

LANSDOWN ROAD  
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Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians/House Parents,

I am writing to inform you that, following government guidelines on topics that should be covered currently in PSHCE, we are doing a one lesson session on FGM (Female Genital Mutilation.) This can be a sensitive topic for pupils, parents and teachers alike. Therefore, an overview of the unit might prove useful as a way of forewarning you of the sort of content your child will be covering.

The lesson will involve a definition of exploitation, and understanding how it might happen to someone of their age. We will also cover how to help someone whom they think may have suffered from it.

This film clip will be shown: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-28127678>

We will discuss the fact that a few weeks ago the first person was convicted of carrying out the procedure on their daughter and has been prosecuted. We will also cover why it is important for everyone to be aware of it, regardless of their cultural background. Bristol has the highest proportion of cases. The powerpoint will also explain how FGM is a social norm for certain cultures, especially involving girls from the Somali, Kenyan, Sudanese, Sierra Leonean, Egyptian, Nigerian, Eritrean, Yemeni, Kurdish and Indonesian communities.

We will encourage the pupils to be aware of anyone who has been a victim of this and needs help, and to use their usual support group (referred to in other lessons) for advice i.e. family, house tutor, friends, school matron, gappers, childline or the NSPCC website: [fgmhelp@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:fgmhelp@nspcc.org.uk), telephone 0800 028 3550.

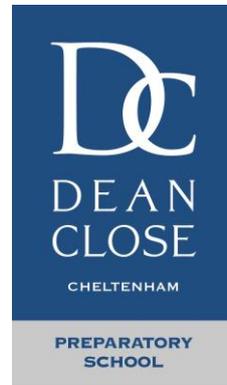
We have avoided any graphic images, and hence sensationalism, as we feel this is wholly inappropriate, especially given the age of our Year 7s.

We offer an anonymous questions box every lesson for them to follow up any queries resulting from a lesson. These are always dealt with anonymously and sensitively.

Thank you for your support in this and please feel free to ask any questions.

Kind regards

Sarah Davies  
Head of PSHCE and Wellbeing.



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