

# IMPACT REPORT



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# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



DR ERRORD JARRET

Director of Youth Engagement

Every day, young lives are lost to knife crime—but we refuse to accept this as normal. Through our One Decision workshops, we have reached over 1,499 students in 55 schools, equipping them with the knowledge and confidence to make safer choices. This is about real lives, real futures, and real change—with 68% of students saying they are now less likely to carry a knife and 91% of teachers reporting improved relationships between students and the police.

The need is urgent. Many of the young people we work with have lost loved ones to violence, and others were considering carrying a weapon before attending our sessions. But education alone is not enough. That's why we launched our 6-week mentoring program, match-funded by the Metropolitan Police, to provide ongoing support and guidance. With potential cuts to Safer School Officers, our role in bridging the between young people and law gap enforcement is more critical than ever.

We have seen firsthand that knife crime is preventable when young people receive the right guidance. But we can't do it alone. We need partners, funders, and individuals to help us expand our reach. Together, we can save lives, change futures, and make our communities safer. Let's continue standing on the frontlines for our young people—before it's too late.

85%

of students said the workshop gave them a new perspective on the consequences of knife crime

**72%** 

of students said they now better understand the emotional impact of knife crime

89%

of teachers reported the workshop sparked important discussions



#### **REQUESTS**

In 2023 - 2024, The Jarrett Foundation delivered the "One Decision" anti-knife crime workshops Sponsored by **Tesco** and administered by **Groundwork**, to 1,499 students across 55 schools in London. One school per borough, sometime two, depending on the size of the borough. The engagement underscores how critical this intervention has become, as more and more schools request our support to address the escalating concerns surrounding youth violence. Many of the schools were nominated by police officers.

#### TAILORED APPROACH

Each session was carefully tailored to meet the specific needs of students, ensuring that our facilitators addressed the unique challenges facing their communities. We worked closely with schools beforehand, gathering information on incidents of violence, gang activity, or recent tragedies that might affect students' emotions during the workshops. This personalised approach allowed us to deliver sensitive and impactful sessions that truly resonated with students.

## MEASURABLE BEHAVIOURAL SHIFTS

The success of our intervention is best seen through the measurable change in students' attitudes and behaviours after attending our workshops. Post-session evaluation data reveals:

- 74% of students stated they now have a clearer understanding of the legal consequences of carrying a knife, with many expressing shock at how quickly a bad decision can escalate into a lifealtering criminal record.
- 68% of students admitted that they were less likely to carry a knife after learning about the real-life stories of victims and offenders shared during the session. This shift is crucial in crime prevention, as many young people who previously saw carrying a knife as "self-protection" now understand that it actually puts them at greater risk.

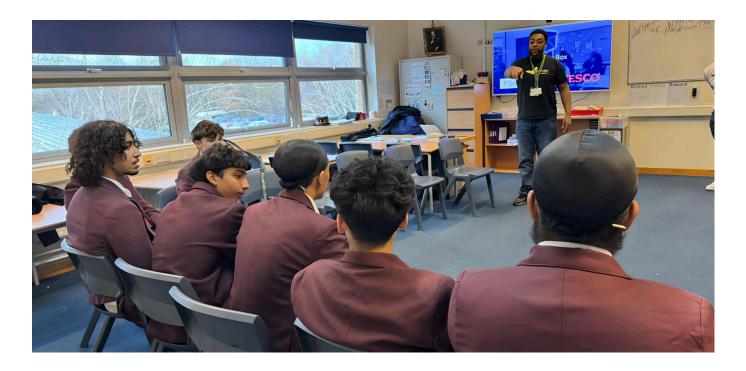


97%

46%

38%

of students rated the workshop as excellent or very good of students admitted they had never discussed knife crime before the workshop of students personally knew someone who had been affected by knife crime



# GAP LEFT BY THE REMOVAL OF SAFER SCHOOLS OFFICERS

With discussions underway about reducing Safer School Officers, many schools are now at risk of losing an essential layer of safeguarding and crime prevention support. This raises serious concerns about the vulnerability of students who may be at risk of exploitation by gangs, or falling into dangerous social circles.

### THE WORKSHOP INTERVENTION PROVIDES STUDENTS WITH:

- \* Practical tools to recognise and resist gang recruitment tactics.
- Safe spaces for open conversations, allowing them to discuss their fears without judgment.
- A deeper understanding of how carrying a knife increases their risk of becoming a victim.
- Opportunities to discuss knife crime, with teachers





# BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN YOUTH & POLICE



#### STRENGTHENING TRUST AND COLLABORATION

91% of teachers stated that our program helped improve relationships between their students and the police by creating a space where officers could engage with young people in an educational setting, rather than a law enforcement context.

91%

Teachers said it helped relationship with Police

76%

Students more comfortable reporting concern

76% of students said they would now feel more comfortable reporting concerns about knife crime to a trusted adult or police officer. This increase in willingness to share information is a direct step toward reducing community-police tensions and increasing crime reporting.

When young people see police officers as allies rather than adversaries, they are far less likely to get involved in criminal activity.

70%

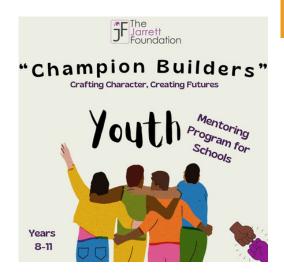
of students requested follow-up sessions or mentoring

### SUPPORTING SCHOOLS



#### A LONG-TERM SOLUTION NOT JUST A ONE-OFF SESSION

The Jarrett Foundation's work extends beyond the workshops, ensuring that students have access to ongoing support. Speaking to the students, it was clear that the Jarrett Foundation parachuting in and leaving again was nowhere near enough. What they needed was ongoing support in a safe place.



## ONGOING MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

This is why we launched a 6-week mentoring program, called "Champion Builders" and this has been match-funded by the Met Police, to provide at-risk youth with structured support.



Every student receives a personal workbook and is asked to sign a Commitment Contract, reinforcing the message that they have the power to make positive choices.

### PRINTED WORKBOOKS & COMMITMENT CONTRACTS

# REAL STORIES REAL IMPACT



#### THE WORDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE THEMSELVES

"Before today, I didn't think carrying a knife was a big deal. I thought it was just for protection. But after hearing those stories, I see how easy it is to ruin your life in one minute" **Year 9 Student, East London** 

"I didn't trust the police before, but hearing the officer speak today made me see that they actually care about keeping us safe."

#### Year 10 Student, South London

"I lost my cousin to knife crime last year, and I've never been able to talk about it in school before. This session made me feel like people actually care about stopping this."

Year 11 Student, West London

## **OUR STATS**

knife crime

#### **2024 IMPACT IN NUMBERS**

Students reached	1,499	Previously considered carrying a knife	58%
Have clearer understanding of consequences	74%	Schools who highly recommend the workshop	100%
Less likely to carry a knife	68%	Improved relationships between students & Police	91%
Would think differently about peer pressure	81%	More comfortable reporting concerns	67%
Students said the workshop gave them a new perspective on the consequences of	85%	Teachers reported the workshop sparked important discussions	89%

# WHY FUNDING IS CRUCIAL FOR 2025

# THE REMOVAL OF SAFER SCHOOL OFFICERS FROM SCHOOLS

The numbers, the stories, and the feedback all point to one undeniable truth: The Jarrett Foundation's "One Decision" workshop is a very impactful youth intervention and youth engagement program.

With the looming removal of Safer School Officers, it is now more critical than ever to sustain and expand this work to fill this gap. The Metropolitan Police's continued funding will:

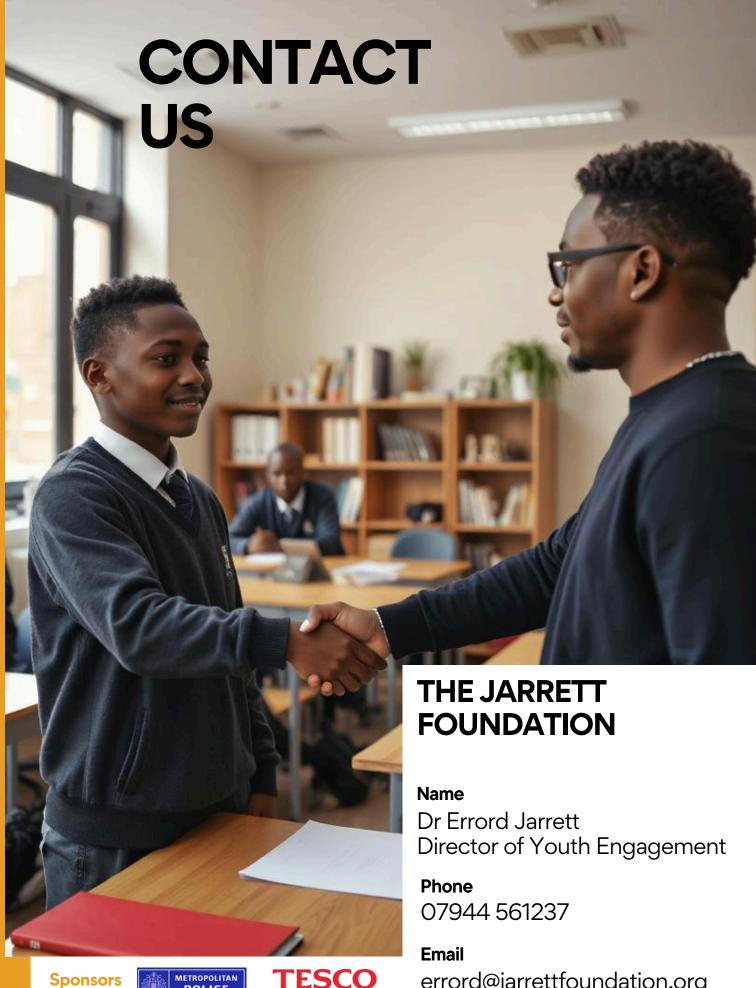
- Enable us to reach even more schools, ensuring that young people across London have access to life-saving education.
- Strengthen our mentoring program, providing ongoing, structured support for at-risk youth.
- Deliver the programs that are left in the void, not just the workshops, but our 6-week mentoring program.
- Continue bridging the trust gap between young people and the police, increasing cooperation and reporting.



#### **THANK YOU**

Lastly, we just want to say a huge thank you to the Met Police and Tesco for believing in us and investing in us. Tesco for the funding the workshops (administered by Groundwork) and the Met Police for funding for the 6-week mentoring program. Special shout out to DAC Ade Adelekan from the Met Police and Helen Phillips and Julie Bustos from Groundwork.

Without your support we could not have achieved what we did. Let's Do More



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