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Guidance

# Timeline for sixth-form and further education colleges: mandatory

Updated 13 April 2016

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**NEW**

## Female genital mutilation: new statutory guidance

We have published [new statutory multi-agency guidance](#) and the [consultation summary responses](#) on female genital mutilation (FGM).

This guidance, which applies to schools as well as other services, came into force on 1 April 2016. Statutory guidance is issued by law; you must follow it unless there's a good reason not to.

## Autumn term 2016

### NEW

### September 2016 or January 2017: updated safeguarding guidance

We are updating our '[Keeping children safe in education](#)' guidance to come into force in September 2016. If we do not finalise drafting in time to give schools reasonable notice, it will apply from January 2017.

We plan to publish the government's response to the [consultation on proposed changes to 'Keeping children safe in education'](#), including revised guidance, shortly.

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