

What are the signs that your son / daughter may be at risk of exploitation? What can you do if you think they are?

How can you keep your child safe in your community?

How is the landscape in our communities changing? What challenges does this present?

Do You Know...

What are County Lines*? How do they present a risk to our communities?

What dangers does social media present to young people today?

Join us to find out more!

In response to the growing national youth violence crisis, and alarming increases in reported knife crimes within London, Hertfordshire and Broxbourne, the Broxbourne Youth Violence Initiative (a collaboration of local schools, Broxbourne Council, Hertfordshire Police and other agencies) invites all parents / carers, young people and professionals to our first Community Information Evening.

During the evening there will be presentations from a number of professionals working in this area, including The St Giles Trust and Alison Cope. Topics covered will include:

Local Context - Gangs - County Lines* - Knife Crime - Social Media

Positive Choices - Staying Safe - Exploitation Of Young People

Monday 4th March

7.00pm—8.30pm

St Mary's CE High School, Lieutenant Ellis Way, Cheshunt

To confirm your place please scan the QR Code overleaf and complete the online booking form; email Millie Hoffman, Community Safety Team, at communtty.safety@broxbourne.gov.uk or call 01992 785573.

**County lines is a national issue involving the use of a mobile phone line by groups to extend their drug dealing business into new locations outside of their home areas and almost always involves the exploitation of vulnerable people, including both children and adults.*

Confirmed speakers for this evening include:

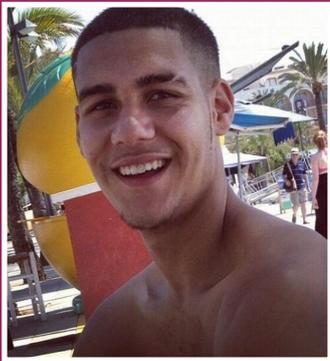
The St Giles Trust

The St Giles Trust is a charity that, as one of its projects, prevents young people of all backgrounds from becoming exploited and involved in crime and serious youth violence.



It aims to:

- Debunk myths and stereotypes around crime, weapons, gangs and related issues, challenge some of the messages put out on social media and popular culture, deglamourise the lifestyle and expose the realities of negative lifestyle choices such as carrying a weapon
- Equip young people with practical tools and strategies they can use to build resilience to risks such as negative peer pressure and grooming from gangs. They aim to impart young people with real knowledge and insights that will enable them to make the right choices
- Encourage young people to stay engaged in education and positive activities.



Alison Cope, Anti-Violence Campaigner

Alison Cope is the mother of Joshua Ribera who was murdered in 2013. Since Joshua's death Alison has worked tirelessly to share her son's life and death story to educate young people about the real consequences of youth violence.

With her and Josh's compelling story coupled with her unique ability to connect with young people she regularly visits schools, prisons and alternative education provisions nationally, reaching 1000's of young people and changing lives.

Keisha Mcleod & Nicky Hill

Keisha Mcleod is a mother and undergraduate Psychosocial Studies student. Following the tragic murder of her loving son, CJ, who died in September 2017 at the age of just 14, she is working hard to raise awareness of the criminal exploitation of young people.



Nicky Hill runs Re:form Consulting. She is a highly experienced practitioner, manager and consultant who brings 20 years of experience creating positive change for young people affected by complex challenges. Nicky has spent her career in a variety of organisations and roles including Youth Offending Services, Children's Social Care, Connexions, Early Help, community based youth work and voluntary sector leadership. She has particular specialisms in public health approaches to violence reduction, gangs, child criminal exploitation, youth housing and homelessness and trauma.

Did You Know—

'Knife crime in Hertfordshire has increased by 44% in the last 3 years. Nationally, this is the largest proportional increase in the UK during this time'

