

## FORCED MARRIAGE

**A forced marriage is where one or both people do not (or in cases of people with learning disabilities, cannot) consent to the marriage and pressure or abuse is used. It is recognised as a form of violence against women and men, domestic/child abuse and a serious abuse of human rights.**

A marriage must be entered into with the free and full consent of both parties. An arranged marriage is not the same as a forced marriage.





In an arranged marriage, the families take a leading role in choosing the marriage partner, but both parties are free to choose whether to enter the marriage or not.

The pressure put on people to marry against their will can be physical (including threats, actual physical violence and sexual violence) or emotional and psychological (for example, when someone is made to feel like they're bringing shame on their family). Financial abuse (taking your wages or not giving you any money) can also be a factor. In some case people may be taken abroad without knowing that they are to be married. When they arrive in that Country, their passport(s)/travel documents may be taken to try to stop them from returning to the UK.

**Staff** training and information is disseminated through our Safeguarding training and in updates.

**Students** learn about this through assemblies and our Personal Development programme.

**Parents** can find help and advice by following these links:

	Karma Nirvana - For information about honour crimes and forced marriages: <a href="https://karmanirvana.org.uk/get-help/what-is-forcedmarriage/">https://karmanirvana.org.uk/get-help/what-is-forcedmarriage/</a>
	Government Website information: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/stop-forcedmarriage">https://www.gov.uk/stop-forcedmarriage</a>
	Childline – Information and advice: <a href="https://www.childline.org.uk/infoadvice/bullying-abuse-safety/crime-law/forced-marriage/">https://www.childline.org.uk/infoadvice/bullying-abuse-safety/crime-law/forced-marriage/</a>
	Met Police – Information on support agencies: <a href="https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/forcedmarriage/forced-marriage-support-organisations/">https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/forcedmarriage/forced-marriage-support-organisations/</a>