

# Using This Presentation

This presentation is designed for awareness raising amongst school staff and other relevant professionals to help identify girls at greatest risk of FGM.

We recommend that FGM should be addressed through PSHE as a means to prevent it before it happens and empower young people to speak out about it.

Please see our guidance: [www.bit.ly/FGMguidancePSHE](http://www.bit.ly/FGMguidancePSHE)

These slides are not designed for use in the classroom

# PSHE

## Association

# Female Genital Mutilation Warning Signs

# FGM – Key Facts

- FGM includes procedures that intentionally alter or cause injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons.
- The procedure has no health benefits for girls and women.
- Procedures can cause severe bleeding and problems urinating, and later cysts, infections, infertility as well as complications in childbirth and increased risk of newborn deaths.
- More than 125 million girls and women alive today have been cut in the 29 countries in Africa and Middle East where FGM is concentrated.
- FGM is mostly carried out on young girls sometime between infancy and age 15.
- FGM is a violation of the human rights of girls and women.

# Why is it practised?

## Reasons given include:

- Control over women's sexuality
- Hygiene
- Gender-based factors (removal of 'male' parts)
- Cultural identity
- Religion

# Who is it practised by?

FGM is a deeply rooted tradition, widely practised among specific ethnic populations in Africa and parts of the Middle East and Asia.

# What should we do?

**FGM is child abuse and if you suspect a child is at risk, you should always follow the school's safeguarding procedures immediately.**

# Summer Holidays are High Risk

The summer holidays are a high risk time so we need to be extra vigilant of the risk factors and warning signs presented in the next few slides and present all concerns to the school's safeguarding officer.

# Girls Most at Risk

- Member of a community whose country of origin practises FGM and that is less integrated into UK society
- A girl whose sister or other relatives have undergone FGM
- A girl whose parents have withdrawn her from lessons featuring FGM (where other warning signs are also present)

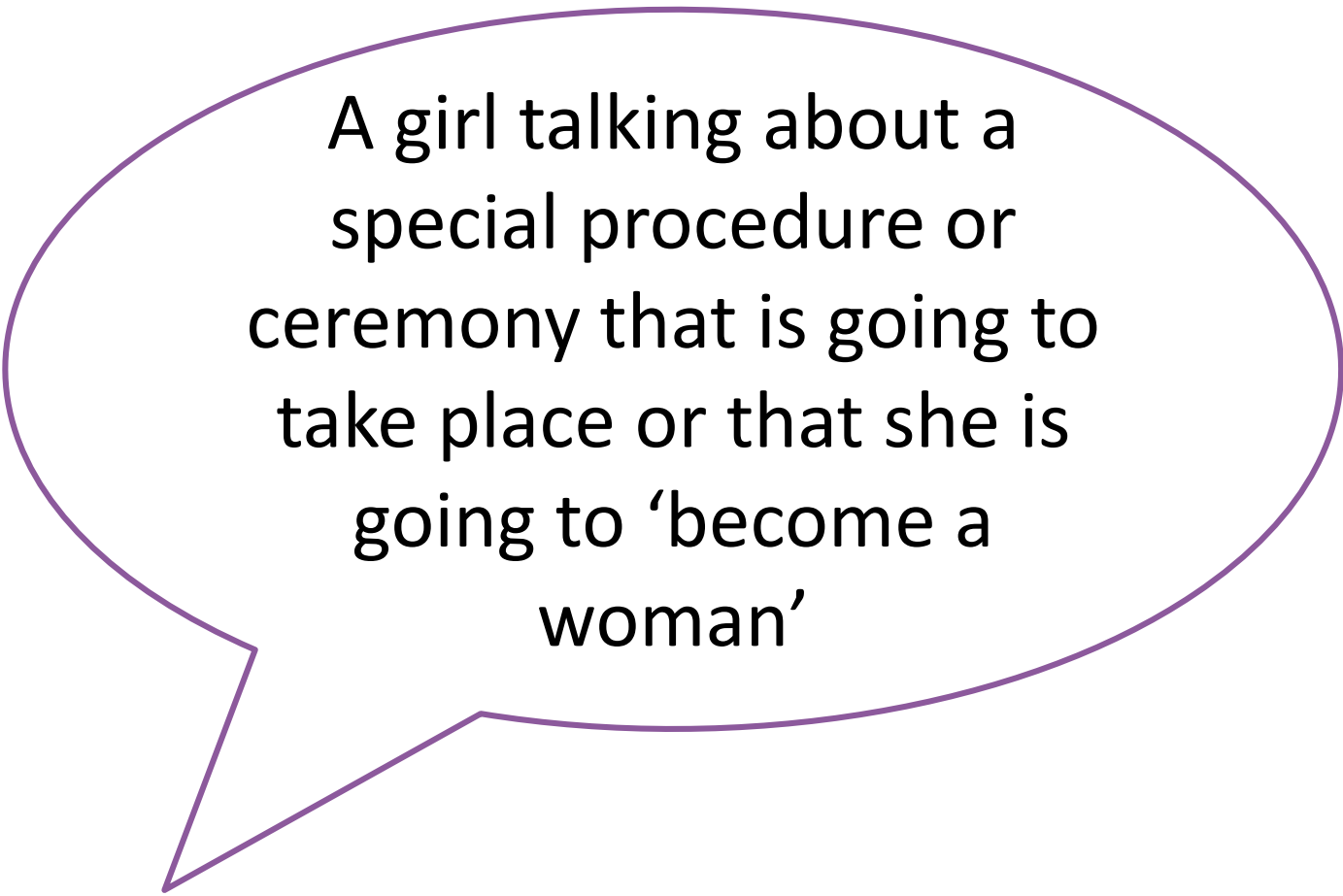


# Extended Holiday

Families making preparations for the girl to take an extended holiday, including arranging vaccinations to the family's country of origin.



# 'Special Procedure'



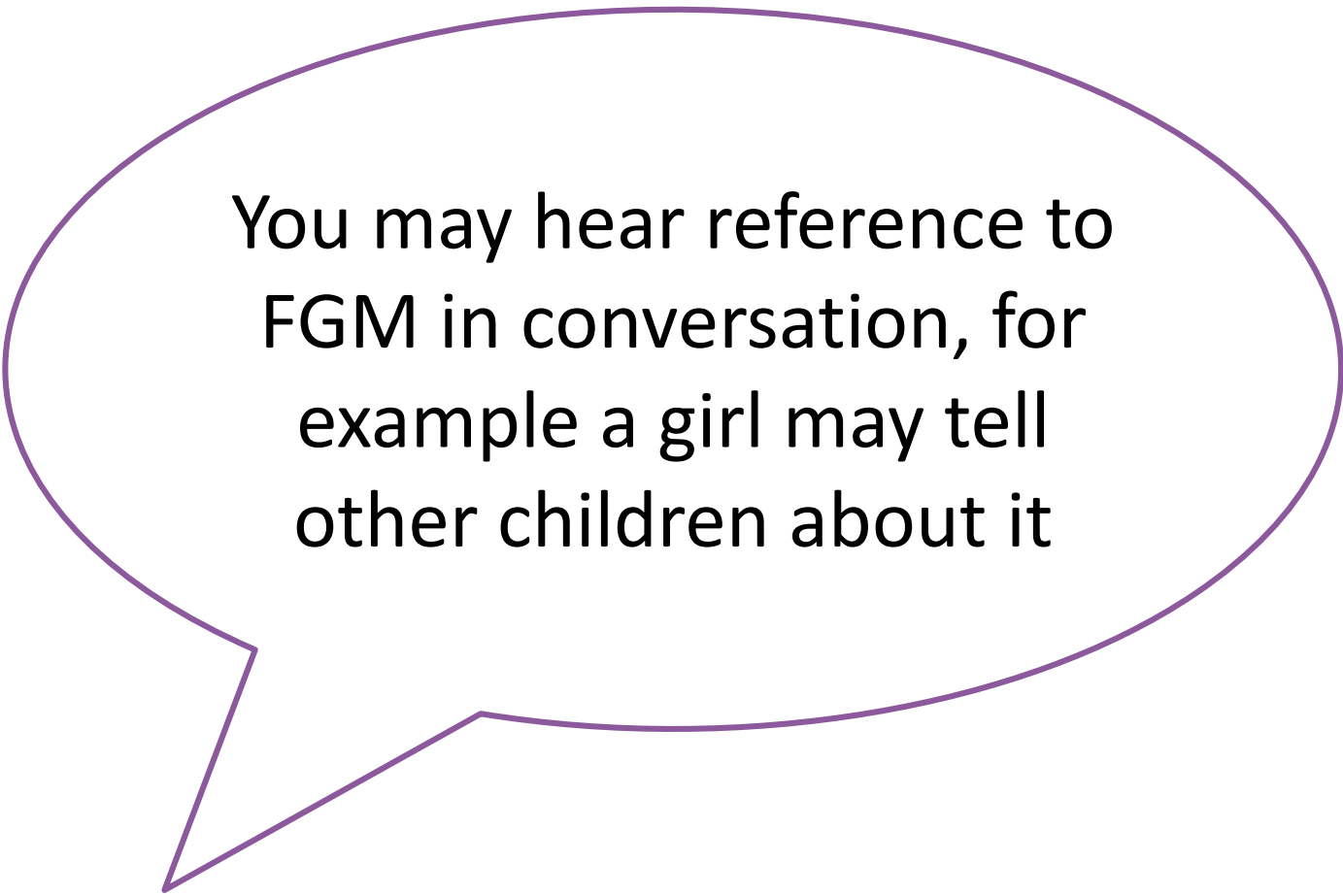
A girl talking about a special procedure or ceremony that is going to take place or that she is going to 'become a woman'

# Visiting Relatives



Families may practise FGM in the UK when a female family elder is around, particularly when she is visiting from the country of origin

# Mention of FGM



You may hear reference to FGM in conversation, for example a girl may tell other children about it

# Remember...

**FGM is child abuse and if you suspect a child is at risk, you should always follow the school's safeguarding procedures immediately.**

# NSPCC FGM Helpline

**0800 028 3550**

24-hour advice and support for anyone who may have questions about FGM or to report suspected cases