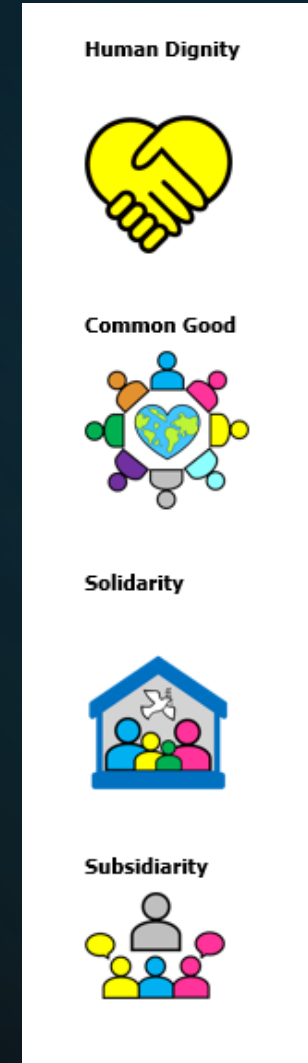


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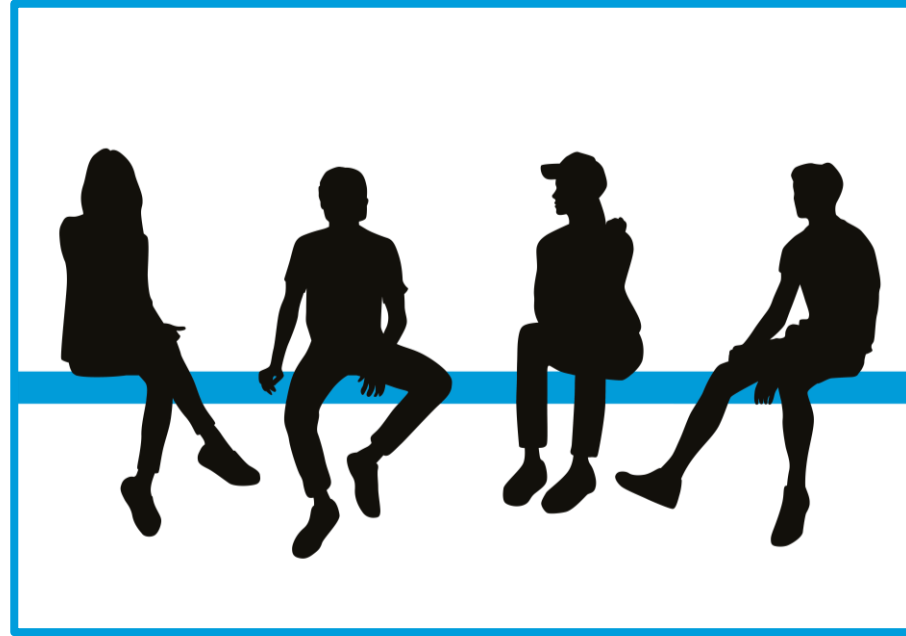
Introduction to Gangs

1. CST = Human Dignity
2. Name one of the Designated Safeguarding leads at St Augustine's ?
3. Name a topic you studied last year (year 8).
4. Name a British Value.



Jeremiah 29:11

*"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for **welfare** and not for evil, to give you a **future** and a*



Gangs: Managing risks and staying safe

Year 9

Lesson 1: How it might start

Jeremiah 29:11

*"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for **welfare** and not for evil, to give you a **future** and a **hope**."*

Learning objective – we are learning:

- ✓ about the qualities of healthy and unhealthy social groups
- ✓ about the factors which contribute to a young person deciding to join or not join a gang

Learning outcomes

- ✓ I can differentiate between the features of healthy friendships and those associated with gang membership
- ✓ I can explain why the need to belong is important for young people and its significance in influencing behaviour and attitudes
- ✓ I can explain why some young people may want to join a gang but most do not

What is a gang?

"A group that is involved in **criminal or violent activities** and may try to **control** a certain area or make money through illegal actions".

Important Note:

Not every group of friends is a gang. There's a big difference between:

- **A friendship group** (who hang out and support each other), and
- **A gang** (that uses threats, crime, or violence)

Draw and write

Draw a picture of someone who is...

- **about your age**
- **goes to a school in a similar area to you**

and

- **is a member of a gang**

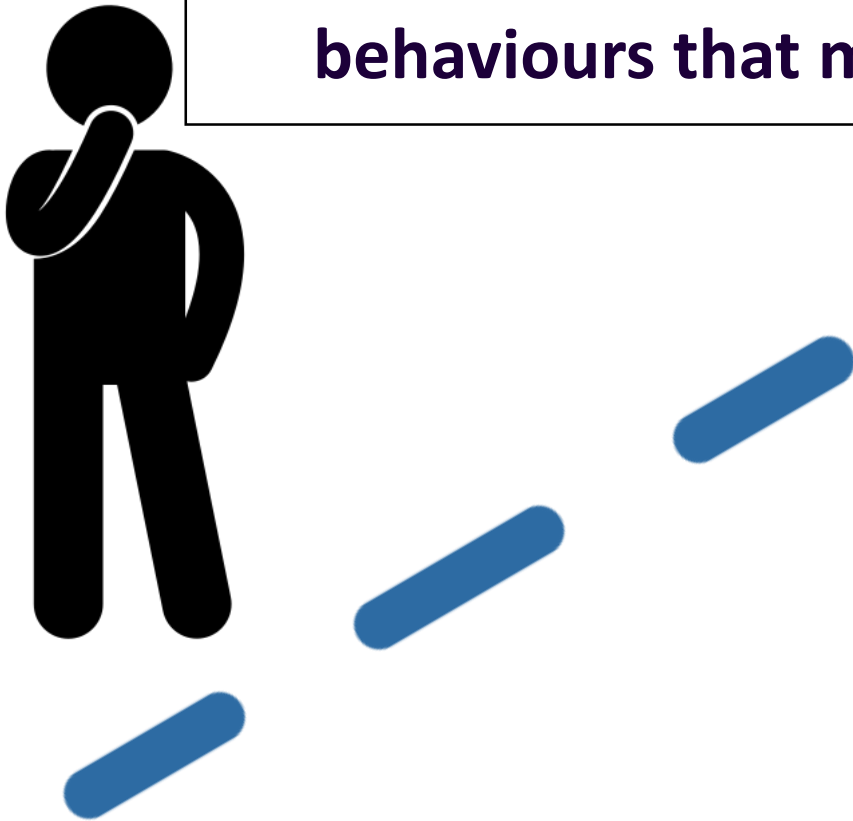
Add notes to your picture explaining...

- why they joined the gang
- what it's like to be a gang member
- what kind of activities they get involved in

Keywords – create a table with 8 rows.

Where is the line? Signs to look out for...

1. Draw a diagonal dotted line
2. Draw yourself on one side of the line
3. On the other side of the line draw actions and behaviours that may indicate gang culture.



- 📁 1. Getting Gifts or Money for No Reason
- 💬 2. Being Told You're Special or Family
- 🔒 3. Asked to Keep Secrets
- 📦 4. Asked to Run Errands
- 📱 5. Being Constantly Messaged or Tracked
- 😞 6. Feeling Pressured or Trapped
- ⚠️ 7. Threats or Intimidation
- 👤 8. Isolation From Others
- 🚫 9. Talk of "Loyalty" or "Proving Yourself"
- 🔍 10. Gut Feeling Something Isn't Right

Jeremiah 29:11

*"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for **welfare** and not for evil, to give you a **future** and a **hope**."*

What is the difference?

Image 1



Image 2

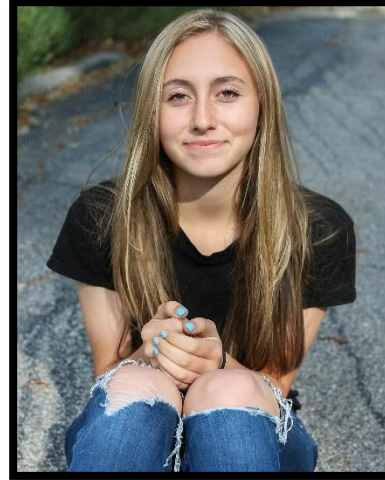


Jeremiah 29:11

*“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for **welfare** and not for evil, to give you a **future** and a **hope**.”*

Case Study – Jay, Mo, Ariana and Zach

Introducing Jay, Mo, Ariana and Zach. These characters will be used, throughout this and the following two lessons. Let's read through part 1 of the story (handout/next slide).



Jeremiah 29:11

*"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for **welfare** and not for evil, to give you a **future** and a **hope**."*

Jay and Mo have been friends since primary school and hang out together all the time. They aren't quite part of the 'in crowd' but they are well liked and get invited to parties and events, just the same. It's spring term and a new girl – Ariana - comes over and starts chatting to Jay and Mo. They all get along really well and she invites them along to her friend Zach's hangout. Mo isn't sure it's a good idea as Zach is a few years older and well known as quite a threatening character who lives in a no-go part of town. Zach has recently posted some music videos which have gone viral which Jay thinks are great and wants to use to inspire his own videos. Jay also really fancies Ariana so he persuades Mo to go anyway.

- ✓ Once they get there, Mo feels quite uncomfortable. There seems to be a lot of people squaring up to one another with threats and shoves plus some of the group are showing each other knives. Mo and Jay are offered beers and smokes – Mo takes a beer but decides not to smoke. Jay takes both and spends hours trying really hard to impress Ariana and Zach. When the group dare him to run across the road as a truck is approaching, Jay goes for it as he thinks he will have a better chance of being accepted by Ariana, Zach and their group if he does that kind of thing. The whole group laughed and told Jay he was really funny and as he left, Zach called him Racer which seemed to catch on. Mo is worried that Jay is trying so hard to be liked by this group, particularly when they seem more like a gang than a friendship group.

Mo decides to say something to Jay on the way home: "Are you trying to get yourself killed!? Over belonging to some group you barely know?" Jay just responds: "You really need to relax. You're just jealous I'm getting noticed by Ariana when you haven't got the balls to step it up when it matters!" Mo is offended by this: "That's not it at all, and you know it." Jay explains: "Look, Mo... It just feels good to be noticed for a change, you know?"

The story begins... what are the signs?

In the story, Mo says there are signs that Zach and Ariana are part of a gang.

Make a note of what these signs might these be.



What are some of the differences between group and gang membership?

Ariana and Zach are talking after they've gone. It is clear that Ariana is a little scared of Zach as she flinches when he grabs her arm. Ariana sometimes wishes she'd resisted the pressure to join up with Zach and his group originally. But back then she felt like she needed some kind of protection.

Zach tells Ariana: "Make sure Jay sees the benefits of hanging with us... and try again with Mo."

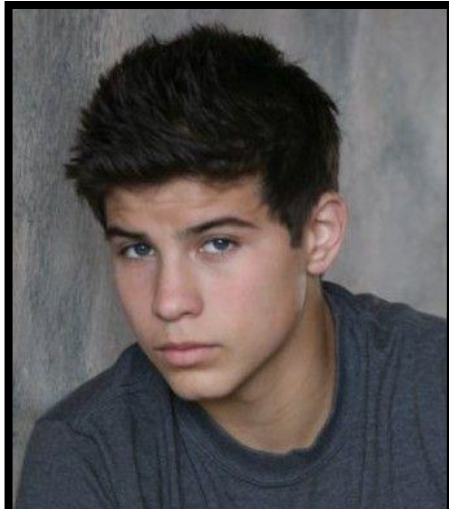
She catches Mo on his own at school and puts pressure on him to behave more like Jay. Whilst it makes Mo feel a bit awkward, he makes sure she knows he is not interested and walks away.



1. Why do you think Jay wants to join a gang?



2. Why do you think Ariana has joined a gang?



3. Why do you think Mo is not interested in joining the gang?

Jeremiah 29:11

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1. Protection

They feel **unsafe** in their area or school and believe a gang will **protect them**.

2. Belonging

- They want to **fit in** or be part of a group.

3. Money or Gifts

- The promise of **quick money**, expensive clothes, phones or trainers.

8. Lack of Awareness

- They don't fully understand **what gangs do** or the **danger involved**.

7. Reputation

- Wanting to be **feared, respected**, or seen as "tough" or "cool".

Why do individuals join a gang?

6. Low Self-Esteem

- They feel **ignored, unimportant, or powerless**.

4. Peer Pressure

- Friends or older people **push them** to join in.

5. Family Problems

They might be **struggling at home** or feel **unsupported**.

Why might someone join a gang?

Discuss the following questions:

1. Are the reasons why Jay and Ariana chose to join the gang accurate beliefs? (e.g. do gangs provide safety or identity?)
2. Why might it be difficult to resist the influence to join a gang?
3. What can a person do if they feel they are being pressured into joining a gang?

Jeremiah 29:11

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Signposting support

Further support is available from:

- Home/school support: a friend, teacher, tutor, parent, school counsellor, PCSO.
- **A Better Medway:** www.abettermedway.co.uk
- **Childline:** www.childline.org.uk 0800 1111
- **NSPCC:** www.nspcc.org.uk/gangs 0808 800 5000
- **Crimestoppers:** www.crimestoppers-uk.org/ 0800 555111
- **Victim support:** www.victimsupport.org.uk 0808 16 89 111
- **Runaway helpline:** www.runawayhelpline.org.uk/advice/gangs/
Call or Text 116 000, email 116000@runawayhelpline.org.uk





SAFEGUARDING @ SARCHS

If you are worried, have any concerns or fears, you can always speak to any trusted member of staff in school.
This could be your form tutor, year leader or any other trusted adult.

Safeguarding Leads:

Mrs Juriansz, Mrs Rutter, Mrs Bleazard and Miss Sharp.

Reporting links can be found on the school website www.sarchs.com

Bullying



Wellbeing



Harassment



Online Activity



External Support

