

Female Genital Mutilation

Female genital mutilation (sometimes referred to as female circumcision or cutting) refers to procedures that intentionally alter or cause injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. The practice is illegal in the UK. The girls may be taken to their countries of origin so that FGM can be carried out during the summer holidays, allowing them time to "heal" before they return to school. There are also worries that some girls may have FGM performed in the UK. The school will contact Children's Social Care and the police immediately if we are concerned that a student is about to undergo FGM or has already undergone FGM. We will not contact parents/carers to seek permission before contacting the relevant agencies.

Mental Health (Self-harming)

Following the completion of a research project, the Royal College of Psychiatrists has published a new guide for parents about self-harming. Self-harming affects 10 – 15% of young people, and parents can feel overwhelmed. The guide has information on topics including understanding self-harm, managing injuries, sources of help and looking after parents' own needs.

The guide is available at the link below:

www.psych.ox.ac.uk/news/new-guide-for-parents-who-are-coping-with-their-child2019s-self-harm-2018you-are-not-alone2019/coping-with-self-harm-guide.pdf

Videos from parents who took part in the research can be found at the link below, along with other material:

<http://www.healthtalk.org/self-harm>