



Willingdon

COMMUNITY SCHOOL

FGM Statement

Schools play a vital role in protecting and supporting girls at risk of or affected by FGM. Young people should be engaged and empowered to know about issues that affect them, their peers and their communities.

We are focused not only on awareness but also the role that everyone can play in supporting girls and ending the practice.

Students are equipped to be able to support themselves, their peers and their siblings who may be at risk of or affected by FGM.

What is FGM?

Girls of any age are at risk from the tradition of removal or partial removal of female genitalia. It is a violation of woman's rights. It is illegal in the UK since 2013 and carries a sentence of 14 years imprisonment. In 2015 a mandatory reporting duty was introduced.

Who is at risk?

Mainly girls from families from these countries, though families from other countries can be involved:

- ***Egypt***
- ***Ethiopia***
- ***Eritrea***
- ***Nigeria***
- ***Sierra Leone***
- ***Somalia***
- ***Sudan***
- ***Chad***
- ***Guinea Bissau***
- ***Gambia***

Risk Level in Willingdon Community School

Risk level is very low as there are few families in school from risk areas.

We continue to be vigilant about any girls being taken out of school for extended breaks to any country. Any concerns will be reported to the DSL/ safeguarding team.

Who is responsible?

Everyone is responsible. The school will follow Child Protection Procedures. Whole school safeguarding training which included FGM was last delivered in September 2022. Staff will receive a reminder of this during the academic year. Staff have opportunities to ask questions during staff / support staff meetings.

There are 14 members of the safeguarding team who are up to date with the DSL training which includes FGM. We have at least 9 members of the staff who have completed the Home office on line training which includes FGM awareness including the DSL and Headteacher

<https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/>

Responsibilities

School assess risk and will contact relevant agencies if they have any concerns.

Contact Details

Contact police to conduct investigation

NSPCC – 0800 0283550 for advice and concerns

Contacting SPoA

Telephone: **01323 464 222** Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 5pm and Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm.

Out of hours, with serious concerns that cannot wait until the next working day, contact our Emergency Duty Service.

Telephone: **01273 335 906** or **01273 335 905** Monday to Thursday 5pm to 8.30am and Friday's, weekend's and bank holiday's after 4.30pm to 8.30am

Email: 0-19.SPOA@eastsussex.gov.uk (contact form)

LADO

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/children-families/professional-resources/allegations/referrals/form-lado-referral>

FGM helpline 0800 0283550 fgmhelp@nspcc.org