



It's one thing to find matches or condoms in your son's pocket. But what if you find a knife?

If your son's started having sex, or getting up to no good, wouldn't you want to talk to him? It's the same if he's started carrying a knife. There may be safe sex, but there are no safe knives. Maybe he's grown up with violence around him. It's not your fault. But you'd blame yourself if he got in with the wrong crowd. What he needs is to know you're interested. Tell him how upset you'd be if anything happened to him or if he ended up in jail. Get to know his life more, while he still has one. Talk to him calmly. Many other parents are worried too, talk to them. Because finding a knife on your son is far better than finding one in him. Visit direct.gov.uk/talkaboutknives or call 0845 600 4171 for a leaflet.



He already knows about the birds and the bees. You need to talk to him about the knives and the blades.

You kind of know when to talk to your son about sex. But what about knives? It's hard. They grow up quickly. He's a good kid, but good kids carry knives too. Maybe he wants to look tough to his mates. It could start with a small knife, but it's a blade, and blades kill. The thing is, once he carries a knife, he could well use it. Say he gets into a fight and someone pulls out a knife. Anything can happen. Talk to him now, while you still can. It's you he'll listen to. Tell him he could get locked up and that he doesn't need to win every battle. Get him into football, art, making music. Your words are a powerful weapon against knives. Visit direct.gov.uk/talkaboutknives or call 0845 600 4171 for a leaflet.



**Seems like only yesterday
he was playing with toys.
Talk to him before he
starts playing with knives.**

At home with you, he's still your little boy. But when he goes outside that front door, it's very different. Who knows, maybe a kid has pulled a knife on him. He feels safe by wearing his hood up. He could be thinking of carrying a knife. He'd never use it of course. Or so he thinks. But say he gets picked on. He pulls out the knife. The other kid doesn't run. Instead he turns the knife on your son. You really need to talk to him, before it gets to this. If he knows you won't be angry, he'll open up to you. What's he good at? Art? Football? Music? Get him into something and off the streets. If there's a knife in your son's hands, it's in your hands to stop it. Visit direct.gov.uk/talkaboutknives or call 0845 600 4171 for a leaflet.



Sure it's hard talking to your child about knives. Not half as hard as never talking to him again.

If you went into your son's room right now, are you sure you wouldn't find a knife? Would you bet his life on it? Don't blame him. Instead, imagine being him. Every time he steps outside your front door, he feels scared. He could be getting pressure to join a gang. But once he's in, it's hard to get out. Your son doesn't have to be part of it. But why would he listen to you? Because he respects you more than you think. Reason with him calmly. Ask why he's putting his life in danger. Tell him it's braver to walk away. You're not alone. Other parents are worried too. Talk to them, or join a group. Talk to your son today. Tomorrow could be too late. Visit direct.gov.uk/talkaboutknives or call 0845 600 4171 for a leaflet.