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DECS Reference: MIN/1149580/24

2 July 2024

Dear Ms Scott,

Thank you for your email of 14 May to the Rt Hon Alex Chalk about Operation Encompass. Your email was transferred to the Home Office and you are receiving a response from an official in accordance with procedures for handling correspondence during the pre-election period.

I am pleased to share with you that the Victims and Prisoners Bill received Royal Assent on 24 May 2024 and is now the Victims and Prisoners Act. You can see the relevant section 20 here: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2024/21/section/20/enacted>.

This means that following implementation, it will be mandatory that when a member of a police force has reasonable grounds to believe that a child who resides in the police area may be a victim of domestic abuse, any relevant educational establishment is notified as soon as is reasonably practicable. Independent schools are within the Act's definition.

Decisions on implementation will be a matter for the next government following the general election. However, we will ensure that we update the Independent School's Council when necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Gisela Carr  
Deputy Director  
**Interpersonal Abuse Unit (IAU)**