



#knifefree



Knife Crime & Protective Behaviour:

Parents and Carers Newsletter
PC 5504 Mike Dix, Thames Valley Police

'Protective Behaviours' is a practical down to earth approach to personal safety. It's a process that helps a person recognise any situation where they may feel worried or unsafe, such as being bullied or threatened & explores practical ways to keep safe. It promotes self-empowerment & brings with it the skills to raise self-esteem & avoid being victimised. This is achieved by helping individuals to recognise & trust their intuitive feelings (Early Warning Signs) & to develop strategies for self-protection. That protection could be as simple as walking away from the risk.

Many of your children will have received Protective behaviour training in year 6 at primary school. This may have been at the Junior Citizen Project, a project involving TVP, the Oxford Fire Service & many other partners. Ask your child if they remember this and discuss it with them. www.juniorcitizenstrust.org.uk

Protective Behaviours doesn't stop at Year 6 though. I'm sure all young people will benefit from a healthy conversation about what to do if they ever don't feel safe. That it's okay to come home if their friends are taking risks they are not comfortable with. If they are being asked to do something they don't want to. Or if they don't like being in the company of a friend of a friend, who's turned up. Discuss this with them, being worried or frightened is a natural feeling, not something to be ashamed of & more importantly doing something positive about it will help them stay safe.

www.familylives.org.uk for info & support on all stages of a child's development including teenage risky behaviours.

#Knifefree is an educational website providing young people with information on the risks, the law, emotional & personal consequences of carrying, or even associating with someone who carries a knife. It has short films of real stories & advice on where to get help & support.

<https://www.knifefree.co.uk/>



The Law

It's a criminal offence to carry an offensive weapon in a public place. (S1(4) Prevention of Crime Act 1953 & O/Weapons Act 1996) , **Max 4 Yrs,**

It's a criminal offence to have an article with a blade or a sharply pointed object in a public place without lawful authority or reasonable excuse. (S139 C/Justice Act 1988), **Max 4 Yrs**

It's a criminal offence for anyone to transfer ownership, trade, sell, hire, lend, import or manufacture offensive weapons. This also includes buying them from a website. (S141(1) Criminal Justice Act 1988).

<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/knife-crime>



www.fearless.org

Fearless is a site aimed at young people, where they can access non-judgemental information & advice about crime & criminality.

Fearless is also a service that allows you to pass on information about crime 100% anonymously. They are an independent charity who do not ask for any personal info. They provide a route for passing on information about crime safely and securely.

www.fearless.org