



DOMESTIC ABUSE AND VIOLENCE

Domestic violence and abuse includes a range of abusive behaviours which are used by an abusive partner, ex-partner or family member. Domestic violence and abuse can take different forms including but not limited to:

- **Physical abuse:** pushing, hitting, punching, kicking, choking and using weapons.
- **Sexual abuse:** forcing or pressuring someone to have sex (rape), unwanted sexual activity, touching, groping someone or making them watch pornography.
- **Financial abuse:** taking money, controlling finances, not letting someone work.
- **Emotional abuse or coercive control:** repeatedly making someone feel bad or scared, stalking, blackmailing, constantly checking up on someone, playing mind games. Coercive control is now a criminal offence under the Serious Crime Act 2015.
- **Digital or online abuse:** using technology to further isolate, humiliate or control someone.
- **Honour based violence:** this is abuse justified to protect the honour or respect of a family or community, such as forced marriage and female genital mutilation.

Useful Contacts and Support

Rochdale Victim Support

Rochdale Victim Support aims to be the first point of contact for male and female domestic abuse victims in the borough of Rochdale. They'll help to find you the right support, no matter what you need - from one-to-one support to help attending court.

Ring 0161 507 9609 or email rochdale@victimsupport.org.uk.

Rochdale Borough Council: Domestic Abuse and Violence

In Rochdale borough, domestic violence and abuse affects thousands of adults and children each year.

The above website provides support services for:

- Victims of domestic abuse
- Children and young people who are living with domestic abuse
- People who are worried someone might be living in an abusive home
- Victims of honour based violence
- Adults and teenagers who commit abuse and need to find help and support

Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme

Also known as “Clare’s Law,” this allows anyone to request information from the police if they think a partner may pose a risk to them.

Find A Safe House

Safenet provides refuge accommodation to women and children in the borough of Rochdale and can be contacted 24 hours a day. They also offer safe houses and outreach support for male and female victims and survivors.

Domestic Violence Assist

Specialises in assistance to obtain emergency injunctions from being further abused.

Phone: 0800 195 8699

National Centre for Domestic Violence

Specialises in assistance to get emergency injunctions from being further abused.

Phone: 0800 970 2070

Women’s Aid Domestic Violence Helpline

Free 24-hour national helpline run by Women’s Aid and Refuge.

Phone: 0808 2000 247

Hourglass

The Hourglass confidential helpline provides information and support to anyone concerned about harm, abuse or exploitation of an older person.

Phone: 0808 808 8141

Men’s Advice Line

Confidential helpline for male victims of domestic abuse.

Phone: 0808 801 0327

National LGBT Domestic Abuse Helpline

Emotional and practical support for LGBT+ people.

Phone: 0800 999 5428

National Stalking Helpline

Guidance on the law, how to report stalking, gathering evidence, staying safe and reducing the risk.

Phone: 0808 802 0300

Victim Support

Free and confidential help to victims of crime, witnesses, their family and friends.

Phone: 0808 1689 111

Operation Encompass

Our school is part of Operation Encompass.

Operation Encompass is a unique Police and Education early intervention safeguarding partnership which supports children and young people exposed to domestic abuse. Being part of this project means our school will receive a notification from Greater Manchester Police before the start of the next school day when a child or young person has been involved in or exposed to a domestic abuse incident the previous day.

The information is given in confidence to the schools Key Adult and will enable support to be given dependant on the needs and wishes of the child. The Key Adults at our school are Mrs Hunt, Miss Waft, Miss Allport and Mrs Harrison.



Female Genital Mutilation

FGM stands for Female Genital Mutilation (sometimes referred to as “female circumcision”) and is defined as “all procedures which include the partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons.”

FGM is a form of child abuse and it is illegal in the UK. It is also illegal to send or take a child to another country to have any FGM procedure performed.

Useful Contacts

If you are worried about someone who is at risk of FGM or has had FGM, you must share this information with Rochdale Social Services or the police.

- If you are concerned about a child, please call **0300 303 0440** or contact **ehash@rochdale.gov.uk**.
- If you are concerned about an adult at risk, call **0300 303 8886**
- Out of office hours please contact **0300 303 8875**
- If you feel the person is in immediate danger please contact the police on **999**
- [NESTAC](#) - **The New Step for African Community** is a non-profit organisation (registered charity), established to support BAME people in the North West. They lead the [Guardian Project](#) which provides support to girls and young women who have survived or are at risk of FGM.

