



Joseph Leckie Academy

6th May 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

Knife crime is a topic that is of huge importance for our youth today. As knife crime levels across the country rise, so too does the fear of it. That is why it is more important than ever to have serious conversations with young people to educate them on the risks and how to stay safe.

As an Academy, our approach is to be initiative-taking rather than reactive, to provide young people with the information they need to keep themselves safe and to reduce the risk of harm. Therefore, we will continue to work with West Midlands Police to undertake a mixture of education and enforcement activities to inform young people on the dangers and consequences of carrying knives.

Police have visited the Academy on many occasions, they have delivered targeted workshops with guest speakers and deployed specialised equipment such as the knife arch.

I would like to take this opportunity to let you know that we have successfully secured guest speakers to deliver the Precious Lives workshop. The workshop provides students with an opportunity to meet an adult who has real-life experience of knife crime either as a victim, offender, or professional, to help them understand the consequences of carrying or using a knife.

The guest speaker will share their experiences and pass on the lessons they have learned. The sessions are designed to be hard-hitting and impactful with an emphasis placed on connecting with the young people and delivering a message.

Workshops taking place

Tuesday 10th May 8.40-9.40 am – Year 8

Wednesday 11th May 8.40-9.40 am Year 9

Thursday 12th May 8.40-9.40 am Year 10

Friday 13th May Year 7 will cover **No More Knife Crime** session delivered in Form by Tutors.

The No More Knives animation shows a story about a group of friends who are groomed into county lines and realise the consequences of carrying knives.

I appreciate that some students may find the experience upsetting however, it is essential we are proactive to protect our students from the threat of knives/weapons while they are in the Academy as well as educating them about the dangers of carrying a weapon.

Can I also promote the website below, which gives details of how to locate your local weapon surrender bin. This is part of a police initiative to reduce knife crime in the area: <https://www.westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk/tackling-violence/weapon-surrender-bins/>

Joseph Leckie Academy

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Joseph Leckie
Academy

I hope that you will agree that our approach to keeping our students safe is one that you are able to support and that you will take the opportunity to discuss the intervention with your son or daughter and impress on him / her the dangers of carrying a knife/weapon and to ensure as much as you are able that they do not ever carry a knife/weapon and do not associate with anyone else who may do so.

Should you have any questions or need any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your continued support

Yours faithfully

Mr. James Ludlow
Principal

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