



Community Awareness Information

As you may be aware, our school works in collaboration with West Midlands Police and other schools within the City of Wolverhampton as part of the Police and School Panel. Below is an update from our partnership for sharing with our local school community.

These are not incidents or issues that have happened at Merridale – this is for awareness and information only.

There has been an increase recently in young people bringing weapons on to school grounds and within the school building, that are being disguised as other objects, such as keyrings.

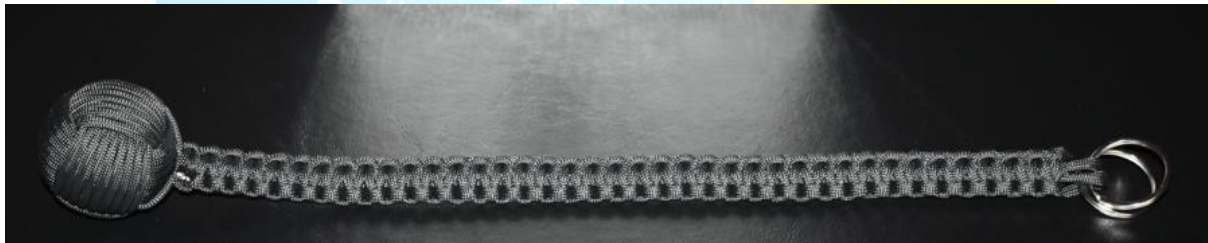
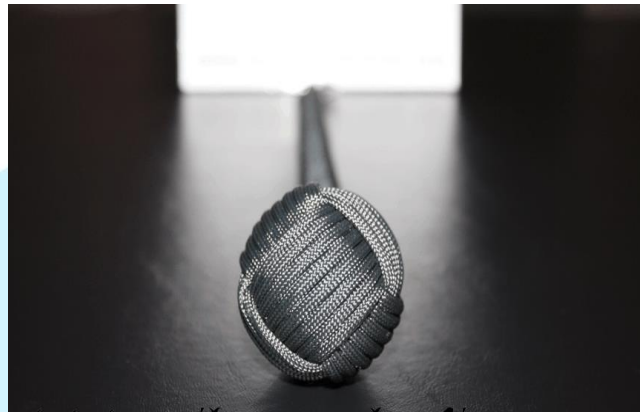
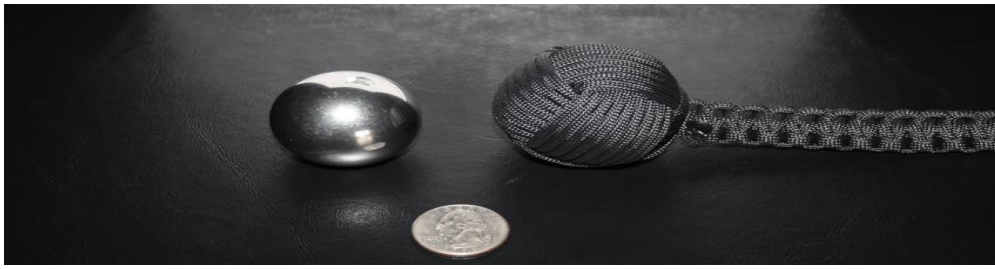
The below image is of a mini sword seized from a student in Wolverhampton.



*Whilst this may be described as a keyring, it is still a sharp instrument and **SHOULD NOT** be on school grounds.*

We do reiterate that young people should not be in possession of any item that resembles a knife/blade/sword at any time, and if caught in possession of weapons or blades will be dealt with by the police.

In addition to the keyring, another weapon has been found in Wolverhampton, again disguised as a keyring is what is called a "Monkey Fist".



This is a heavy ball bearing wrapped within paracord and is deemed as a weapon- if found in possession of this item, a young person would be referred to police.

We would urge you to speak to your young people about the dangers of carrying such items, and to report any concerns via school or police:

SCHOOL CONTACT

*Ring 101, or [Contact us to report a crime, incident or suspicion | West Midlands Police](#)
Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.*

With thanks in advance for your continued support.