

# Female Genital Mutilation

## Policy Statement

- Female Genital Mutilation affects many young girls and involves the partial or full removal of the clitoris and labia, and the narrowing of the vaginal passage. It can cause both short and long term health difficulties, and even death.
- FGM is illegal in the UK and an increasing number of countries.
- We are required by law, under the Serious Crime Act 2015, to have regard to and report, cases of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) that we become aware of in school.

## Procedures

- Where staff become aware, through nappy changing or assisting at toilet time, that a child has had FGM, there is a MANDATORY reporting duty to the police on telephone number 101.
- Attached to this policy is a reporting duty flow chart for reference.
- If we consider that a child is at risk of FGM, for example that she is due to be taken to a high risk country for a prolonged period, we should follow the safeguarding procedure, assuming the child is at immediate risk of harm.
- Where a disclosure is made by a child or parent, normal safeguarding procedures for recording and reporting apply.

## Contact

- The Hounslow Officer responsible for FGM is Naima Ibrahim, contactable on;
  - [Naima.ibrahim@hounslow.gov.uk](mailto:Naima.ibrahim@hounslow.gov.uk)
  - 07833 051 968
- More information can be found at [www.forwarduk.org.uk](http://www.forwarduk.org.uk)