

## Safe Guarding - Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

This is illegal in England and Wales under the FGM Act 2003 (“the 2003 Act”). It is a form of child abuse and violence against women. FGM comprises all procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia for non-medical reasons.

At Little Stars Nursery, we have a robust and rigorous safeguarding procedure and protecting children in our care is paramount. The safeguarding officer and all members of staff are responsible to adhere and follow these policies.

We endeavor to adhere to the following:

- The safety and welfare of the child is paramount
- All agencies involved act in the interest of the rights of the child as stated in the UN convention 1989 and the Children’s act 1989.
- All professionals are made aware of the possibility of a girl being at risk of FGM as a result of religious beliefs, nationality and other unusual events that could led to FGM e.g. a child being taken out of the setting for a six weeks or more by parents or relatives.

If a member of staff or parent has concerns over a child, they would report it to the safeguarding officer or manager in the setting who would then decide whether a referral was needed to the **MASH team (multi agency safeguarding hub) 020 8303 7777.**

**Signed on behalf of the Nursery** \_\_\_\_\_