07 May 2024

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 7 students.

On Thursday 16 May there will be a timetable change and your child will have a PSHE lesson during Period 1. The lesson will be taught in their normal Period 1 lesson and room unless they hear otherwise. The lesson will be on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

The learning objectives are:

- What is FGM.
- Why does it happen.
- What to do if you feel you or someone you know may be or become a victim of FGM.
- To understand that FGM is not practised or condoned by any religion in the world.
- To explain that under UNITED NATIONS human rights act (Convention on the Rights of the Child) it is illegal in any form.

I understand that the subject of this lesson may make parents uneasy but the PSHE specialist team has spent a long-time developing the resources for this lesson. We review it on an annual basis and have had parents, including medical professionals, offer guidance and remark on how well we are approaching such a sensitive subject. Teaching about FGM in Year 7 is now in the National curriculum's RSE statutory guidance. I am happy to share the resources with any parents who feel they would like to know what we teach before the lesson.

If it's possible for you to follow up with discussions at home this will help to embed the learning.

If you think of any areas we can improve upon then please let us know.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

M. War

MWilkins, PSHE Co-ordinator MWilkins@castle.somerset.sch.uk