

Safeguarding bulletin- Lives not knives

Knife crime laws for the UK.

- It is against the law to carry a knife in a public place, unless the blade is less than 3 inches long and is a manual folding blade. Doing so can carry a prison sentence of up to 4 years even if it is not used.
- It is against the law to carry a knife on behalf of someone else
- Using any knife in a threatening way, even those that can be legally carried, is a criminal offence.
- A person must be 18 or over to purchase a knife. This includes cutlery and kitchen knives.
- A person over the age of 16 can purchase a knife only if the blade is less than 3 inches in length and is a manual folding blade.
- In the UK, it is illegal to bring into the country, sell, possess, hire or give someone a banned knife. Banned knives include: butterfly knives, disguised knives, flick knives, and zombie knives.

Carrying a knife can go horribly wrong, it can have devastating personal effects on all parties and the victims of knife crime.

Consequences that young people will face when carrying a knife – you may seriously hurt yourself or others, you may have a criminal record or be arrested. If a weapon was brought into school you would be permanently excluded.

By carrying a knife, you are putting your future in danger. Many young people say the reason they carry a knife is to protect themselves and to feel safer, however carrying a knife can quickly spiral out of control and make a bad situation, much worse/

If you carry a knife or know anyone that carries a knife you can change and stop now.

Stopping carrying a knife will take **courage** but will also benefit you in many ways – join the millions of people who go knife free every day.

Remember SPEAK out on the website, speak to an adult or contact Child line

