



The Knife Angel

The Knife Angel is a memorial to those affected by knife crime, forged from thousands of blunted blades. The 27ft sculpture took several years to make, with surrendered weapons collected from across the country, including around a thousand from Essex. It is coming to Chelmsford this September.

The programme

The Knife Angel is officially known as the [National Monument Against Violence and Aggression](#) and it tours the UK to raise awareness about the terrible consequences of violence and its impact on victims, their families, and society as a whole. The Knife Angel will be in Chelmsford's Central Park from September 6th, and a programme of events is planned before, during and after this special visit. You can find out all about what's happening, including workshops, and youth awards on the [Keep It 100 Essex website](#).

There will also be free performances of R4J, Chelmsford City Theatres' modern version of Romeo and Juliet between 20 and 25 September. If you'd like to find out how to attend one of these performances, email civic.theatreemail@chelmsford.gov.uk for more information.

#knifeangelchelmsford

Each location has its own way of marking the Knife Angel's appearance and here in Chelmsford, we'll be using this visit to talk about youth violence and to celebrate positive youth culture. Youth violence is a global public health problem. We want to empower young people to make better choices long before they might even consider picking up a weapon. Carrying a knife is usually the end of a journey and we want our young people to have the chances and the support to change course long before they get to that place.

Why Chelmsford?

Chelmsford is the county's only city and it connects lots of places, so it's a good location to host the Knife Angel to enable lots of people to take part. Although Chelmsford doesn't have the worst knife crime problem in the county, everywhere has a knife crime problem and we all need to make a difference. Child exploitation linked to gangs and county lines is an issue that affects the whole of Essex, including Chelmsford.

This visit, which has been set up by youth organisation [Keep It 100 Essex](#), is for the whole county and you don't have to live in Chelmsford to join in. Education, outreach and workshops will be available for young people across Essex.

Anti-violence ambassadors

Tackling knife crime is going to take all of us, and we need your help! Every location hosting the Knife Angel invites young people to get involved by becoming an anti-violence ambassador. It's easy to do. You could simply ask your class for a show of hands following your Crucial Crew sessions or another related lesson, and let us know how many pupils have pledged to do this by emailing hello@knifeangelchelmsford.com.

Where to find the Knife Angel

The Knife Angel will be in Chelmsford's Central Park, which is easy to get to on foot from the city centre, with footpaths and cycle networks running right across it. Details of how to reach Central Park can be found on the [Love Your Chelmsford website](#). If you'd like to find out where the Knife Angel will be displayed in September, take a look at the what3words app and search for `///tiny.trucks.wallet`.