Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

EARLY YEARS

Part one:

It is July and you receive a call from Cheshire East Consultation Service (ChECS). They are informing you that they have had a referral from a midwife regarding a parent of one of your children.

Mum is pregnant and has disclosed that she was subjected to Female Genital Mutilation. Mum and Dad are of Ethiopian origin. They have said to the midwife that they don’t believe in the practice and wouldn’t subject their daughter to it.

Their daughter is 3 years old and attends your nursery

What actions should you take at this point?

Part Two:

In November, mum informs you that they are moving next week to Nottingham due to a change in dad’s job. They give you a school name and you contact the school directly. They inform you that they have had no application from the family for a school place.

What actions should you take now?

Actions for part one:

Record the information as a safeguarding record which will be passed on to secondary school when she leaves, ensuring the information is not forgotten as FGM can happen at any stage. Agree with ChECS any further activities which they think need to be completed.

Ensure all staff are aware of and are mindful of the indications that FGM may take or has taken place:

The family may begin to organise vaccinations, talk of absence from school and the child may talk of a special ceremony to take place. If you think this is a possibility, it should be reported like any other case of suspected child abuse.

Indicators that FGM may have occurred include prolonged absence from school, a noticeable change of behaviour on return from abroad, girls finding it difficult to sit still, looking uncomfortable or complaining of pain between the legs and saying that they are not allowed to talk about it.
Carry out an age appropriate piece of work with the whole class around their bodies e.g. Pants are Private. Inform parents that this is going to be done. If this girls parents are reluctant for her to take part in this, this would raise some concerns.

Contact ChECS with any concerns which may indicate FGM may take place or has taken place: 0300 123 5012

Ask the child about what she is going to do in the summer holiday. Ask her what she has done during the summer in September; an extra check when she returns after the summer break. (if your nursery doesn't open over the summer period).

Actions for part two:

Contact ChECS and make them aware of the move to Nottingham. They may want to inform Nottingham Children's Services of the situation.

When you are informed of her new setting/school, and that she has started there, ensure the records are passed on securely and confidentially to the Designated Safeguarding Lead after a conversation with them first.
Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

PRIMARY

Part one:

It is July and you receive a call from Cheshire East Consultation Service. They are informing you that they have had a referral from a midwife regarding a parent of one of your children.

Mum is pregnant and has disclosed that she was subjected to Female Genital Mutilation. Mum and Dad are of Ethiopian origin. They have said to the midwife that they don't believe in the practice and wouldn't subject their daughter to it.

Their daughter is in reception at your school

What action should you take at this point?

Part Two:

In November, mum informs you that they are moving next week to Nottingham due to a change in dad’s job. They give you a school name and you contact the school directly. They inform you that they have had no application from the family for a school place.

What action should you take now?

Actions for part one:

Record the information as a safeguarding record which will be passed on to secondary school when she leaves, ensuring the information is not forgotten as FGM can happen at any stage. Agree with ChECS any further activities which they think need to be completed.

Ask the child about her plans for the summer holiday and again in September; as an extra check when she returns after the summer break. Ensure all staff are aware of and are mindful of the indications that FGM may take or has taken place:

The family may begin to organise vaccinations, talk of absence from school and the child may talk of a special ceremony to take place. If you think this is a possibility, it should be reported like any other case of suspected child abuse.

Indicators that FGM may have occurred include prolonged absence from school, a noticeable change of behaviour on return from abroad, girls finding it difficult to sit still, looking uncomfortable or complaining of pain between the legs and saying that they are not allowed to talk about it.
Carry out an age appropriate piece of work with the whole class around their bodies e.g. Pants are Private. Inform parents that you are going to do this as, if this girl's parents are reluctant for her to take part in this, this would raise some concerns.

Contact ChECS with any concerns which may indicate FGM may take place or has taken place: 0300 1235012

Actions for part two:

Contact ChECS and make them aware of the move to Nottingham. They may want to inform Nottingham Children’s Services of the situation.

When you are informed of her new school and that she has started there ensure the records are passed on securely and confidentially to the Designated Safeguarding Lead after a conversation with them first.
Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

SECONDARY

Part one:

It is July and you receive a call from Cheshire East Consultation Service. They are informing you that they have had a referral from a midwife regarding a parent of one of your children.

Mum is pregnant and has disclosed that she was subjected to Female Genital Mutilation. Mum and Dad are of Ethiopian origin. They have said to the midwife that they don’t believe in the practice and wouldn’t subject their daughter to it.

Their daughter is in year 7 at your school

What action should you take at this point?

Part Two:

In November, mum informs you that they are moving next week to Nottingham due to a change in dad’s job. They give you a school name and you contact the school directly. They inform you that they have had no application from the family for a school place.

What action should you take now?

Actions for part one:

Record the information as a safeguarding record which will be passed on to secondary school when she leaves, ensuring the information is not forgotten as FGM can happen at any stage. Agree with ChECS any further activities which they think need to be completed.

Ask the young person about her plans summer holiday and again in September an extra check when she returns after the summer break. Ensure all staff are aware of and are mindful of the indications that FGM may take or has taken place:

The family may begin to organise vaccinations, talk of absence from school and the child may talk of a special ceremony to take place. If you think this is a possibility, it should be reported like any other case of suspected child abuse.

Indicators that FGM may have occurred include prolonged absence from school, a noticeable change of behaviour on return from abroad, girls finding it difficult to sit still, looking uncomfortable or complaining of pain between the legs and saying that they are not allowed to talk about it.
Do an age appropriate piece of work with the whole class around their bodies e.g. Ensure that parents are informed that you are going to do this as, if this girl's parents are reluctant for her to take part in this, this would raise some concerns.

Contact ChECS with any concerns which may indicate FGM may take place or has taken place.

Actions for part two:

Contact ChECS and make them aware of the move to Nottingham. They may want to inform Nottingham Children’s Services of the situation.

When you are informed of her new school and that she has started there ensure the records are passed on securely and confidentially to the Designated Safeguarding Lead after a conversation with them first.