



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## BY STUDENTS WHEN DELIVERING LESSONS IN SCHOOLS



### **HOW MANY WOMEN AND GIRLS ARE AFFECTED BY FGM?**

An estimated 200 million girls and women alive today are believed to have been subjected to FGM worldwide, but we could never know the true numbers because of how hidden it



### **WHICH TYPES OF FGM ARE MOST COMMON?**

Types I and II are the most common, but there is variation amongst different communities



### **WHERE DOES THE PRACTICE COME FROM?**

We don't know for sure, but it does predate Christianity and Islam - it doesn't have anything to do with religion



### **WHY WOULD SOMEONE WANT TO HURT GIRLS?**

The adults who do this often haven't FGM lessons like you are having and believe that it can prepare a girl for marriage, or it can keep a girl clean. Parents are there to protect girls but sometimes parents can have muddled thinking, and think it's the right thing to do, but it's very harmful

## Is FGM illegal?



Yes - FGM is illegal in the UK. It is illegal to perform FGM on a girl in or outside the UK, it is illegal to organise FGM for a girl, and it is illegal to force a girl to do FGM on herself

## AM I AT RISK OF FGM?



If something doesn't feel right for you, you should always speak to a trusted adult - sometimes a worry or concern can be a feeling in your tummy or sometimes in your head. It's always okay to speak to a teacher or another adult you trust - there is always someone there ready to help and support you.

## WHAT SHOULD I DO IF SOMEONE COMES TO ME WITH A WORRY OR CONCERN?



You should always encourage and support them to speak to a trusted adult, and you can also share your concerns with a trusted adult too.

## WHAT CAN I DO TO END FGM?



There are lots of things you can do to help end FGM - and one of the main ones is to talk about it to raise awareness. More people need to know that the practice is harmful to bring it to an end.



**IT'S OKAY  
NOT TO  
KNOW THE  
ANSWERS**



**LEAN ON  
YOUR  
COLLEAGUES  
FOR SUPPORT**



**USE  
RESOURCES  
AVAILABLE  
ONLINE**



**TAKE A WHOLE  
SCHOOL  
APPROACH TO  
ENDING FGM**



**Developing excellence  
in response to FGM and  
other harmful practices**

