



The Know Knives team came into school during Term 2. Pupils signed a table cloth to agree not to carry a knife. Year 7 & 8's received an assembly by the Know Knives team and were given 'goodies' during break time from the police force.

The know knives teams work for East Sussex County Council, Targeted Youth Support Service and funded by Hastings Opportunity Area (for the Hastings area) and Police Violence Reduction Unit (County Wide) to deliver an awareness project around knife crime and exploitation. Their main area of work is with young people in schools and the community to raise awareness around the risks and

laws associated with carrying a knife, healthy relationships and exploitation, keeping safe and challenging stereotypes, myths and fears that are portrayed through the media.

The Project focuses on three main areas:-

- Educating young people to recognise and manage risk, make safe choices, be aware of peer pressure and look after their own personal safety and wellbeing.
- Focusing on the issues of knives and other weapons and will be specific to issues in local schools and communities.
- Working with parents, carers and professionals to understand the dangers and risks surrounding knife crime and to give them information and strategies to discuss this with their young people.

New for this academic year!! Sussex Police have purchased “Knife Arches”



Similar to what you would see at the airport or at concerts nowadays, the knife arch is to highlight the issue around what is safe to carry or not carry and to help focus the minds around the topics to be discussed. The Know Knives team are **NOT** using it as an enforcement tool. This is about reassurance and allowing students to talk to us about their concerns and provide the information as to what we are working on to support young people, as well as for us to signpost if necessary to relevant agencies that can continue to support young people, parents and carers, professionals, schools and the wider community.

If you are worried about your young person and need support, below are just a few links and contacts available if you require additional information or someone to speak to:

- **Childline** – 0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk - to find support and advice for young people about a range of issues
- **#knifefree** - www.knifefree.co.uk - to find out more about the campaign and for more information on how to live knife free
- **Fearless (crime stoppers)** – www.fearless.org - for advice and a way to anonymously report crime
- **Victim support** – www.victimsupport.org.uk - for support for anyone who has been a victim of crime
- **Youth Workers** – Local youth centre
 - **kNOwnives** Facebook page
- **School**
- **Police** – 101 non emergency
 - 999 emergency