



FIREARMS AND KNIFE EDUCATION

Officers from Dorset police have attended your child's school and delivered an input to raise awareness around weapons. The presentation covered many aspects including parts of the law, the consequences of carrying or using such weapons and the police response to these incidents. An important part of this presentation was to highlight changes in legislation, which now makes possession of certain weapons, some of which shown below, **illegal to have in private**.

Further information and a full list of the items can be found here; [Offensive Weapons Act \(nbcc.police.uk\)](https://nbcc.police.uk). Please visit the link and look at the items so you know what can no longer be owned. It might have been something that was simply bought as a holiday souvenir or kept as a decorative item. Previously people have thought they could have most weapons within their own homes, only committing offences when taken outside, this is no longer the case.

A national knife surrender campaign is running between the 13th – 19th November 2023. If there are any knives that are no longer required or offensive weapons within your home, this is the time to dispose of them safely. Items can be disposed of at your local household recycling centres or at surrender bins located at Bournemouth, Poole and Weymouth police stations.

The point of the presentation and this email is not to cause alarm. It is part of our preventative work to help educate students, empowering them to make better choices.

Dorset is a safe place to live and we want to keep it that way.

If any questions or issues have been raised from the presentation, then please forward these back to the school or contact us via Surrender@dorset.pnn.police.uk

