



June 2023

Dear Colleagues,

Honour Based Violence & Abuse and / or Forced Marriage - safeguarding children and protecting adults from the associated abuse.

And

Female Genital Mutilation -- safeguarding children and protecting adults.

We are writing to you to draw your attention to the following issues:

- Honour Based Violence & Abuse and / or Forced Marriage (HBVA/FM).
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

Children, young people and adults are at more risk from either or both of these issues during holidays and when they have agreed extended periods away from education, so the child's withdrawal from education is not noticed as quickly. As a precursor to the upcoming holidays, we would like to remind you of the risks of Honour Based Violence & Abuse and or Forced Marriage (HBVA/FM) and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) that some students may be currently experiencing or be at risk from.

Although women and girls are more predominantly at risk from Honour Based Violence and Abuse and or Forced Marriage, men and boys are also at risk.

FGM AND HBVA/FM COVID 19 and other recovery impacts

Although Covid restrictions have been lifted and children have returned to education, some children are still less visible with fewer opportunities to voice their concerns. As the UK recovers from the pandemic and many more families are experiencing socio economic inequalities, evidence shows this can contribute increase in violence and abuse particularly relating to women and girls. It is vital that we remain vigilant to indicators of FGM and HBVA/FM.

Please see attached posters for further details and indicators of HBVA / FM and FGM along with contact information for national guidance and local support.

If you require further information and guidance around either of these issues, please contact the DSL in your school. We will be writing to you again in October 2022 to remind you of these important safeguarding issues.

RSE

The statutory package available to schools for Relationship and Sex Education, includes information on Honour Based Violence & Abuse and or Forced Marriage (HBVA/FM) and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) for secondary schools. Further information can be access via the Nottinghamshire County Council Schools Portal or Nottingham City Schools Portal.

Referrals can be made to:

Nottingham City MASH: 0115 876 4800 / Nottingham City Council Adult Social Care: 0300 131 0300
or **Nottinghamshire County Council on: 0300 500 80 90**
and **Nottinghamshire Police HBVA/ FM and FGM team on 101**

Information and support for professionals and survivors:

Juno Women's Aid 24 hour Freephone domestic and sexual violence helpline - 0808 800 0340
Equation Domestic Abuse Service for Men - 0115 960 5556 (for male survivors)
Mojatu – 0115 845 7009

FGM and HBVA/FM information and training

For FGM information about making a referral and the mandatory reporting duty please watch <https://youtu.be/l579odpjgUY>

FGM Myth Busting guide and fact sheet

Myth Busting Guide - https://issuu.com/mojatu/docs/mojatu_myth_busting_booklet

Myth Busting Sheet - https://issuu.com/mojatu/docs/mojatu_female_genital_mutilation_fgm_myth_bustin

Training

For Free online training access:

For FGM - <https://www.virtual-college.co.uk/resources/free-courses/recognising-and-preventing-fgm>

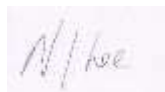
For HBVA/FM – <https://www.virtual-college.co.uk/resources/free-courses/awareness-of-forced-marriage>

Local training:

For HBVA/FM - <https://equation.org.uk/training/raising-awareness-of-so-called-honour-based-abuse-and-forced-marriage/>

For FGM - <https://mojatufoundation.org/ending-female-genital-mutilation/>

Yours sincerely,



Nick Lee
Director of Education
Nottingham City Council