

27 January 2026



Dear Parent/Carer

**Smestow Academy**  
[www.smestowacademy.co.uk](http://www.smestowacademy.co.uk)

**Knife Crime Assembly - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

Here at Smestow Academy, we look to build confident and resilient learners, whilst equipping them with the knowledge, skills and opportunities to become curious and well-rounded young people. Our personal development curriculum is underpinned by this. We are proud of our responsive curriculum, and it is imperative that as part of this, we address issues that are taking place in our local community.

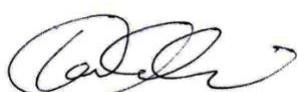
You will be aware of the growing concerns around gang and knife crime in Wolverhampton at present. Violent (and sexual) offences remain the highest crimes reported across the city, with 12,127 recorded in 2025 (taken from: [Wolverhampton Crime and Safety Statistics | CrimeRate](#)). All pupils are currently studying "staying safe online and offline" in personal development at the moment and as part of this, we are inviting an external speaker to deliver a workshop with pupils in Years 8-13.

"Alison" will be joining us in School on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January. She is an anti-youth-violence campaigner who has spoken with thousands of young people in schools across the country, sharing her story and raising awareness of the dangers of youth violence and knife crime. We are grateful for Alison's time on Friday and look forward to hearing her very important and powerful message.

If you would like to speak with your child about knife crime, please read our parent/carer handout that has been shared this week for further signposting. West Midlands Police have also created a resource which we have shared here: [Home - Life Or Knife - The choice is yours](#)

Thank you for your support of our personal development curriculum.

Yours faithfully



**Mr I Chamberlain**  
**Headteacher**

**Ms A Heilbronn**  
**Assistant Headteacher**