended a household where statutory school aged children live.

The notifications are designed to:

- Provide a link between a statutory school aged child or young person's lived home experience and their experience in school when domestic abuse is a current issue
- Help ensure that schools can effectively support and respond to children and young people's needs in the education setting
- Promote effective communications between Police, Children's Social Care and Schools where there has been a domestic abuse incident

### **Updates to Domestic Abuse Notifications**

Following on from consultation with Derby and Derbyshire schools, changes have now been made to domestic abuse notification emails. The information provided will now include the name of the alleged victim and alleged perpetrator, and the address where the incident occurred.

The feedback from schools during the SDAT consultation was that this additional information will assist in understanding the circumstances of the incident and consequently the potential support needs of the child/ren.

It should be noted that these notifications will be received for all incidents, whether or not a crime has occurred and regardless of the severity of the incident. Emails sent to the dedicated school safeguarding email address should only be accessed by staff who

have responsibilities for safeguarding. The school safeguarding email address must also be encrypted using transport layer security (TLS); you can find out more about TLS on the Government Digital Service, [Transport Layer Security \(TLS\) Guidance](#) webpage.

It is imperative that all schools ensure that the correct details of their secure safeguarding email address are provided to the police and children's services. Any changes should be highlighted as soon as possible by emailing:

- In Derby via [ddscp@derby.gov.uk](mailto:ddscp@derby.gov.uk)
- In Derbyshire via [CS.CPMSchools@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:CS.CPMSchools@derbyshire.gov.uk)

This is the email address which the police will use to securely communicate domestic abuse notifications. Children's Services may also use this email address to support safeguarding communications with schools.

Updated guidance for schools about Stopping Domestic Abuse Together is being developed and will be circulated as soon as it is finalised.

For more information about responding to concerns about domestic abuse, please see the multi-agency Derby and Derbyshire safeguarding children [procedures](#), which have a specific chapter about [Domestic Abuse](#).