

Training for this life...



And the Hereafter.

FGM POLICY

Summary

This policy sets out the school's approach to the issue of FGM

Recommendation

Governors to read and agree the policy.

SIGNED BY CHAIR OF GOVERNORS:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Boatman', written in a cursive style.

Date: 1 October 2023

Review date: October 2024

Iqra's Safeguarding FGM Policy Statement

Safeguarding: FGM (female genital mutilation)

FGM is a collective term for all procedures involving partial or total removal of external female genitalia for cultural or other non-therapeutic reasons. Typically it is performed on girls aged between 4 - 15 or on older girls before marriage or pregnancy. **It is illegal in the UK and it is also illegal to take a child abroad to undergo FGM. There is a maximum prison sentence of 14 years for anyone found to have aided this procedure in any way.** It is considered to be child abuse as it causes physical, psychological and sexual harm.

FGM is more common than many people realise, both across the world and in the UK. It is practised in 28 African countries and in parts of the Middle and Far East and increasingly in developed countries amongst the immigrant and refugee communities. In the UK it has been estimated that 24,000 girls under the age of 15 are at risk of FGM.

We at Iqra take this issue very seriously and hold the view that this is not an Islamic religious practice.

- FGM has neither been mentioned in Quran nor in Sunnah, the two main sources of Islamic law;
- Prophet Muhammad did not circumcise his four daughters;
- FGM is not an Islamic requirement.

FGM is a cultural practice that has no links to Islam.

The school will follow '**Lambeth Good Practice Guidance for Practitioners**'. Please check our school website to view the document.

Support for parents

We at Iqra are very keen to raise awareness among parents about FGM.

We will have held workshops in the past to educate them about the severity of this practice, the implication of it for the girls who undergo this practice, and about the fact that this practice is not Islamic. These are planned to resume once we move back to our new premises.

Our Parent Council is fully supportive of the school's view and will take an active in educating our parents.