



# SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

SAFEGUARDING EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

## Designated safeguarding Leads

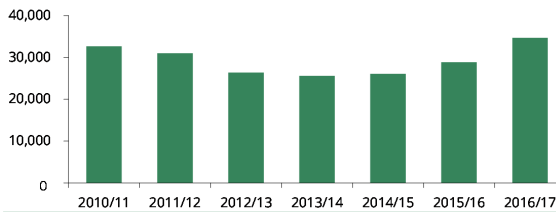
Alison Bolton  
Gillian Hayes  
Andrea Hickey

## Useful numbers

Childline 0800 1111  
Wigan Safeguarding Hub 01942 486262  
Wigan Social care Referral and Assessment team 01942 828 300

# Operation Sceptre

**HIGHEST RECORDED KNIFE CRIME LEVEL IN A 7-YEAR PERIOD**  
Selected offences involving a knife or sharp instrument YE March, England and Wales



Operation Sceptre is a new initiative devised by Greater Manchester Police in conjunction with the Home Office initiative #knife free to tackle the ongoing concern with knife crime amongst young people. Statistics show that recorded knife crime has significantly risen over the last few years.

Unfortunately many charities campaigning to tackle this issue have realised that, punishment is not the answer. Education has to be the way forward. I will be rolling out a series of lessons to be delivered in the second half of the term which will help to educate the children about why we should not be carrying knives. The lessons allow a healthy debate to take place within a smaller environment which get the pupils to consider the consequences of carrying a knife in the local community.

Term	Slang equivalent
Knife	Blade, borra, burner, cutter, nank, shank, tool
Carrying a knife	Armed, carrying, packing, tooled up
Stabbed	Duppied, shanked, sheffed
Gang	Crew, hood, mandem, posse, squad
Gang member	Blud/blood, roadman, rude boy, squaddie
Police	5-0, feds, jakes, pigs, po-po

It allows teachers to familiarise themselves with the terminology used within gangs and large gatherings of youths such as the following.

Understanding the language allows staff to pick up in lessons any jargon or slang associated with gang culture or the use of knives outside of school. Most of this language is used in inner city communities. If you hear any of this terminology please inform either your Head of House or any member of the pastoral team.

More information can be found on The Home Office Website using the following link:

<https://www.knifefree.co.uk/>

The lessons have not yet been created. However, the website has some interesting real life stories as well as support for anyone who wishes to access it. Unfortunately Golborne High itself has experienced the devastation knives can result in. Let us all work hard to ensure that no-one else in our community becomes a victim of knife crime.

# County Lines

**County Lines:** gang violence and exploitation. Typically, gangs use mobile phone **lines** to facilitate drug orders and supply to users. They also use local property as a base; these often belong to a vulnerable adult and are obtained through force or coercion (known as 'cuckooing'). There is evidence to suggest that small urban areas that are close to large cities are prime targets for drug gangs to target vulnerable families who may be heavily involved in drugs themselves or who have become indebted to a person or individual. Their home is then used to store the drugs that are shipped to the larger towns or cities. The young children in the family are very often forced to hold mobile phones that are used to communicate with different members of the gang so that they avoid capture. As you can imagine towns and villages such as Golborne, Lowton and Leigh are perfectly placed between Manchester and Liverpool to fall victim to County Line crimes. Please tell myself or any of the other safeguarding leads if you notice any suspicious activity.

## Safeguarding Legislation

As you are aware Keeping Children Safe in Education has updated this year. There is now more emphasis on the word must rather than should. The new guidance gives greater clarity to the role of the Safeguarding Lead and makes it clear the need to report concerns immediately. This will be reflected in the policy which will be rolled out at the Inset on 8th October.

There is also a separate piece of guidance addressing the issue of peer to peer sexual abuse in schools. This is mirrored in a separate section in the main guidance which also addresses sexual abuse in schools.

The new guidance gives schools a clearer understanding of when an Early Help framework should be adopted. Early help allows schools to share information with all agencies involved and at each meeting actions from previous meetings are reviewed and new actions are set. This is minuted and stored centrally by Wigan.

Any questions regarding the new legislation and any further implications please see myself or another member of the Safeguarding Team. It is really important when reporting concerns that the appropriate paper work is used and that concerns are reported as quickly as possible.

## Training New Staff Only

A reminder that if you have not already done so please return your completed safeguarding declaration to Alison Bolton. If you are new to the school you also have to complete your online training. (See Carol Brockbank) and the Channel General Awareness Course using the following link. [http://course.ncalt.com/Channel\\_General\\_Awareness/01/index.html](http://course.ncalt.com/Channel_General_Awareness/01/index.html)