

# Support for children affected by domestic abuse in Hounslow

Hounslow Children Affected by  
Domestic Abuse Project



*Better partnerships for better outcomes*

**A booklet for schools**

Updated September 2021



**London Borough  
of Hounslow**



**EARLY Help**  
Support when you need it

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# What is Domestic Abuse?

## **Domestic Abuse can include:**

**Physical** - hitting, punching, strangling, pushing

**Emotional** - shouting, threats, blackmail, constant criticism, mind games

**Sexual** - any behaviours of sexual nature that are not consensual

**Economic** – controlling finances, preventing someone from working, taking out loans, benefit fraud, overspending and building up debt in victim's name

**Harassment and stalking** - unwanted contact and ongoing monitoring and surveillance

**Digital abuse** – unwanted social media messages, monitoring movement via an oyster card, revenge porn

**Coercive and coercive behaviour** – intimidation, threats, humiliation to harm, control, punish or frighten them

The government defines domestic abuse as between people who are aged 16 or over and are personally connected i.e. intimate partners or family members. Anyone can experience domestic abuse, regardless of their gender, age, ethnicity, status, sexuality or background.

Survivors of domestic abuse usually experience fear and shame. They may blame themselves for being abused, even if the only person responsible for domestic abuse is the person using it.



# Impact of Domestic Abuse on Children

**Children who see, hear, or experience the effects of domestic abuse are victims in their own right.** The impact of domestic abuse on children is negative and can last into adulthood. Coercive and controlling behaviours between parents or carers are as harmful to the children as physical violence.

**Some of the ways that a child could respond to domestic abuse include:**

## Emotional issues:

- Aggression
- Irritability
- Panic
- Regression
- Withdrawal
- Excessive crying
- Underachievement
- Self-blame and guilt



## Physical symptoms:

- Problems sleeping
- Nightmares or flashbacks
- Tummy aches
- Bedwetting
- Eating disorders
- Headaches

## Concerns at school:

- Low attainment levels
- Difficulty concentrating in lessons
- Increase absence
- Frequent lateness
- Unwillingness to attend school
- Poor peer relationships

**Domestic abuse at home may make children believe that violence and fear are a normal part of everyday life and that they are not entitled to safety.**



# Operation Encompass

**Operation Encompass is an early information sharing partnership between the police and schools.**

The police share information with the schools' Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) the day after an incident of domestic abuse has been reported to the police which has impacted on the school's pupil(s).

**The aim of this process is to ensure that the child is offered sensitivity and understanding following a distressing incident of domestic abuse**

## **How does it work?**

Your school will receive Operation Encompass notifications by email. The emails are sent in the mornings to the schools' DSL. The emails are password-protected and the DSL will have received a password unique to the school.

Your school may be able to reassure the child that you know about what's happened. This can be a relief for a child as it can give them permission to talk about how they feel and what's happening to them. You may be able to offer them support with homework or exams, provide an opportunity for counselling and link them in with a specialist practitioner from the Children Affected by Domestic Abuse Project.



# Children Affected by Domestic Abuse (CADA) Project

The CADA Project offers therapeutic support for children and young people affected by domestic abuse and their non-abusive parents. It's a fixed term project running until the end of March 2022.

## What support does CADA offer?

The project offers each school access to a designated Parent and Child Domestic Abuse Worker (PCDAWs). The PCDAWs are specialist in supporting children affected by domestic abuse, they're part of Hounslow's Domestic and Sexual Violence Outreach Service. The support provided is independent and available to all school-aged children in Hounslow, regardless whether they are receiving support from children's social care.

### Support for children:

- Safety planning
- Emotional support
- Space to explore child's experience of hurting in the family
- Support to aid healing from domestic abuse
- Reassurance that domestic abuse was not the child's fault
- Emotional literacy
- Self esteem

### Support for non-abusive parents:

- Safety planning
- Practical and emotional support
- Advocacy
- Space to learn about different ways of supporting the children with their recovery from domestic abuse
- Help to explore options and choices to make informed decisions
- Empowerment



# CADA and Operation Encompass

The Parent and Child Domestic Abuse Workers receive all Operation Encompass notifications and can work with you to support pupils and parents who have experienced domestic abuse.

## **Early support for all children**

It is likely that there will be children in your school who are living with domestic abuse but remain unknown to services and Operation Encompass.

The CADA Project can support these families too.

### **Making a referral to the CADA Project:**

- Speak with the non-abusive parent about the service, request their consent for a referral to CADA and a safe contact number.
- Contact your designated Parent and Child Domestic Abuse Worker to discuss the family and share the safe contact information.

The Parent and Child Domestic Abuse Worker will then meet with the parent and child to assess their needs and arrange support sessions.

The assessment may highlight other therapeutic interventions suitable for the child and parent. These can include the Let's Talk Programme and therapy provided by Hounslow Youth Counselling Service or Phoenix Counselling Service.

**To find the PCDAW for your school, please go to the back of the booklet, or contact [Jacqueline.duke@hounslow.gov.uk](mailto:Jacqueline.duke@hounslow.gov.uk) for further information**



# What to do if you're concerned about a child?

If you are concerned about a child living with domestic abuse or receive a disclosure of domestic abuse from a child, please follow the safeguarding protocol for your school. You can also reach out to the non-abusive parent and speak to them about the CADA Project.

## How to speak to a parent who's experiencing domestic abuse?

Most adults experiencing domestic abuse do want to be asked about it and are unlikely to be offended. Here are some tips on how to speak with parents about their experience of domestic abuse:

Speak with the parent in a safe way, ask if it's safer to speak on the phone or better to meet at school

Ask if they have any immediate safety concerns. Call 999 if there's an immediate risk of harm

Believe the parent, offer reassurance and remain non-judgemental in your approach

Speak to the parent about abuse away from the children

Do not ask the parent to separate from their partner

Consider how the school may respond if the perpetrator visits or contacts school

Consider transport arrangements if a child is in a temporary address to try to ensure the child maintains their school place

Be aware of child arrangement orders, injunctions, bail conditions, exclusion orders etc. especially if they include the school

Ask if the parent would like support from the CADA Project and make a referral

If the family reside in a refuge or temporary accommodation, keep the address confidential and record only the PO Box address of the refuge on file





# CADA: Therapeutic Support and Counselling

## Let's Talk Programme

Let's Talk is a free 12-week structured therapeutic group programme for children, young people and mothers affected by domestic violence. It was expanded with CADA funding but will continue after March 2020.

In the children and young people's group, the facilitators help children share their experiences in a safe, fun and confidential environment.

Programme activities include art, stories, discussion, role play and videos to enable children to express their feelings.

Topics covered in the sessions include feelings, anger, safety planning, children's experiences of violence, problem solving, staying safe from sexual abuse, dealing with family changes and self-esteem.

The mother's group offers a safe, supportive and confidential environment to help women to communicate with their children about their experiences, while building up their own support network with women who have had similar experiences.

Let's Talk is for families where the perpetrating adults no longer resides in the family home.

**To find out more or to make a referral, please contact Charlotte Roffey on 020 8583 4156 or [charlotte.roffey@hounslow.gov.uk](mailto:charlotte.roffey@hounslow.gov.uk) or Rachel Atterton on 020 8583 5034 or [rachel.atterton@hounslow.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.atterton@hounslow.gov.uk)**



# CADA: Therapeutic Support and Counselling

**Hounslow Youth Counselling Service. 0208 568 1818**

HYCS offer a free, 1-2-1 counselling service just for young people. The service is confidential and anyone aged 11-25 who lives, works or studies in the Borough of Hounslow can self-refer to the service.

A message for Young people:

Your privacy is very important to all counselling services, us, therefore what you say in counselling sessions is confidential unless there are exceptional circumstances, such as

If the service are worried about your safety, or that of others, the service may need to let others know to get you extra help and keep you safe.

**Phoenix Counselling Service. Call us in confidence on 0208 890 3133**

Phoenix Therapy Centre is open to offer face to face and online counselling to adults, children, parents, and couples.

As part of the CADA project they offer free play therapy sessions for children under 11 affected by domestic abuse.

Parents who are needing support for their children who are maybe struggling with their emotional and mental health.



# Cranstoun: Men and Masculinities Programme

**The Men and Masculinities programme is for men who are aware that their relationships have become distressing and damaged by their behaviour.**

The programme will create a safe and supportive space to help you explore what it means to be a man, a partner and a father. We will address the impact of conflict, anger, anxiety and addiction on your relationships and help you try to rebuild the trust you have lost.

**The programme also offers a linked (ex-) partner support service upon referral.**

## **What does the programme cover?**

The programme focuses on behaviour, how we act, how this reinforces how we think and feel, and most importantly, how to act differently. It is also designed to support any other treatment you may be involved with.

The programme is a rolling programme that lasts up to 24 weeks across three core modules:

- Coercion
- Control
- Consequences

To speak to someone in confidence,

Please give us a call: **07701 373 131**

Email us: **adminDVA@cranstoun.org.uk**

Visit our website: **www.cranstoun.org**



# Additional Support in Hounslow

## One Stop Shop

Parents who are experiencing domestic abuse can access comprehensive advice and support from the Hounslow One Stop Shop.

This is a weekly drop-in service which provides access to a variety support options for all victims of gender-based violence, including domestic and sexual violence, forced marriage, honour-based violence, female genital mutilation, prostitution, human trafficking for sexual exploitation and stalking.

**The One Stop Shop is open every Wednesday between 10am – 12pm**  
**at**  
**The Arts Centre,**  
**First Floor, Treaty Centre,**  
**High Street Hounslow,**  
**TW3 1ES,**  
**Phone: 07810 031780**

The service is facilitated by the London Borough of Hounslow Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence Outreach Service. Trained staff are also available from many other services such as family law and immigration solicitors, representatives from housing and Benefits Agency (DWP).



# Additional Support in Hounslow

## Freedom Programme

Group programme for women affected by domestic abuse. Women-only service.

Please contact Jacqueline Duke at [Jacqueline.Duke@hounslow.gov.uk](mailto:Jacqueline.Duke@hounslow.gov.uk) to request a referral form.

## Eastern European IDVA Service

Support to domestic violence victims from the Eastern European Community. Women-only service.

Telephone: 0772 524 5777

[EasternEuropeanIDVA@refuge.org.uk](mailto:EasternEuropeanIDVA@refuge.org.uk)

## Women and Girls Network

Advice and specialist support for victims of sexual violence and a free domestic violence advice line. Women-only service.

Freephone advice: 0808 801 0660

Email: [advice@wgn.org.uk](mailto:advice@wgn.org.uk)

## Southall Black Sisters

Support for domestic violence victims from Black and Minority Ethnic groups and advice on immigration issues. Women-only service.

Helpline: 0208 571 0800

[www.southallblacksisters.org.uk](http://www.southallblacksisters.org.uk)

## Asian Women's Resource Centre

Support and advice for women from Black and Minority Ethnic groups who have experienced domestic abuse and other form of gender-based violence.

Telephone: 020 8961 6549/ 5701  
[info@asianwomenscentre.org.uk](mailto:info@asianwomenscentre.org.uk)

## EACH Counselling Service

EACH delivers specialist counselling and group support for women and girls who have experienced any form of violence against women and girls

[infoascent@eachcounselling.org.uk](mailto:infoascent@eachcounselling.org.uk)

Call: 020 8577 6059



# Additional Support in Hounslow

## **Galop – National LGBT+ Domestic Abuse Helpline**

Emotional and practical support for LGBT+ people experiencing domestic abuse.

Telephone: 0800 999 5428

Email: [help@galop.org.uk](mailto:help@galop.org.uk)

## **London LGBT Domestic Abuse Partnership**

Emotional and practical support, counselling, legal and housing advice for LGBT+ people experiencing domestic abuse in London.

Telephone: 0207704 2040

Email: [referrals@galop.org.uk](mailto:referrals@galop.org.uk)

## **Hounslow Early Help Hub**

The Hounslow Early Help Hub offers professionals guidance to identify appropriate Early Help support options for families as soon as difficulties start, to prevent them from getting worse.

- *Worried that DA is not the only presenting issue in the family?*
- *Looking to put in place a wider package of support?*
- *Unsure about threshold of need?*
- *Require assistance with early help assessments, plans or Team Around the Family?*

Speak to your Early Help Practitioner!

Telephone: 020 8583 6653

Email: [earlyhelphub@hounslow.gov.uk](mailto:earlyhelphub@hounslow.gov.uk)

Hounslow Early Help Offer: [www.hounslow.gov.uk/earlyhelpoffer](http://www.hounslow.gov.uk/earlyhelpoffer)



# Who's your Parent and Child Domestic Abuse Worker?

**Tatjanka Gacheva**

Mobile: 07816593536

Email: Tatjanka.Gacheva@hounslow.gov.uk

**Base: Spring West Academy**

Office: 0208 583 4088

Crane Park Primary School	Rivers Academy West London
Feltham Hill Infant and Nursery School	Space Studio West London
Grove Road Primary School	Springwest Academy
Hounslow Heath Infant and Nursery	St. Lawrence Catholic Primary School
Hounslow Heath Junior School	St. Mark's Catholic School
Lindon Bennet School	St. Michael & St. Martin Catholic Primary School
Logic Studio School	St. Richard's School
Oak Hill Academy	The Heathland School
Orchard Primary School	The Rise School
Oriel Academy	Wellington Primary School

**Position Vacant**

Mobile:

Email:

**Base: Victoria Junior School**

Beavers Community School	Majory Kinnon School
Bedfont Primary School	Reach Academy
Berkeley Academy	Southville Primary School
Cardinal Road Nursery and Infants School	Sparrow Farm Infant and Nursery School
Cedars Primary School	Sparrow Farm Junior School
Cranford Community College	Springwell Infant and Nursery School
Cranford Primary School	Springwell Junior School
Edison Primary School	Victoria Junior School
Edward Pauling Primary School	Westbrook Primary School
Fairholme Primary School	West Thames College – Feltham



# Who's your Parent and Child Domestic Abuse Worker?

**Ruqaiyyah Najib**

**Base: Lionel Primary School**

Mobile: 079 2975 5600

Email: Ruqaiyyah Najib@hounslow.gov.uk Office: 0208 583 2862

Belmont Primary School	Grove Park Primary School
Brentford School for Girls	Gunnersbury Catholic School
Cavendish Primary School	Heston Community School
Chiswick School	Heston Primary School
Green Dragon Primary School	Lampton School
Lionel Primary School	William Hogarth School
Norwood Green Infant and Nursery School	Strand-on-the-Green Infant and Nursery School
Norwood Green Junior School	Strand-on-the-Green Junior School
Our Lady and St John's Catholic Primary School	The Rosary Catholic Primary School
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Chiswick)	St Paul's Church of England Primary School

**Zowelege Tonha**

**Base: Isleworth & Syon School**

Mobile: Mobile: 079 2970 9383

Email: Zowelege.tonha@hounslow.gov.uk Office: 0208 5834766

Alexandra Primary	Nishkam School
Bolder Academy	Oaklands (SEN)
Chatsworth Primary	Smallberry Green Primary
Gumley House Covent School	Spring Grove Primary
Hounslow Town	St Mary's Catholic Primary (Isleworth)
Isleworth and Syon	The Blue School
Isleworth Town Primary	The Green School for Boys
Ivybridge Primary	The Green School for Girls
Kingsley Academy	West Thames College - Isleworth
Marlborough Primary	Woodbridge Park
	Worple Primary