

SDAT (Stopping Domestic Abuse Together)
Wren Park - Information for Parents and Staff



If you or know of someone who is subject of Domestic Abuse, please talk with someone. We understand that coming forward might be difficult or scary but you and your children have the right to feel safe.

We can support your children and signpost you to help.

Please speak Mrs. Pettit or Mr. Buckley- we are here to help. If you prefer to speak with any other member of staff we can arrange that, just drop-in to school and ask to speak with whoever you would feel most at ease with.

SDAT is an initiative led by Derbyshire Police in conjunction with Social Services, Health Services, schools and other agencies, who work together to safeguard children and adults.

Domestic Abuse can encompass but is not limited to the following types of abuse:

- Psychological
- Physical
- Sexual
- Financial
- Emotional

Children and young people witnessing domestic abuse

Witnessing domestic abuse is really distressing and scary and it causes serious harm to children.

Children who witness domestic abuse can experience a wide range effects. They may:

- Become anxious and depressed
- Have difficulty sleeping or have nightmares

- Be easily startled, flinch or react disproportionately to loud noises
- Complain of physical symptoms such as tummy ache
- Start wetting the bed
- Have temper tantrums and display challenging behaviour at school
- Behave younger than they are
- Not want to go to school
- Become aggressive towards others
- Have poor self-worth
- Self-harm
- Have difficulty forming positive relationships

They may feel:

- Guilty - because they think they have done something wrong
- Powerless - because they can't stop the violence
- Confused - because it doesn't make sense
- Angry - because it shouldn't be happening
- Sad - because it's a loss
- Afraid - because they may be hurt, they may lose someone they love, others may find out
- Alone - because they think it is only happening to them

What is SDAT?

SDAT is an early notification system to schools to quickly notify them of any incidents of domestic abuse where the Police have attended a household where children live.

This enables schools to understand changes in a child's behaviour, attitude or general presentation and to support children if needed. When this happens we can provide the children with additional pastoral support and they can spend time with a trusted adult. We are not trained counsellors but we can offer care and support though a difficult time.

Useful links

- Operation Encompass – resources for schools includes free advice from an Education Psychologist about how best to support children via National Helpline 0204 513 9990
- Women's Aid – also has The Hideout a space for children and young people
- Refuge – including the national free 24 hour domestic abuse helpline 0808 2000 247 or visit www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk to access live chat. Has BSL interpreter service
- Men's Advice Line - confidential help and support for men Helpline 0808 801 0327

- [Safe Lives](#) - UK wide charity dedicated to ending domestic abuse
- Domestic Abuse Act: [Factsheet](#)
- [NSPCC](#) – protecting children from domestic abuse
- [Galop](#) – LGBT+ anti-violence charity. Includes National Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans+ Domestic Abuse Helpline [0800 999 5428](#)
- [Gov.uk](#) – how to get help for domestic abuse