

Honour Based Violence & Forced Marriage

What is honour based violence - HBV?

Honour based violence is a violent crime or incident which may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of the family or community.

It is often linked to family members or acquaintances who mistakenly believe someone has brought shame to their family or community by doing something that is not in keeping with the traditional beliefs of their culture. For example, honour based violence might be committed against people who:

- Become involved with a boyfriend or girlfriend from a different culture or religion
- Want to get out of an arranged marriage
- Want to get out of a forced marriage
- Wear clothes or take part in activities that might not be considered traditional within a particular culture

What is honour based abuse - HBA?

HBA goes beyond the concept of physical violence and includes mental and emotional abuse. Pernicious, and applied at a low

level over a long period of time and this can be more insidious than the physical abuse alone

Women and girls are the most common victims of honour based violence however it can also affect men and boys. Crimes of 'honour' do not always include violence. Crimes committed in the name of 'honour' might include:

- Domestic abuse
- Threats of violence
- Sexual or psychological abuse
- Forced marriage
- Being held against your will or taken somewhere you don't want to go
- Assault

continued inside...



...continued from front page.

A forced marriage is one that is carried out without the consent of both people. This is very different to an arranged marriage, which both people will have agreed to. There is no religion that says it is right to force you into a marriage and you are not betraying your faith by refusing such a marriage.

Honour based crime is dealt with very seriously and each individual case is dealt with sensitively and confidentially. Police and Social Services work to keep victims safe and prevent further crimes from happening. Their approach has meant that more people than ever are speaking out and asking for help.

Things to know

- The police, have made it a high priority to help communities fight back with specialist Community

Safety Units to tackle both honour based violence and hate crime.

- More people than ever are reporting honour based violence. Every reported incident is taken very seriously and the police work to protect the safety and security of victims.
- You do not have to wait for a crime to be committed to come and talk to the school or the police about your fears. We are here to help you and make you safe even if nothing 'criminal' has happened yet.

No instances of honour based violence are too small to report. It affects the whole community, not just those involved or the victim directly.

If you have been a victim of honour based violence, or know someone else who has been affected by it, there's help and support available.

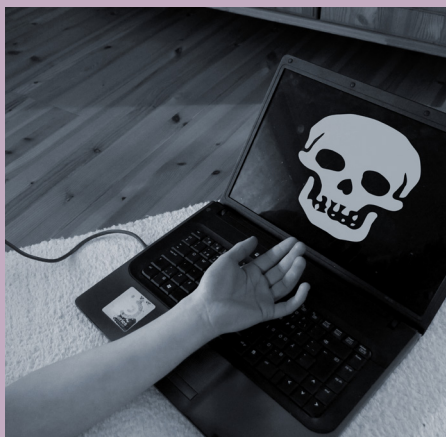


Staying Safe During Summer

Staying Safe Online

- Keep your phone, laptop or tablet secure, use a password or PIN.
- Don't do anything that you wouldn't do face to face.
- Think about what you post – would you be happy for people to still see it in 10 or 20 years. Comments, photos and videos you post or share make up your digital footprint, even if you delete it there is still a record of it.
- Do you really know your online friends? Think about why and how you know people and if you are not friends in the real life, you shouldn't be online.
- Never feel forced into doing anything you don't want to do.
- Block people who send cruel or offensive messages and tell someone about it. Don't send them either.
- Don't open links and attachments from people you don't know.
- Never arrange to meet someone you have met on the internet.
- Sexting is never a good idea. Once images have been taken and sent to others, control is lost and they can end up anywhere. Just think – if you wouldn't print and pass these images around your school or show your mum or dad, then don't share by phone or other technologies.

- If you receive an indecent image or naked selfie from someone, do not send this image onto others or respond with one of you – report it.
- Always tell an adult you trust.



Staying Safe when Going Out

- Always make sure you have a safe way home at night whether you get a lift or have somebody meet you.
- Make sure someone always knows where you are going and when you will be back, even if they only have a general idea it is better than nothing.
- Being alone is never a good idea when outside. It is always a good idea to go out in a group or at least with one other person.
- Avoid isolated areas since that is where you are the most vulnerable. Do not take unnecessary shortcuts that are out of the way and could be potentially dangerous.



- If you have a mobile phone, it is a good idea to bring it with you so you have easy access in case you need to make a call.
- It's a good idea if you can carry extra money for emergencies in case you get stuck for a lift or need to use a public phone to make a phone call.
- Don't travel with people that you don't know well or trust. They may put you in a situation that you don't want to be in.
- If you are walking anywhere, stay alert to your surroundings. In addition, you should also convey with your body language that you know where you are going and don't want to be bothered (keep your head up, walk purposefully).
- If you are taking the bus, sitting near the driver so you are not isolated can be a good idea.



Who to Contact

You can call 101 to report a crime that has already happened or seek crime prevention advice.

If a crime is taking place, or somebody is in danger, always call 999.

The BCHS Safeguarding Team work with all staff to promote the welfare of students and protect them from harm. We work to:

- Protect students from all kinds of abuse, neglect and poor treatment
- Prevent harm to students' health and development
- Ensure students grow up with safe and effective care
- Take action to enable all students to have the best outcomes

Safeguarding is everyone's business and everyone's responsibility

The Safeguarding Office is on the 2nd floor next to Humanities.

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Hussain

Safeguarding & Welfare Officer

Mrs Boocock

Safeguarding & Welfare Officer

Mr Kamaluddin

BCHS Safeguarding Hotline

07908 548 555