



Where is your teen right now?

Worried their behaviour has changed?

Have they been given money or items from a new friend?

Training to protect your child

Kent Police and Ashford Borough Council would like to invite you to a **FREE** session, aimed at parents and guardians, to help safeguard young people and recognise the early warning signs that may identify involvement in knife crime, drug use or gangs.

Join us:

- Wednesday 26 February, 6-8pm, Council Chamber, Ashford Civic Centre
- Wednesday 4 March, 6-8pm, Sinden Theatre, Tenterden
- Monday 9 March, 6-8pm, Council Chamber, Ashford Civic Centre
- Tuesday 17 March, 6-8pm, Sinden Theatre, Tenterden
- Thursday 19 March, 6-8pm, Council Chamber, Ashford Civic Centre
- Friday 27 March, 6-8pm, Council Chamber, Ashford Civic Centre

Please reserve your space at: www.eventbrite.co.uk/d/united-kingdom--kent/knife-crime-prevention-ashford/

Working in partnership



**Kent
Police**



ASHFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

 **Uprising**

The possibility of a young person getting involved in a gang or criminal behaviour may seem unlikely, but it's essential that every parent and carer knows what to look out for and where to access help and support if needed.

These parent-focused sessions aim to give you the training to help protect young people from harm. They promote the key role that parents, carers, teachers and other professionals can play to ensure a young person feels safe, supported and empowered to ask for help from someone they trust if they need to.

Each session will provide:

- everything you should know about gangs, knives and associated criminal activity
- warning signs of gang membership including changes in a young person's behaviour
- true life stories from unique guest speakers including:
 - an ex-gang member who now works with youth charity, Uprising
 - the grandfather of a victim of drug use.

Choices

Remind your child they have choices and discuss their options.

Young people generally just want to fit in and belong, which can sometimes be the reason why they end up making the wrong choice.

Encourage them to find things to do that they are interested in. Sports clubs, fitness centres, youth clubs, theatre, music and dance studios are just some of the opportunities out there for young people.

Don't know what to do – there are people who can help you:

- NSPCC – call **0808 800 5000**
- Childline – call **0800 1111**
- Crimestoppers – call anonymously on **0800 555 111**
- Kent Police – you can report a non-urgent incident or crime online at **www.kent.police.uk/report**. In an emergency call **999**

For further information please visit **www.kent.police.uk**