

Knife Crime

Year Group 8

Experience **The Street**

24 Alcorn Close, Sutton, SM3 9PX

T: 020 8296 1287, F: 020 8296 1284

E: SLC@sutton.gov.uk, W: suttonlifecentre.org

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An essential learning experience



Setting the scene...

Fear leads us to smart choices, like running away from danger or 'phoning for help.

But fear can lead us to make dangerous choices, like carrying a weapon...

This scene showed a group of older kids confronting another youth with a knife in the town centre whilst two 14 year olds watch in background.

A boy in a uniform is walking along, headphones on and listening to music. He passes a group of three teenagers who have been hanging around looking bored.

Group member 2 "What you listening to, let's hear." Yanks Ipod away from the boy.

Boy "Get off."

Group member 2 puts Ipod on and listens and shouts to his friends "Listen to this loser music". Hands the Ipod to his friends.

Group member 2 starts talking to his mates and sharing the music and make derisory comments and faces about it.

Boy "Oi, give it." He tries to get it back, but they pass it between them.

Group "Do you want it? Come and get it" etc.

Boy voice over *I'd been warned about these lads. That's why my mate told me to carry a knife in my pocket... or maybe I should just run and get help?*

Group member 1 voice over *I hope he has a go at us, then he'll get it.*

Boy "Give it back."

Group member 2 "What you going to do about it?"

Group member 1 "Who's called the police?"

Group member 1 voice over *If he's carrying a knife he could be jailed for 4 years.*

Boy voice over *If not, then THEY will get in trouble and I'll get my iPod back.*

Group member 2 voice over *So, has he got a knife or not? What's the smart choice?*

Know the facts...

Most young people don't carry knives, but if you carry a knife, you can be arrested or worse – it can be used against you.



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Knife crime lesson plan

1 In small groups discuss the key points from the scenario

Key questions to consider:

- a. Why do you think the character was carrying a knife in the first place?
- b. How could the scenario be played out differently?
- c. Could the bystanders have done anything differently and if so what?
- d. What would you do if you observed a similar situation?

Each group to feed back their ideas about question d.

2 Quiz – knives and other offensive weapons in relation to the law

- a. Each student to complete the quiz and then compare and discuss their answers with the person sitting next to them.
- b. Hold a whole class discussion to clarify any issues arising from the quiz.

A useful website to inform the discussion is www.safe.met.police.uk.

3 In small groups develop and produce a poster promoting anti-knife crime

Students should have access to the internet etc for information, appropriate images and the correct data.

4 Display posters around the room and ask each group to feed back about the content of their posters

5 5. Plenary

approximately 1 hour



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Quiz – true or false

Knives and other offensive weapons in relation to the law

- 1 It is illegal for a shop to sell any kind of knife to someone under 16. **True** **False**
- 2 It is illegal for shops to sell imitation guns or air weapons to anyone under 18. **True** **False**
- 3 You will be committing an offence if you buy an offensive weapon, including knives. **True** **False**
- 4 For anyone carrying a knife or gun under 16 they are breaking the law. **True** **False**
- 5 Possessing a knife or firearm (whether it is yours or not) is illegal and can result in a prison sentence. **True** **False**
- 6 An adult can buy any knife and they would not be breaking the law. **True** **False**
- 7 Possession of a knife can carry a prison sentence of up to 4 years even if it is not used. **True** **False**
- 8 There is a minimum 3 year sentence for carrying a gun if you are over 18. **True** **False**
- 9 If someone is injured or killed by a knife or gun in your presence, even if you are not the one using the weapon you won't be prosecuted. **True** **False**
- 10 If you stab someone and they die, you will face a life sentence and will serve a minimum prison sentence of 25 years. **True** **False**

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Quiz – true or false answers

Knives and other offensive weapons in relation to the law

- 1** It is illegal for a shop to sell any kind of knife to someone under 16.
It is illegal for a shop to sell any kind of knife to someone under 18.

True **False**
- 2** It is illegal for shops to sell imitation guns or air weapons to anyone under 18.

True **False**
- 3** You will be committing an offence if you buy an offensive weapon, including knives.

True **False**
- 4** For anyone carrying a knife or gun under 16 they are breaking the law.
It is illegal to carry a knife or gun, even imitation ones and there will be serious consequences.

True **False**
- 5** Possessing a knife or firearm (whether it is yours or not) is illegal and can result in a prison sentence.

True **False**
- 6** An adult can buy any knife and they would not be breaking the law.
There are some knives which are completely banned, e.g. flick, butterfly and disguised knives (hidden in something else)

True **False**
- 7** Possession of a knife can carry a prison sentence of up to 4 years even if it is not used.

True **False**
- 8** There is a minimum 3 year sentence for carrying a gun if you are over 18.
The minimum is 5 years. If you are under 18, you could still go to prison.

True **False**
- 9** If someone is injured or killed by a knife or gun in your presence, even if you are not the one using the weapon you won't be prosecuted.
You too can be prosecuted and could be sent to prison for murder in what is referred to as 'joint enterprise'.

True **False**
- 10** If you stab someone and they die, you will face a life sentence and will serve a minimum prison sentence of 25 years.

True **False**