



Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

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Female genital mutilation includes procedures that intentionally alter or injure the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. It is a surprisingly common form of abuse in the UK.

FGM is carried out on children between the ages of 0–15, depending on the community in which they live. It is extremely harmful and has short and long term effects on physical and psychological health.

FGM is internationally recognized as a violation of the human rights of girls and women, and is illegal in most countries, including the UK.

The school takes these concerns seriously and staff will be made aware of the possible signs and indicators that may alert them to the possibility of FGM. Any indication that FGM is a risk, is imminent, or has already taken place will be dealt with under the child protection procedures outlined in this policy.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead will make appropriate and timely referrals to Social Care if FGM is suspected. In these cases, parents will not be informed before seeking advice. The case will still be referred to Social Care even if it is against the pupil's wishes.

Please read the attached information leaflet and watch the following video for more information on FGM.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kpUZXwR5-pw>