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20 January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

Knife Crime Session – Friday 24 January 2025

On Friday 24 January Year 9 students will be taking part in a session led by West Yorkshire Police in conjunction with Leeds Teaching Hospital NHS Trust designed at boosting the awareness of young people on the issue of knife crime.

Unfortunately, this is an issue which has affected young people in cities across the country and Leeds is no exception to this. The aim of these sessions is to create informed young people who are aware of the dangers of knife crime and who can become ambassadors and positive voices in their communities on this issue. At Cardinal Heenan our Mission Statement states that “We strive to help all to learn and grow, treating one another with respect and generosity, whilst supporting parents as the first and most important educators of our children. Our aim is to inspire excellence by encouraging every individual to be the person that God calls us to be, in preparation for this life and the life to come.” We hope this session will equip our young people with the skills, knowledge and confidence to speak out on this issue and be positive voices in their community.

All students will attend two sessions over the course of two hours – one led by police officers and one led by NHS staff. In the first session, students will have the opportunity to work together to solve a crime with the aim of learning about how the police approach a case. In the second session, doctors will deliver an interactive lecture on the dangers of knife crime before running a practical session teaching how to support first aid in a knife crime incident using mannequins.

We are aware that this is a potentially distressing topic and members of our pastoral team will be on hand to monitor students throughout the day and to support any students who find the sessions difficult.

If you would like to discuss this further then please contact Mr Easter, Head of Pastoral by email on der@cardinalheenan.com.

With kind regards

D Easter

Mr D Easter

Associate Assistant Headteacher – Head of Pastoral/Teacher of English

