

# Where's the Harm

Whilst the majority of young people do not carry knives – it is still a conversation worth having.

Approximately 1 in 7 young people in Lancashire claimed to have witnessed an incident involving a knife (2022)

## What you need to know

It is illegal to carry a knife even if the knife belongs to someone else.

Police can and will search someone if they believe they are carrying a knife. Police and school staff can also search young people for weapons at school.

Carrying a knife increases your child's risk of getting stabbed or injured. Carrying a knife could result in being arrested, a criminal record or prison sentence.

This can prevent your child getting a job, going to college / university or even travelling abroad to some countries.

# Knife Crime

## Keeping your children safe



## Why do young people carry a knife?

From protection to peer pressure, there are many reasons a young person may carry a knife. Some signs to look out for that may suggest your child is feeling this way are:

- school's not going well / they don't want to go in to school at all
- they've been a recent victim of theft/ bullying/ mugging
- a different network of friends who may be older than your child.

Remind your child that they should always walk away if confronted with the threat of violence.

For practical tips

<https://www.knifefree.co.uk/get-help-support/>

For support Nest Lancashire supports young people 10-18 who have been affected by crime, bullying or harassment.

[Nest Lancashire | Supporting young victims](#)

## Legal consequences

- Carrying a knife can mean 4 years in prison, even if you don't use it.
- You can get a criminal record just for carrying a knife.
- It is illegal to sell a knife to anyone who is under 18yrs old

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