Ready2Comply
TOOLKITS FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

DIRECT WORK RESOURCE · KEEPING SAFE

Safer Without a Knife

Knife crime, weapons and staying safe

A straight-talking, ready-to-use direct work pack to help young people understand the real risks of carrying a knife or weapon, the law, and safer ways to deal with fear and pressure – and to help you gauge, record and act on risk.

- Ages 11–17
- 1:1 or small groups
- 3–4 sessions
- Editable Word

SAMPLE

Worker's guide

Session plans, the law for staff, SEND and trauma-informed tips, disclosures, escalation and recording

Activity sheets

Myths vs reality, risk spotter, 12 scenario cards, staying-safe toolkit, safety plan, who to tell

Risk measure

Young person's quiz with scoring key, worker observation checklist, record sheet – plus a certificate

For children's homes, supported accommodation and schools · British English · Version 1.0 · November 2026

The law and guidance in this pack were checked against GOV.UK, the Crown Prosecution Service, the Sentencing Council, NHS and legislation.gov.uk sources in November 2026 (see Sources, page 21). The law changes – check the current position.

Ready2Comply is not affiliated with Fearless, Crimestoppers, Childline, any police force, charity or organisation named in this pack. This pack is general information, not legal advice. If a young person is arrested or charged, they should get advice from a solicitor.

Myths vs reality

What people say about carrying – and what really happens

'It keeps me safe'

Carrying makes it more likely you'll get hurt.

→ Knives get used against the person carrying.

'Everyone carries'

Most young people never carry a knife.

→ It only feels like everyone online.

'I'm just holding it'

Holding it for someone is still carrying.

→ You'd face the charge, not them.

'Only to scare them'

Things escalate in seconds.

→ A threat can turn into a stabbing.

'Just the leg'

There's no safe place to stab someone.

→ Leg wounds can kill in minutes.

'I wasn't the one'

Being part of it can still lead to charges.

→ Joint enterprise is real.

'It's just a video'

Online threats can lead to real violence.

→ Posts can be used as evidence.

'Telling is snitching'

Telling an adult can save a life.

→ You can tell anonymously too.

'There's no way out'

People do stop carrying – with help.

→ Talk to someone you trust.

Did you know?

You can pass on information about knives or weapons **anonymously** through **Fearless** (fearless.org) – they never ask your name. If someone is in danger right now, always call **999**.

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Real-life situations

Cut out the cards or pick one. What's going on? What would you do?

1 Just in case

Your friend shows you a knife in his bag. "Everyone carries round here. You'd be stupid not to." He says you should get one.

🚩 Red flags? 🤔 What would you do? 🗣️ Who could you tell?

2 Hold this for me

An older lad you look up to asks you to keep a knife in your room for a few days. "Police won't search you. You're young."

🚩 Red flags? 🤔 What would you do? 🗣️ Who could you tell?

3 The video

A video is going round showing people waving knives and naming someone from your area. Your mates are sharing it and adding comments.

🚩 Red flags? 🤔 What would you do? 🗣️ Who could you tell?

4 Chased home

Three people followed you home from school yesterday and said they'd "get you" next time. You're scared to go out.

🚩 Red flags? 🤔 What would you do? 🗣️ Who could you tell?

5 Kitchen drawer

You're going to the park where the people who threatened you hang out. You think about taking a knife from the kitchen.

🚩 Red flags? 🤔 What would you do? 🗣️ Who could you tell?

6 In the bag

In class, you see the handle of a knife in your friend's bag. He sees you looking and says, "Don't say anything."

🚩 Red flags? 🤔 What would you do? 🗣️ Who could you tell?

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