

KNIFE CRIME



Where to get more advice:

Fearless

Fearless is a site where you can access non-judgemental information and advice about crime and criminality.

- fearless.org

Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership

An online resource providing materials to support parents and carers.

- suffolkcsb.org.uk

Suffolk Police

Provides information and advice for young people about gang/county lines culture and how to leave a gang.

- suffolk.police.uk

NSPCC

Support and tips to help you keep children safe. From advice on children's mental health to staying safe online, support for parents and what to do if you're worried about a child.

- nspcc.org.uk



ONE
COP
STOP
KEEPSAFEAND
KNOWTHELAW

Contact us:

suffolk.police.uk/contact-us

Call 101 for non-emergencies

Call 999 in an emergency only

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KNIFE CRIME

Advice for Young People



SUFFOLK
CONSTABULARY

Making Positive Choices

Making positive choices isn't about telling people what to do.

It's not about telling people what is right or wrong.

It's about talking with people to look at the consequences of the choices they make; and then providing information to help them make their choice about their future.

Have you ever thought why you or other people carry a knife?
Fear, a status thing, fashion – or for protection?

A lot of young people say carrying a knife is for protection, but how does a knife actually PROTECT you?

Does it put up a force-field, or make you invincible?

Protecting yourself or somebody else should be a good thing, but if you carry a knife is it about protecting yourself, or harming somebody else?

Think about it, was any weapon ever made for good intentions?

Rules of the game

If you carry a knife you're involved in the street game. You better know the rules.

The term 'offensive weapon' is defined as: '... any article made or adapted for use to cause injury to a person, or intended by the person having it with him for such use.'

There are 3 categories of Offensive Weapons:



Made

Knuckle dusters, flick knives, batons



Adapted

Bottle/broken glass, sharpened comb/screwdriver



Intended

Baseball bat, rope, hammer

In the event of stabbing another person and they subsequently die, the consequences are huge!

This means you will face a life prison sentence of a minimum of 25 years, a long time to contemplate that moment of madness.

Victims of serious youth violence are more likely to be with others when they are attacked.

Some knives are illegal even for adults to buy.

Banned offensive weapons include: flick knives - also called 'switchblades' or 'automatic knives', butterfly knives, disguised knives (in which the blade is hidden in something like a belt buckle or fake mobile phone).

If you decide to carry a weapon into school, this automatically becomes a Police matter where the consequences are tough!

If you are caught in possession of a knife, this can carry a prison sentence of up to 4 years - even if it's not used.

Searches at schools
(Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006)

A member of staff may search pupils if they have reasonable grounds to suspect that the pupil is in possession of either a knife, bladed article, offensive weapon.

Make the positive choice - not to carry a knife or weapon.

What you can do
If you have fears or concerns...

- DO Spend time doing different things with different people
- DO Join a local club or youth group
- DO Seek out some employment either paid or voluntary.
- DO Talk to a family member that you trust
- DO Speak to your Teachers
- DO online searched for organisations that can support you such as those contain in this leaflet.

You have one life make a positive difference.