NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH KNIFE CRIME QUIZ

Q1. Is it ever legal to carry a knife in a public place?
A1. To carry a knife legally you have to demonstrate that there is a legitimate purpose for carrying it. For example, if you need it for your work or it’s a ceremonial item that you are carrying as part of your faith or your national dress.

Q2. How old do you have to be to buy a knife legally?
A2. 18

Q3. What is the maximum prison sentence for carrying a knife in school?
A3. 4 years

Q4. What is the maximum sentence if you use a knife for self-defence in a public place?
A4. Life imprisonment

Q5. What should you do if you think someone is carrying a knife or another weapon?
A5. In most cases, stay away from the person who you think has the weapon, and you should speak to an adult you trust, who should deal with the issue confidentially. Otherwise, you could call your local police, or report it anonymously to Crimestoppers or Fearless.org.

Q6. If you get caught carrying a knife, but haven’t used it, will you still get arrested?
A6. Yes. And not only will you be arrested, carrying a knife, even if it is not used, carries a prison sentence of up to 4 years!

Q7. If you take a knife to school, will it be dealt with by your teachers only, or will the police be called?
A7. The police will always be called if you take a weapon to school.

Q8. If you stab someone, and they die, will you go to prison?
A8. Yes. You will receive a life sentence and serve at least 25 years in prison.

Q9. If you are caught with a knife a second time, will you always go to prison?
A9. Yes

Q10. If you get a criminal conviction for possessing a knife, how might that affect your life in future?
A10. If could stop you from getting into college or university and make it much harder to get a job. You may also be banned from visiting certain countries, such as USA, Canada and Australia.

Q11. If you are with someone who uses a knife to hurt somebody, will you get in trouble too?
A11. Yes, if you were deemed to be “in it together” you could face the same punishment as if it were you who had stabbed the person. You can even be found guilty of murder if you are part of a group and someone in that group kills someone, with or without a weapon. This is known as “joint enterprise”.

Q12. Can you get rid of a knife without getting into trouble?
A12. If you’re in London (and, soon, Yorkshire) you can dump a weapon into a knife bin – these have been put in public places by the charity Word 4 Weapons. Otherwise, you can take it to your local police station during a weapons amnesty – these are held quite regularly.

Q13. Name three behaviours that might suggest a young person has started carrying a knife.
A13. Name any of the answers at the top of this page (Spotting the signs).

Q14. Which websites can you use to anonymously report your concerns or suspicions about criminal behaviour by someone you know?
A14. Crimestoppers.org and Fearless.org

Q15. If you are with someone who has been stabbed, what should you do?
A15. Call 999 and try to stop the bleeding by putting pressure onto the wound.

Q16. How many people died after being stabbed in the first three months of 2018 – 6, 16 or 26?

Q17. How many of these were teenagers?
A17. Six