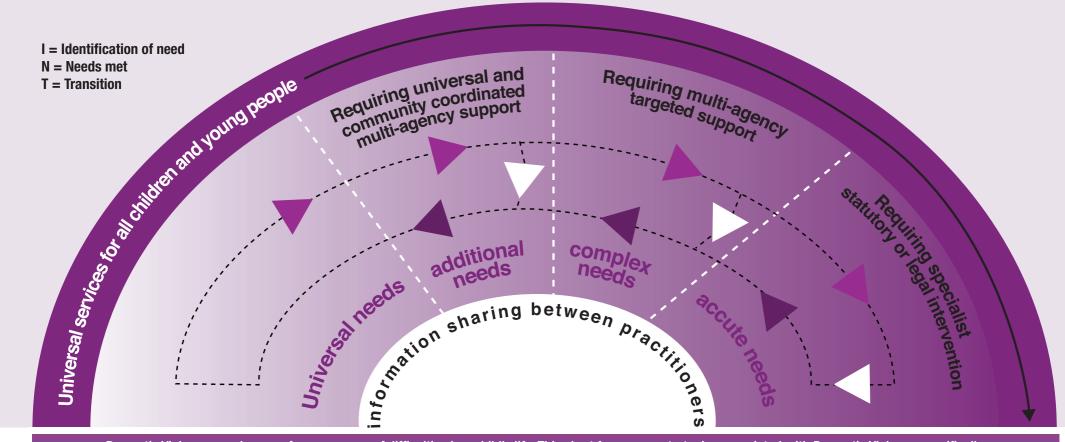
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE in SCHOOLS – It's a Whole School Issue...



Domestic Violence may be one of many causes of difficulties in a child's life. This chart focuses on strategies associated with Domestic Violence specifically, however this flow chart and interventions recommended, should be considered in the context of all factors effecting the child.

HEALTH WARNING

Health Warning: This Model takes a whole school approach and not only considers the reporting of Child Protection incidents associated with Domestic Violence, but also prevention elements – fostering emotionally healthy young people, and support for children and families that may be known to be living in environments were Domestic Violence is a known issue.

Intervention Level/ Target Group	For Staff	For Students	For Families
Level 1 Universal Support, Awareness Raising & Prevention	Provide staff with basic Awareness of Domestic Violence information Inform staff of the statistics and knowledge that DV is an issue in our schools	PSHE/SEAL Program to emphasise Emotionally Healthy Students: topics addressingAnger ManagementRespecting OthersKinds of TouchBullying PreventionKeeping Safe (Safety Planning)Gender StereotypesHealthy RelationshipsHealthy Emotions and actions help to prevent DVMake school a safe space where students can discuss, disclose and ask for help	Provide Domestic Violence Information in Children's Information Points in Primaries and Youth Information Points in Secondary's Run Parent Sessions at school addressing a range of health issues/health fair, which can include information on DV Run Parenting Groups to provide parents with emotional support and confidence
Level 2 Cause for Concern Student possibly being exposed to or involved in incidents of Domestic Violence	 Provide all staff with knowledge of identifying signs/ symptoms of potential DV occurrences at home Training for SENCO's on referral avenues not only for children, but parents also. Knowledge of support networks if Parent confides in the school Provision of resources to school staff through SENCO for accessing further support and advice Staff should be aware that Domestic Violence is a Child Protection issue and should be managed accordingly 	Staff to follow support processes identified by school in providing immediate support/referral Child Protection Lead/SENCO to assess and refer if necessary. Seek support from School Counsellor or other support if required If having an effect on class, Circle time sessions can be used to focus on supportive relationship. Does the child have a safety plan for themselves? Support the student by reviewing this with them.	Make Parents aware that school is supportive, and can use school to find avenues for help (Refer to appendices in Guidance for Support for Parents)
Level 3 Known Families Student is living in a family environment where DV is a known issue	Provide support information to staff in supporting children from a known DV home. Schools should develop processes for informing staff who may be engaged with the child/ren from a known DV family (this should include Reception and Support staff as their attendance and playground behaviour may be effected). Provision of resources to school staff through SENCO for accessing further support and advice	Students to be supported by all staff engaged with child, with acknowledgment of trying external circumstances (school start times, uniforms and resources may be an issue while they are getting re-established in a new environment) Support to focus on overcoming the negative effects of abuse Discuss and review safety planning Link with other involved services to provide coordinated support (if family staying in a refuge, work in partnership with the refuge)	Make Parents aware that school is supportive, and can use school to find avenues for help (Refer to appendices in Guidance for Support for Parents) Be aware of times when families are most vulnerable – when they have just left the home environment to flee
Level 4 Crisis Known Family, Student demonstrating immediate danger associated with DV	If student is an immediate danger and at risk to themselves or others, follow school safety child protection procedures. At this point the Police may need to be directly involved.	Immediate help secured and child protected from harm to self/others	If other family members are at immediate risk of harm, they should be considered in any action taken

This Summary Flowchart has been developed in conjunction with the Domestic Violence: Guidance for Schools in Ealing. For further information please refer to these accompanying guidelines and to the LSCB Safeguarding Children Abused Through Domestic Violence (www.londonscb.gov.uk)

CONTACTS

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