



Guns / Air Weapons – Advice

- If you own a replica gun (toy, bb gun, air weapon etc), do you really need it? The safest option is to dispose of it.
 - Disposal
 - If it is plastic, wrap it securely in a bin liner, tape it up, break it up with a hammer and put it in the bin.
 - If it is metal, wrap it and tape it securely and then hand it in at your local police station
 - If you have an air weapon at home then do not take it out of your house or garden
 - Make sure any air weapon is kept in a safe and secure location and out of reach of children
- Adult supervision is always required.



South Yorkshire



South Yorkshire continues to be one of the safest counties in which to live and work.

Incidents involving knives are relatively rare but can have tragic consequences. Please make sure your family and friends are aware of the issues and keep themselves safe.

Please keep this leaflet in a safe place for reference.

For further advice and information go to:

- www.gunsandknivestakelives.com
- www.gameover4knives.com
- www.wearandfashion.org.uk
- www.crimestoppers-uk.org

or call South Yorkshire Police on **0114 220 2020**
 or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on **0800 555 111**.



GUNS AND KNIVES

TAKE LIVES

The risk that someone you know may be carrying a knife or may be affected by knife crime can be very worrying and raise many questions.

This leaflet offers guidance for parents, carers and students and has details of where to get help, support and advice.

You can play an important part in preventing gun and knife crime and reducing the fear of crime by reading this leaflet and making your family and friends aware of any dangers.





Knives

Facts

It is illegal to carry a knife even if it is for your own protection. This includes in and around school. Police and teachers can search anyone suspected of carrying a knife.

By carrying a knife you could get a criminal record or even a prison sentence. This will have an impact on future job prospects and travelling abroad to some countries.

Advice for students

- Never carry a knife – it gives a false sense of security
- Carrying a knife significantly increases the risk of you being injured. Your own knife can be used against you or someone may attack you in ‘self defence’
- Carrying a knife is against the law – you could get a criminal record which will affect job and travel prospects
- How would your family or friends feel if you were arrested carrying a knife? How would you feel if a younger brother or sister carried a knife because they had seen you do it, and then something happened to them as a result?
- Using a knife, even in self defence, can destroy your life as well as someone else’s life; their family or your family. Even being present when someone else uses a knife can have consequences
- Walk away if confronted with the threat of violence
- Tell somebody you trust – a parent, teacher, friend, police
- You do have a choice.



If you know someone who carries a knife contact Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111**. Calls are anonymous and cannot be traced.

Or send a text to **88551** and include their name, nickname, school, year and postcode/area. This may save someone's life.

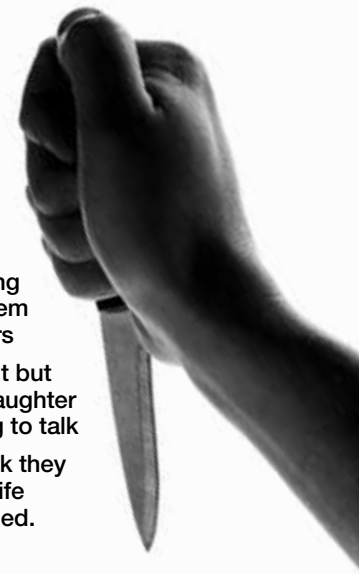


Knives – Advice for parents

- The best way to keep young people safe is to talk to them about the potential dangers
- Talking can be very difficult but keep trying. Your son or daughter may be scared or unwilling to talk
- A young person might think they need to start carrying a knife because they feel threatened. Look out for:
 - Problems at school or reluctance to go to school
 - Issues of bullying or theft of personal items
 - A new network of friends
- Sometimes you may suspect that your son or daughter is carrying a knife. For example you may discover a knife is missing from the kitchen. Or there may be other signs
- Seek advice from teachers, friends, police.

For further information go to:

- www.direct.gov.uk/en/Parents/Yourchildshealthandsafety
- www.knifecrimes.org/Parents
- www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk



Guns

Issues

Carrying anything that looks like a real gun in the street or other public places is illegal. It is also very dangerous because:

- Other people may think it is real and feel threatened
- Replica guns encourage young people to become interested in guns
- Armed police officers will attend to sightings of guns even if they later turn out to be replicas
- Police have to assume the gun is real. Most replicas are next to impossible to tell from the real thing.

The above applies equally to air weapons. Air weapons can be dangerous even at home. People could be seriously injured or killed by them. Don't let this happen in your home.

