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Let's Get Talking
 No.2
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KNIFE CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMMES

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INTRODUCTION



Let's Get Talking was established in 2012 by our founder Sue Scott-Horne, Sue started out in education some twenty five years ago working in Islington Youth Service as deputy head of social education, covering topics including: Identity, Drugs Awareness, Smoking, Interview Skills, Presenting Yourself and working with local gangs around Self Responsibility, Making Decisions and Consequences. Sue has also worked in Children's Care Homes as a residential care worker. Throughout her successful career she has taught focused, Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) sessions at several Islington schools including Mount Carmel Girls, St. Aloysius, and Elizabeth Garrett Anderson.

In addition Sue has been Tutor in Charge at Holloway Youth Centre, Battlebridge Youth Centre, and a Youth Worker in Charge in various inner city Youth clubs - focusing on curriculum development programmes for young people. In her post of Deputy Head PSHE she supported many youth projects and clubs in Islington with their curriculum programmes.

Sue is a Freeman of the City of London, a member of the Company of Educators and sits on the board of BAWE (British Association of Women Entrepreneurs).

At Let's Get Talking we work with high risk teenagers and provide early prevention to children in primary schools alike, often from deprived backgrounds and from diverse environments in society.

In our research conducted across Greater London we have discovered nearly 60% of the young people we have worked with had not been educated on Knife Crime before enrolling onto one of our programmes, this shows that we are one of the initial organisations to bring friends and pupils together to learn about the devastating effects of knife crime and youth violence, both on perpetrators and victims and their friends and families.

The journey that the young people take whilst engaging in the programme builds strong bonds within the group and reduces the chances of the individuals committing an offence related to knife crime and youth violence in the future and therefore allows them to maximise their potential rather than facing a future being part of the judicial and prison systems.

We are an expert medium for exploring adolescent issues; this is achieved by a method of learning conversation and discussion without pressure. Being a charitable organisation we bear no ties with schools or authorities, making young people feel confident and comfortable when speaking and conversing with us and among themselves, no judgements are made and conversation, no matter how sensitive, is allowed to be freely spoken about. Guidance and advice are imperative to the way we work, in order for young to make the right choices in their lives.



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MEET OUR EDUCATORS

Joe Allen *Educator*

Joe was brought up in Hackney and attended and finished primary and secondary education in the borough. Being from a single-parent family of 4 children, Joe found himself struggling to find work after college so embarked on a journey of life on the streets to make ends meet. This experience taught him how to look after himself and found, on numerous occasions, that it can lead to criminal activity, imprisonment and death. Joe realised carrying knives did not benefit him and decided to use his skills to teach younger people to stay away from crime by joining the Hackney Youth Service on a voluntary basis. After completing an intense sports course in 1994, Joe joined Camden's Sports Development team and worked with youths with SEN issues. This led him to continue working with hard to reach groups via Youth and Outreach teams, enhancing his experience with youths and 'gang culture'. He now has over 20 years experience of working with young people and has sadly lost a lot of friends due to drugs, knife crime and suicide.

'I am deeply passionate about the safety and education of young people in our communities, hence my reason for joining the Let's Get Talking team as an Educator. My aim is to bring my experience of how drug, knife and gang culture affected me and my family so other young people will not make the same mistake.'

Tony Dallas *Educator*

Tony Dallas is a freelance storyteller, writer and facilitator. He runs personal development sessions and workshops for both children and staff in schools, colleges and learning centres. He also runs poetry and story slams as well as drama and writing workshops for all ages. He is a Patron of Reading for the National Literacy Trust and the founder of Success Club: a bespoke intervention program set in both primary and secondary schools that promotes and develops essential learning qualities. Tony believes everyone has a story to tell: all we have to do is listen.

'I love working with LGT because gangs and knife crime is real. I get to talk to young people about how it affects them and how they can become facilitators of change, directly in and around the communities in which they live.'

Claire Taylor *Educator*

Claire is a freelance teacher and trained systemic counsellor and coach. Claire has taught in a range of challenging mainstream schools in London. During this time, Claire has mentored and trained teachers. She has designed and delivered teacher training and coaching programmes that support the development of learning and teaching in schools and other additional education projects. Claire has worked with NGO Schools and international education projects to develop teacher training models and facilitate teacher development in developing countries. Claire collaborates with teachers, writers and poets to deliver creative learning sessions, poetry slams and writing workshops for young people. Claire is particularly interested in providing young people with the skills they need to navigate their own way through life with success and well being. She designs and delivers sessions on conflict resolution, mediation and self development.

'LGT provides young people with a safe place to explore some of the very difficult and real issues they face in everyday life. Every LGT session feels so vital and rewarding for everyone involved.'

Chris Demetriou *Educator*

Chris is currently a part-time teacher in a secondary school in Bermondsey, as well as an examiner for Pearson Edexcel. For most of his twenty years in education he has been Head of Arts in a challenging North London secondary, and Head of Drama in a comprehensive secondary school in South London. He has also spent a year teaching in schools in the South Bronx and Manhattan, both in New York City. Before teaching, Chris spent 10 years in the business world, including owning and managing a small restaurant in central London. Chris is now passionate in his role as an educator with the LGT Team. 'I grew up on a tough council estate in North London, where I knew kids who carried knives (myself included for a short time). I think it is so important in today's climate to be able to provide a safe environment where young people can openly share their experiences, fears, challenges and hopes.'

PROGRAMMES

The Let's Get Talking Knife Crime Programmes are designed to be an intervention and prevention formula for stopping Knife Crime. These established and innovative programmes consist of four individual, high-impact, emotive and powerful sessions.

- **We aim to educate young people about the negative effects and harsh consequences to victims and perpetrators and families and friends of people involved with Knife Crime.**
- **We will talk to young people about their experiences with Knife Crime and gather statistics.**
- **We will explore their ideas and ability to control their Anger.**
- **We will discover their knowledge around Bereavement and the devastating emotional effect it has, especially as a result of a callous knife related act.**

KNIFE CRIME EXHIBITION & TALKSHOPS PROGRAMME

Session 1 - The Ben Kinsella Knife Crime Awareness Exhibition

Young people learn about Ben. In the 'Cinema room' they watch a documentary of Ben's murder and the effect it had on his family, friends and a whole community. In the 'Consequences Room', joint enterprise, knife crime laws, what to do if someone is stabbed is learnt. Participants then step into the prison cell, where an actor drives home the reality of what life in prison is truly like. "I hated being in that room. The prisoner scared me; he was intense, guilty and sad. It really gives you a sense of what prison is like."

LOCATION: FINSBURY LIBRARY, ISLINGTON, LONDON.

Session 2, 3 and 4 - Knife Crime, Anger and Bereavement Talks

What is a Talkshop?

A Talkshop, put simply, is a workshop based on **talking** and **discussion**. The main aim of a Talkshop is to create an environment in which it feels comfortable for people to converse on a topic, whether it may be emotional, sensitive or challenging. The topic is not always the key element of the Talkshop itself, rather, the opinions, beliefs and mindsets of the people involved are central to triggering the flow of conversation.

Talkshops take young people back to basics, face to face communication without screens or interactive devices. Concentration and focus whilst taking part in the Talkshop is very important, if individual(s) are distracted, they may forget to listen, let alone speak or share their views, so we do always encourage ground rules to be agreed prior to beginning.

Talkshops may involve up to, but not limited to 30 young people in one group session, but can also be used one-to-one with an individual. There is normally a preference for the group to be arranged around a table(s) so that they are directly conversing with each other, the table(s) are also handy to show the resources, given that all the attention will be focused in this area. With up to 30 young people in a Talkshop, an LGT educator will always be present to structure the communication and it is also imperative that a staff member from the establishment is available to support the educator with their role and the session that is taking place.



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In the Talkshop sessions we join the young people at their own building (school/youth club) or we can follow on after the exhibition visit at the Library, where we use our own discussion resources and activities to open up and trigger conversations. Our experienced Educators run these three in-depth sessions on Knife Crime, Anger and Bereavement.

In the first session we find out why young people may carry knives and help them to understand reasons not to and how to positively influence their friends and family to do the same. In the second and third Talkshops, on Anger and Bereavement respectively, it follows the same format but the discussion will centre on the topic titles and the relevant discussion resource. Young people will learn how to manage anger without confrontation or violence and find out more about what bereavement is and how it can affect them and their feelings.

LOCATION: FINSBURY LIBRARY **OR** YOUR BUILDING

DURATION: FULL DAY

AGE RANGE: ASSEMBLY = AGE 7+
 TALKSHOPS = AGE 9+



'KNIFE CULTURE' CARD SET USED DURING KNIFE CRIME TALKSHOP



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KNIFE CRIME ASSEMBLY & TALKSHOPS PROGRAMME

Session 1 – Knife Crime Assembly

We will visit you to present our PowerPoint assembly based around Knife Crime, decisions and consequences. In the assembly we will introduce the subject of Knife Crime, what it is defined as and examples of illegal activities related to Knives. During the assembly we will explore and teach choices, including right and wrong and how this may affect their lives and shape their current situation and future prospects and provide explanations relating to peer pressure, bereavement and safety.

Session 2, 3 and 4 - Knife Crime, Anger and Bereavement Talkshops

In the following Talkshops we use our own discussion resources and activities to open up and trigger conversations, relating back to what the young people have learnt during the assembly. Our experienced Educators run these three in-depth sessions on Knife Crime, Anger and Bereavement. In the first session we find out why young people may carry knives and help them to understand reasons not to and how to positively influence their friends and family to do the same. In the second and third Talkshops, on Anger and Bereavement respectively, it follows the same format but the discussion will centre on the topic titles and the relevant discussion resource. Young people will learn how to manage anger without confrontation or violence and find out more about what bereavement is and how it can affect them and their feelings. (We only conduct Talkshops for years 5 & 6).

DURATION: HALF DAY

AGE RANGE: ASSEMBLY = AGE 7+
TALKSHOPS = AGE 9+

OUTCOMES

The stark reality of our very direct programmes promotes such an emotional reaction from young people that we believe it leaves a permanent memory which they can refer to positively when struggling with decision making in relation to Knives in the future. In their everyday lives young people in general have no idea of the seriousness of a Knife Crime offence and how it affects so many people, let alone the devastation of a young person being murdered through a stabbing. The programme will also teach them that the knife they may be carrying could in fact turn back on them and stab them, something proven many times, something young people do not realise. Young people's decisions are often made extremely quickly, without thought or consequences to a real life danger to them, this is what we teach loud and clear so that they manage themselves better to make informed decisions. Young people will come away with better morals and value themselves in order to realise their capabilities and understand their limitations in a confident manner.



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All



Programmes contain...

- ✓ Experienced Educators
- ✓ Enhanced DBS checks
- ✓ Full Safeguarding Policy
- ✓ Award-Winning Resources
- ✓ Dedicated Project Support
- ✓ Certificates on Completion
- ✓ Bespoke Delivery
- ✓ 90% Success Rate
- ✓ Full Feedback & Evaluation

PROGRAMME PRICING STRUCTURE

KNIFE CRIME EXHIBITION AND TALKSHOPS PROGRAMME

AGE RANGE	COST	CAPACITY	EDUCATORS
PRIMARY	£695	Up to 15 young people	1 Educator
PRIMARY	£895	Up to 30 young people	2 Educators
SECONDARY	£795	Up to 15 young people	1 Educator
SECONDARY	£995	Up to 30 young people	2 Educators

KNIFE CRIME ASSEMBLY AND TALKSHOPS PROGRAMME

AGE RANGE	COST	CAPACITY	EDUCATORS
PRIMARY	£695	Up to 300 for Assembly Up to 120 for Talkshops	2 Educators
SECONDARY	£795	Up to 900 for Assembly Up to 120 for Talkshops	2 Educators



FRONT



BACK