Presents

The Circle Programme

(Don’t get caught in it)
Your Details

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Postcode..............................

Contact Number..............................................................................
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Who are Kickstart?

Kickstart has been an established youth programme for many years and has been managing Youth Inclusion programmes on the Rockingham, Aylesbury and Heygate Estates.

Kickstart Youth Inclusion Programme in the North Peckham is a new YIP, which is managed by Crime Concern Trust, and is administrated by Kickstart Southwark.

Kickstart YIP has strong links with community organisation such as Southwark Youth Service, Youth Offending Team, Social Services, Probation services, Police and Schools. The named agencies have been making referrals to this programme, and are encouraged to take part in the information sharing and ID process.

What is a Youth inclusion programme?

The purpose of the youth inclusion programme is to reduce anti-social behaviour, crime, truancy, and school exclusion for young people that live in and around the North Peckham area. Including specific targeted project youth work to reduce vulnerability amongst young adults.

It is a programme, which encourages young people to take part in activities and workshops between six-month to a year, focusing on the main elements of the programme, which are life skills and personal development.

The programmes main work is with a group of 50 young people referred from various agencies including Southwark YOT, Social service, Probation services and schools.
FEAR AND FASHION AGREEMENT

- I have the responsibility to myself others and the school.
- To take part and try new things.
- To be involved in decision-making processes.
- To follow decisions made by staff so that the session is safe and enjoyable for all of its members.
- To not do anything that would put anyone at risk or stop them from enjoying the session such as bullying, violence or disruptive behavior.
- To have respect for myself and others {equal opportunities}.
- To have fun as well as to learn.
- To accept the staff’s decision if I do not act within this agreement which is for the benefit of all.

If you agree with this agreement please sign below as stated.

PRINT NAME……………………………………………………………..

SIGNITURE………………………………………………………………
GROUND RULES

WHY DO WE HAVE THEM

WHO BENEFITS FROM GROUND RULES?
Ground rules

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Knife crime Introduction

Aim

An increasing number of people of all ages have been convicted of carrying a knife in public. Reports from hospitals also indicate a rise in stab wounds particularly among young men aged between 14 and 25. A survey in 2002 of 14,000 students in secondary schools, reported that a significant minority of respondents admitted carrying weapons. One in ten boys aged 11 and 12 said they had carried a knife or other weapon in the previous year and eight per cent said they had attacked someone intending serious harm. By the age of 16, the figures had risen to 24 per cent admitting to carrying a knife or other weapon and 19 per cent admitting to have used one. Four per cent of boys in year 10 and 11 said there were three or more times when they had attacked someone intending to seriously hurt them. Frequent carrying of knives and other weapons was more common than using them to attack someone, with nine per cent of boys in the two eldest age groups saying they had done it three or more times. This compared with 14 per cent who said they had done so once or twice. Other studies, asking slightly different questions to larger age cohorts, have found an even higher incidence. In a survey for the youth justice board in 2003 MORI found that 29 per cent of young people at school admitted that they had carried a knife.

Southwark/ Lambeth are ranked the 9th most deprived in the country, with approximately 70% of the population living within one of the most deprived wards. A crime report analysis conducted by metropolitan police authority 2004 states that Southwark/ Lambeth is one of the top 5 contributors to knife crime in London. In 2004 Southwark/ Lambeth had the 3rd highest incidences of knife crime in London. 17% of street robberies in London involve the use of a knife. Several sets of research have highlighted that the majority of perpetrators and victims of knife crimes are young people aged 14-16yrs and the most common reason for a young people carrying knives was the need to defend themselves from others. Other main reasons are reputation or showing off, peer pressure, protection and fear. The emotions they feel when carrying a weapon include anger, safety, pride, respect and fear. These are a combination of reasons why young people carry weapons. Important causes of youth offending are peer pressure, low parental supervision, truancy and exclusion. Additional risk factors were siblings involved in criminality and a low attachment to family and school.
Self-Assessment Sheet

Name……………………    Date……………

Learning Objectives:

What did you do in the session today?

Do you think that you have achieved today’s learning objective/s?

Why?

Signature……………………

9
What do you think makes a young person carry a knife?

What are your thoughts and feelings of knife in your community?
Self-Assessment Sheet

Name……………………    Date……………

Learning Objectives:

What did you do in the session today?

Do you think that you have achieved today’s learning objective/s?

Why?

Signature……………………
Do young people carry knives for fear?  
Give your reasons

Do young people carry knives for fashion?  
Give your reasons

Any other reasons?

**Fear**

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**Fashion**

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Knife crime statistics & information

Session 2

3 most important reasons of youth offending is

- Peer pressure
- Low parental supervision
- Truancy / exclusion

- Reports from practitioners and the press suggest that carrying and using knives by young people, sometimes as young as ten and eleven, is increasing.

- One in ten boys aged 11 and 12, according to researchers are reported to have carried a knife or other weapon in the previous year. 8% said they had attacked someone intending serious harm. By the age of 16, the figures had risen to 24 and 19% respectively.

- A MORI youth survey in 2003 reported that pupils attending schools said that offences typically happen at school while excluded young people appear more likely to experience crime in their local area where they live. Carrying a knife appears to be more common for young people excluded from mainstream education. 16% of mainstream students compared with 46% of excluded young people had admitted having carried a weapon.

- The peak age for both boys and girls committing offences is 14 to 15.

- Carrying of a weapon is most among the oldest age group of the survey (year 10 and 11) boys and girls carry and use knives and weapons, but boys are more than three times more likely to do so.

- There is an inconclusive debate about the impact on young people’s attitudes and behavior of violence portrayed on television, in computer games and in music.

- Knives hold a particular fascination to young people, according to researchers at Glasgow University, and the aspiration of holding, possessing, and brandishing what only the adult, brave and qualified soldier is entitled to carry legally is part of many young boys childhood.

- The possession of a knife or other weapon can also be a means of acquiring status. Peer influences and fashion also seem to play a part in encouraging young people to carry knives. Young people who experience failure at school or other kind of social exclusion could be looking for status by carrying or brandishing a knife.

- Fear and victimization play the most significant role in a young person’s decision to carry a knife or weapon.
• Fear was the most main motive for carrying a knife.

• One youth practitioner commented “fear outweighs aggression as a motivator. We work with teams of offenders and at the bottom of it is fear... [It’s for] defense, but the fact is a knife is not a defensive weapon…it’s an attacking weapon.’

• Fear can result from personal experience of crime, or reported experience of friends or siblings. Victimization and offending are strongly linked. Many in fact are victims of crime, over 51% of the victims do not report the crimes they have suffered to the police and 45% do not even tell their parents.

• Some young people carry a knife with the intension to scare, harass, steal or Belonging to a group.
Name……………………    Date……………

Learning Objectives:

What did you do in the session today?

Do you think that you have achieved today’s learning objective/s?

Why?

Signature……………………
How does knife crime affect friends?

How does knife crime affect families?
Scenario feedback

What would you do in this situation?

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The YAG

What do you think YAG stands for?
What happens in a YAG?

In what way do you think a YAG can impact schools, please give examples?

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2.............................
3..........................
4.............................
5..........................
6.............................
7.............................
Self-Assessment Sheet

Name……………………    Date………………

Learning Objectives:

What did you do in the session today?

Do you think that you have achieved today’s learning objective/s?

Why?
Signature

In the mind of a Victim

In the mind of a Perpetrator
Self-Assessment Sheet

Name……………………    Date……………

Learning Objectives:

What did you do in the session today?

Do you think that you have achieved today’s learning objective/s?

Why?
As you grow older, you'll be faced with some challenging decisions. Some don't have a clear right or wrong answer - like should you play soccer or field hockey? Other decisions involve serious moral questions, like whether to cut class, try cigarettes, or lie to your parents.

**Defining Peer Pressure**

Peers influence your life, even if you don't realize it, just by spending time with you. You learn from them, and they learn from you. It's only human nature to listen to and learn from other people in your age group.

Peers can have a positive influence on each other. Maybe another student in your science class taught you an easy way to remember the planets in the solar system, or someone on the soccer team taught you a cool trick with the ball. You might admire a friend who is always a good sport and try to be more like him or her. Maybe you got others excited about your new favorite book, and now everyone's reading it. These are examples of how peers positively influence each other every day.

Sometimes peers influence each other in negative ways. For example, a few kids in school might try to get you to cut class with them, your soccer friend might try to convince you to be mean to another player and never pass her the ball, or a kid in the neighborhood might want you to shoplift with him.

**Why Do People Give in to Peer Pressure?**

Some kids give in to peer pressure because they want to be liked, to fit in, or because they worry that other kids may make fun of them if they don't go along with the group. Others may go along because they are curious to try something new that others are doing. The idea that
"everyone's doing it" may influence some kids to leave their better judgment, or their common sense, behind.

**How to Walk Away From Peer Pressure**

It is tough to be the only one who says "no" to peer pressure, but you can do it. Paying attention to your own feelings and beliefs about what is right and wrong can help you know the right thing to do. Inner strength and self-confidence can help you stand firm, walk away, and resist doing something when you know better.

It can really help to have at least one other peer, or friend, who is willing to say "no," too. This takes a lot of the power out of peer pressure and makes it much easier to resist. It's great to have friends with values similar to yours who will back you up when you don't want to do something.

You've probably had a parent or teacher advise you to "choose your friends wisely." Peer pressure is a big reason why they say this. If you choose friends who don't use drugs, cut class, smoke cigarettes, or lie to their parents, then you probably won't do these things either, even if other kids do. Try to help a friend who's having trouble resisting peer pressure. It can be powerful for one kid to join another by simply saying, "I'm with you - let's go."

Even if you're faced with peer pressure while you're alone, there are still things you can do. You can simply stay away from peers who pressure you to do stuff you know is wrong. You can tell them "no" and walk away. Better yet, find other friends and classmates to pal around with.

If you continue to face peer pressure and you're finding it difficult to handle, talk to someone you trust. Don't feel guilty if you've made a mistake or two. Talking to a parent, teacher, or school counselor can help you feel much better and prepare you for the next time you face peer pressure.

**Powerful, Positive Peer Pressure**

Peer pressure is not always a bad thing. For example, positive peer pressure can be used to pressure bullies into acting better toward other kids. If enough kids get together, peers can pressure each other into doing what's right!
Please give examples of the type of consequences you might have through peer pressure?

Think of it in a knife crime aspect.

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Who can stop you?

- A police officer; or
- A police community support officer.

A police community support officer must be in uniform. A police officer does not have to be in uniform, but if they are not wearing uniform they must show you their identity card.

You should not be stopped or searched just because of:

- your age, race, gender, sexual orientation, disability, religion or faith;
- the way you look or dress, the language you speak; or
- Because you have committed a crime in the past.

What is a stop?

A ‘stop’ is when a police officer or police community support officer stops you and asks you to account for yourself. That is, if they ask you to tell them:

- what you are doing;
- why you are in an area or where you are going; or
- What you are carrying.

*Because of the Stephen Lawrence Report, the officer must fill in a form saying why you were stopped and give you a copy (see your right to a form).*

Not every time a police officer or police community support officer talks to you will count as a stop. For example, if the officer
is looking for witnesses;

- asks you for general information about an incident; or

- Is giving you directions.

This does not count as a stop and the officer would not normally fill in a form. But even in this case if you want to you can ask for a form and the officer must fill one out and give it to you.

**What is a stop and search?**

This is when a police officer stops you and searches you, your clothes and anything you are carrying.

**Only a police officer** (not a police community support officer) can search you.

You can only be stopped and searched if a police officer has good reason to suspect you are carrying:

- drugs, weapons or stolen property; or

- Items which could be used:
  - to commit a crime;
  - to commit an act of terrorism; or
  - to cause criminal damage

This good reason should be based on facts, information or intelligence or could be because of the way you are behaving.

There are times however when police officers can search anyone within a certain area, for example:

- when there is evidence that serious violence could take place there; or

- Where a terrorist threat has been identified.

But the officer should explain this to you and must be searching for items which could be used in connection with violence or terrorism.

**Where can I be stopped and searched?**

- In a public place; or
Anywhere if the police believe you have committed a crime.

If you are in a public place, you only have to take off your coat or jacket and your gloves, unless you have been stopped in relation to terrorism or where the officer believes you are using clothes to hide your identity.

If the police officer asks you to take off more than this or anything you wear for religious reasons, such as a face scarf, veil or turban, they must take you somewhere out of public view. This does not mean you are being arrested. In this case, the police officer who searches you must be the same sex as you.

**What if I am in a vehicle?**

Your vehicle can be stopped at any time and you may be asked to show your driving documents, such as your license.

The police can search your vehicle if they have good reason to think it contains:

- stolen goods;
- drugs; or
- Weapons.

They can search your vehicle at anytime, even if you are not there but must leave a notice saying what they have done.

If the search causes damage to your car, you can ask for compensation but only if the police didn’t find anything to connect you to a crime.

**What happens if I am stopped and searched?**

Before you are searched, the police officer should tell you:

- that you must wait to be searched;
- what law they are using and your rights;
- their name;
- the station they work at;
- why they chose you;
- what they are looking for; and
- That you have a right to be given a form straightaway showing details of the stop and search.
Your right to a form

If you are stopped or searched the officer must fill in a form and give it to you straightaway unless, for example, they are called away to an emergency. In this case you can get a copy from a police station anytime within 12 months.

The officer must write down:

- your name or a description of you (only if you are searched);
- your self-defined ethnic background;
- when and where you were stopped or searched;
- why you were stopped or searched;
- if they are taking any action;
- the names and/or numbers of the officers; and
- If you were searched, what they were looking for and anything they found.

The police will ask you for your name, address and date of birth. You do not have to give this information if you don’t want to; unless the police say they are reporting you for an offence. If this is the case you could be arrested if you don’t tell them.

You will also be asked to say what your ethnic background is from a list of the national census categories which the officer will show to you (see the National census categories list at the end of this leaflet). You do not have to say what it is if you don’t want to. But this information is used to show if the police are stopping or searching people just because of their race or ethnicity.

How can I complain?

The police should treat you fairly and with respect. If you are unhappy with how you were treated, you can complain. If you feel you were treated differently because of your race, age, sexuality, gender, disability, religion or faith, you can complain of unlawful discrimination.

It will help if you keep the form that the police gave you.

You can get advice from, or complain to:

- a police station;
- your local police authority;
- a Citizen’s Advice Bureau;
- your local Race Equality Council;
THE LAW

What is the law on knife carrying?
Under current legislation, it is an offence to carry a knife in public without good reason or lawful authority, with the exception of a folding pocket knife with a blade less than three inches in length. Possession of an offensive weapon without lawful authority or reasonable excuse carries a maximum penalty of four years’ imprisonment.
What do you think about the police?

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9..................................................
10...............................................
Self-Assessment Sheet

Name……………………    Date……………

Learning Objectives:

What did you do in the session today?

Do you think that you have achieved today’s learning objective/s?

Why?
Ways of discouraging knife crime
Self-Assessment Sheet

Name……………………    Date……………

Learning Objectives:

What did you do in the session today?

Do you think that you have achieved today’s learning objective/s?

Why?
Signature..................