

## The Choice Workshop

### *Students Pack*

#### The Choice Workshop

The Choice is a short film based on the real lived experiences of young people across Lancashire and their experience of knife crime. The style is very much like a TV 'reconstruction' with the incident being recreated by actors.

The film follows the story of Harry, a student who is experiencing a situation where he first receives threats online, followed by a physical assault. At this point, Harry makes the choice to carry a knife which he takes from his family home.

#### Staying Safe

The topic of the session is knife crime, which can be a trigger for some people. Keeping yourself safe in the sessions is of the greatest importance, and if at any point during the session you feel unsafe, worried or anxious, it's important that you seek help and support from your tutor or the college safeguarding staff. There are also independent organisations you can contact and their details are included below, along with locations of knife amnesty bins (on page 3).

#### How it works

The video will be played to you by your tutor. On the video is a facilitator, called James, who will introduce each section of the film 'The Choice' to you, and will task you with questions and points to look out for during the film.

Once you've watched each section of the film, you will be invited to discuss what you've seen with your tutor and class mates, and explore how that feels for you and what advice you might give to the characters.

It's important to remember that this session is about you. Your thoughts and opinions may differ from other peoples, but sharing a range of viewpoints is a really positive way of learning and understanding. It is also important that you are respectful of your fellow student's viewpoints.

This session isn't about testing you on what you know, it's about learning and it's really important that you take part as much as possible in ways that you feel comfortable to do so.

#### Help and Support (In an emergency, always call 999)

**You can anonymously report knife crime by calling CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111.**

The following websites can provide help and support for young people concerned about being drawn into, or becoming victims of knife crime:

[www.trustedtoknow.co.uk](http://www.trustedtoknow.co.uk)

[www.nestlancashire.org](http://www.nestlancashire.org)

[www.noknivesbetterlives.com](http://www.noknivesbetterlives.com)

[www.benkinsella.org.uk](http://www.benkinsella.org.uk)

NSPCC Gangs helpline 0808 800 5000 or [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

### Myths and Misconceptions - to complete after the session

Now you've watched 'The Choice' video and taken part in the workshop discussions, can you complete the true or false questions below:

Statement	True or False	Statement	True or False
You'll only get a caution if you carry a knife but don't use it		Knife crime only affects young people connected with gangs	
You need a large knife to do any serious harm		You are safer if you carry a knife	
There are safe places to stab someone		Girls aren't involved in knife crime	
Carrying a knife is normal. Everyone does it		Police can stop and search you if they think you have a knife on you	
You can't get done if the knife you are carrying isn't yours		Knife Crime is a big problem in Lancashire	
You can be sent to jail if someone is stabbed and you were with the offender		You need a knife to protect yourself from other crimes	.

### Knife Amnesty Bins

Knife Amnesty Bins can be found in a variety of locations across Lancashire where people can anonymously dispose of knives and sharp objects. They can be found in the following locations:

<p><b>Blackpool</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 84 Edgerton Road, Blackpool FY1 2NW</li> <li>• The Grange, Dinmore Avenue, Blackpool FY3 7RW</li> <li>• Blackpool Boys and Girls Club, Bowness Avenue, Blackpool FY1 6AA</li> <li>• 44 Bolton Street, Blackpool FY1 6AA</li> </ul> <p>□</p>	<p><b>Burnley</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Calico Group, Croft Street, Burnley BB1 2ED</li> <li>• Valley Street Community Centre, Burnley BB1 5LY</li> </ul>
<p><b>Fleetwood</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• London Street, Fleetwood, FY7 6SW</li> <li>• Milton Street Youth Centre, Fleetwood FY7 6QW</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lancaster &amp; Morecambe</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greenayre Skate Park, Parliament Street, Lancaster LA1 1DQ</li> <li>• Near Youth Centre, Central Drive, Morecambe LA4 4DE</li> </ul>
<p><b>Preston</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Princess Street, Avenham, Preston PR1 4HS</li> <li>• Kingsfold Community Centre, Kingsfold Drive, Preston PR1 6EQ</li> <li>• Leyland Leisure Centre, Leyland PR25 2EX</li> </ul>	<p><b>Rawtenstall</b></p> <p>□ Waterfoot Police Station, Bacup Road, BB4 7JA</p>
<p><b>Skelmersdale</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digmaor Community Centre, Birleywood, Skelmersdale WN8 9BW</li> <li>• Tanhouse Community Centre, Ennerdale, Skelmersdale WN8 6AN</li> </ul>	<p><b>For further information about knife amnesty bins visit <a href="http://www.lancashire.police.uk">www.lancashire.police.uk</a></b></p>