If you have concerns that a girl is at risk of FGM or suspect that she may already have undergone FGM: **Contact** **Nottingham City Council Children and Families Direct: 0115 876 4800 or Nottinghamshire County Council (MASH) on: 0300 500 80 90**

**For all cases where it is known that FGM has taken place you MUST also call 101 under the Mandatory Duty to report.**

Sharing Concerns/ in case of disclosure



**Indicators that FGM may be about to take place (please note that this is not exhaustive and that each indicator needs to be evaluated in context)**

* Unexpectedly absent from school
* Female family elder visiting from country of origin
* You hear reference to FGM in conversation
* Talk about a ‘special procedure’ or that she is going to ‘become a woman’.
* A girl may request help
* Parents state that they or a relative will take the child out of the country for a prolonged period.
* A girl may talk about a long holiday to her country of origin or another country where the practice is prevalent
* Parents seeking to withdraw their children from learning about FGM

**RISK Indicators: FGM may already have taken place**

* Difficulty walking, sitting or standing
* Spending a long time in the toilet
* Urinary, menstrual or stomach problems
* Prolonged or repeated absences from school
* Noticeable behaviour change
* Requests to be excused from PE/swimming
* Girl or family member tell someone or ask for help
* May talk about pain or discomfort between her legs

“The Cutting Season” often coincides with the UK summer months when the six week school holiday allows an extended healing time. Women and girls are therefore especially vulnerable and at greater risk during the months of June, July and August. Staff will also need to be vigilant at the start of the new academic year in September, as girls who have unfortunately been cut during the holiday period may return to school and need support.