LESSON PLAN

Year Group: Sixth Form

Lesson topic: Knife Crime Prevention: What Can We Do?

Learning objective:

- To empower students to take action against knife crime in their communities.
- To explore effective prevention strategies and develop practical plans for engaging others in reducing knife crime.

Discussion Points:

- Why do you think people believe these myths?
- Where do you think young people are getting these ideas from? (e.g., media, peers, fear)

Starter: "What Would a Knife-Free Community Look Like?"

Activity Instructions:

- Divide the class into small groups.
- Ask students to brainstorm answers to the question: "What would a knife-free community look like?"
- Encourage them to think about different aspects, such as:
  - Safety: What would it feel like to walk through a community without the fear of violence?
  - Relationships: How would people's relationships with each other change if violence wasn't a threat?
  - Opportunities: How could young people's opportunities and futures improve in a knife-free community?

Group Reflection:

- After brainstorming, ask each group to share their ideas with the class.
- Discuss: What are the key components of a safe, knife-free community? What needs to change in our current society to make this a reality?

Main Activity: Research and Plan a Community Action Project

Research Task:

- Students will work in small groups to research different anti-knife crime initiatives that exist in the UK. They should focus on successful projects and campaigns that are making a difference in communities. Some examples include:
- Blades Down: A project dedicated to raising awareness about knife crime and promoting the importance of giving up weapons.
- Knife Amnesty: Campaigns where people can anonymously hand in knives and weapons without facing legal consequences, aiming to reduce the number of weapons in circulation.

- The KOV Project (KnockOut Violence): Programs providing support and mentoring for young people, helping to steer them away from violent behaviour.
- The Red Thread Initiative: A project using street-level support to intervene in communities, particularly those affected by knife crime.
- StreetDoctors: A project focused on educating young people about the consequences of carrying knives and offering first-aid training.

Planning Task:

- After researching these initiatives, students will plan a community action project. The project could include:
  - Awareness events (e.g., creating awareness campaigns or hosting talks for younger students).
  - Workshops or assemblies focused on the dangers of knife crime.
  - Peer-led education programs (e.g., mentoring younger students and teaching them about the importance of non-violence and conflict resolution).
  - Social media campaigns promoting anti-knife crime messages.
- Students should outline their project's goals, target audience, and strategies for engaging the community, as well as potential partners (local police, youth centres, schools, etc.).

Group Presentations:

- Each group will present their proposed project to the class, explaining why they think it would work, what impact they hope to have, and how they will get others involved.

Discussion: How Can Young People Make a Difference?

1. Discussion Questions:
   - How can young people be agents of change in their communities?
   - Why do you think it's important for young people to be involved in knife crime prevention?
   - What do you think would motivate others to get involved in anti-knife crime efforts?
   - How can we raise awareness among our peers and encourage them to take action?
2. Group Reflection:
   - Ask students to reflect on their personal role in combating knife crime.
   - Encourage them to think about ways they can influence others (e.g., starting conversations, using social media, speaking out against knife crime).

Set Personal Action Goals – "How Can Each Student Contribute to Reducing Knife Crime?"

Each student will write down two or three personal action goals they can commit to in the next month. These goals should relate to reducing knife crime or promoting safety and non-violence in their community.

Examples of goals might include:

- I will start a conversation with my peers about why carrying knives is dangerous.
- I will share anti-knife crime posts on social media.
- I will volunteer with a local organization that works on preventing youth violence.
- I will attend a local youth forum or talk about knife crime prevention.
- I will mentor younger students on the importance of conflict resolution and peace.