

FGM – Female Genital Mutilation




Female genital mutilation (sometimes referred to as female circumcision) refers to procedures that intentionally alter or cause injury to the female genital organs for nonmedical reasons. The practice is illegal in the UK.

It has been estimated that over 20,000 girls under the age of 15 are at risk of female genital mutilation (FGM) in the UK each year, and that 66,000 women in the UK are living with the consequences of FGM. However, the true extent is unknown, due to the "hidden" nature of the crime. FGM is prevalent in Africa, the Middle East and Asia. In the UK, FGM tends to occur in areas with larger populations of communities who practise FGM, such as first-generation immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers. These areas include London, Cardiff, Manchester, Sheffield, Northampton, Birmingham, Oxford, Crawley, Reading, Slough and Milton Keynes.

Staff training and information is disseminated through our Child Protection Training and in updates. The school Attendance Officer is aware of the countries in which FGM is prevalent and monitors all leaves of absence.

Students learn about this through assembly and our [PSMSC](#) programme.

Parents can find help and advice by following these links:

	For information about FGM.
	Leaflet with information about FGM.
	For an NHS video explaining FGM and the associated risks.