



Faculty of Business, Law and Social Sciences

<p>Proposed Title: Evaluating the Efficacy of School- Based Anti-Knife Crime Interventions</p>
<p>School: Psychology</p>
<p>Proposed Supervisory Team: Dr Laura Hammond Dr Rahul Jalil Professor Michael Brookes</p>
<p>Abstract: Youth knife crime is currently a high priority public issue, with large increases in offending and victimisation rates in recent years demonstrating it to be a notable social problem.</p> <p>A number of school-based interventions are currently being employed in an attempt to divert youths from knife-carrying and knife-related offence behaviours. However, the efficacy of such methods has yet to be appropriately evaluated, and factors which determine the effectiveness of interventions have not been explored. It is important that research addresses these issues, in order to identify ways of developing, tailoring and targeting such interventions so as to maximise impact and optimise outcomes.</p> <p>The proposed research, which will be conducted with West Midlands Police, will evaluate key school-based interventions currently in use, using survey data gathered pre- and post-intervention. Factors which impact upon engagement with different interventions, and ways of tailoring and targeting intervention provision will be explored.</p>
<p>Research Environment: This project aligns with the current work of the Forensic Psychology Research Cluster within the Centre for Applied Psychological Research at BCU, although is multi-disciplinary in nature, involving collaborative work with both the broader faculty and with external service-providers and partners (primarily West Midlands Police).</p>
<p>Applicant Requirements: Essential:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First or upper second class honours degree in cognate discipline • Demonstrable ability to conduct independent research <p>Desirable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Masters degree in a cognate discipline • Evidence of awareness and understanding of subject area • Experience of conducting evaluations <p>Students will be expected to obtain the PG Cert Research Practice as part of their development and progress in the PhD programme.</p>
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