LESSON PLAN

Year Group: Year 5

Lesson topic: Introduction to Knife Crime: What is It?

Learning objective: To introduce the concept of knife crime in a simple, non-threatening way and explain why carrying a knife is dangerous.

Discussion Points:

- What should you do if you see something unsafe?
- Why do some people think carrying a knife protects them?

Starter:

Discuss what makes a safe community. What do we need to feel safe?

Mind Map Ideas

Main Activity: Introduce the class to a short about a fictional character who makes a poor decision involving a knife.

Example Story: Ethan's Big Mistake
Ethan is a 10-year-old boy who has been feeling scared lately because some older children have been bullying him on his way home. One day, he overhears his older cousin say, "If someone messes with you, just carry something sharp to scare them off." That night, Ethan finds a small kitchen knife and puts it in his school bag, thinking it will make him feel safer. But the next day, things don't go as planned…

- At lunch, Ethan's bag falls off his chair, and the knife slips out onto the floor. His best friend sees it and gasps.
- A teacher notices the knife and calls the headteacher. Soon, Ethan finds himself in a lot of trouble.
- His parents are called, and the police are involved. Ethan didn't want to hurt anyone—he just wanted to feel safe. But now he's scared in a different way.

Task One: After reading the story, ask students to discuss and answer the following questions:

1. Why did Ethan take the knife to school?
    - What was he feeling?
    - Did he talk to anyone about his fears?
2. What were the consequences of his choice?
    - How did his friend react?
    - What happened when the teacher found out?
    - How do you think his parents felt?
3. What could Ethan have done differently?
    - Who could he have spoken to instead of taking the knife?
    - What are safer ways to deal with feeling scared?

Task Two Role-Play - The Right Choices

Divide the class into small groups. Each group creates a short role-play showing how Ethan could have handled the situation differently.

Examples:

- Asking a teacher for help
- Talking to his parents
- Walking home with a friend instead of alone

Have each group act out their version of Ethan making the right decision.

Plenary: Personal Reflection

Ask students to write or draw a response to this question:
"If I ever feel scared or unsafe, I can talk to _____."
This reinforces the idea that they always have someone to turn to instead of making a bad choice.