

# UK POLICE MEMORIAL



## Session 3: Key Stage 3 lesson plan – Problem Solving and UK Policing

### Key Stage 3/4 lesson plan

A 1-hour session on problem solving skills required by police officers in the UK, exploring techniques and problem-solving models used, examining exploring the risks presented to officers whilst dealing with community problems.

#### Lesson Objectives:

- Understand the challenges police officers face in problem-solving and decision-making.
- Learn about the tools and models used by police to solve problems effectively, including the SARA model.
- Reflect on the concepts of courage and sacrifice within the context of policing and their link with British Values.

#### Lesson Structure

##### 1. Starter Activity (10 minutes)

**Objective:** Engage students and introduce the themes of bravery, sacrifice, and problem-solving.

#### Scenario Introduction:

Present a quick fictional scenario:

- *"A group of officers is called to a large public event where tensions are rising between different groups. One officer must make a quick decision to calm the situation while ensuring safety. What decision should they make?"*
- Have students individually jot down what they would do and why.

#### Class Discussion:

Discuss the students' answers:

- How might their decisions require bravery?
- How could decisions reflect the values of fairness, respect, and the rule of law?



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- Introduce the idea that solving such problems often involves both bravery and sacrifice.

## 2. Core Learning (20 minutes)

**Objective:** Explore different problems and problem-solving tools used in policing.

### A. Brief Input (5 mins):

- Explain some of the challenges police officers face, such as:
  - Anti-social behaviour.
  - Ant-social use of vehicles
  - Public order incidents.
  - Serious and organised crime.
  - Terrorist attacks and public safety emergencies.
- Highlight that these scenarios often require quick decision-making, problem-solving, and extraordinary courage.

### B. The SARA Model (5 mins):

- Introduce the **SARA Model** (Scanning, Analysis, Response, Assessment) as a structured approach used by police to solve problems.
- Provide a simple explanation of each step and how it ensures fairness, accountability, and effectiveness.

### C. Case Studies on Courage and Problem-Solving (10 mins):

These case studies contain sensitive content not appropriate to certain audiences. You are using these case studies at your own risk. Please consider context and audience before using in a learning environment.

Share two brief case studies:

- I. **PC Keith Palmer (2017):** Bravery during the Westminster attack, where he sacrificed his life to protect the public.
- II. **PC Wayne Marques (2017, London Bridge attack):** Confronted multiple attackers with only a baton, displaying immense bravery.



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- **Discussion Prompts for Small Groups:**
  - What challenges did the officers face in solving the problem at hand?
  - How did their actions demonstrate bravery and sacrifice?
  - How do these actions reflect British values, such as the rule of law, respect, and duty?

### 3. Group Activity: Problem-Solving (15 minutes)

**Objective:** Apply problem-solving models and reflect on ethical dilemmas faced by police officers.

#### A. Scenario-Based Task:

Provide each group with a real-world-inspired scenario where officers must make decisions requiring bravery and sacrifice.

- *Scenario 1:* A missing child case where officers must search dangerous terrain to rescue the child.
- *Scenario 2:* Officers must control a protest that turns violent, ensuring public safety while respecting the right to protest.
- *Scenario 3:* Responding to a natural disaster, such as flooding, to rescue trapped individuals while risking their own safety.

#### B. Group Activity:

Using the **SARA Model**, each group answers:

- Scanning: What is the problem?
- Analysis: What information do you need to understand the problem fully?
- Response: What actions would you take, and why?
- Assessment: How would you evaluate whether your solution was effective?

#### C. Reflection Questions:

- How might officers show bravery while solving this problem?



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- What sacrifices might they need to make?
- How do these actions uphold British values?

## 4. Reflection and Writing Activity (10 minutes)

**Objective:** Reflect on bravery, sacrifice, and problem-solving in policing.

### A. Input (2 mins):

- Summarise the importance of bravery and sacrifice in solving complex problems in policing.
- Highlight how such actions align with British values, such as democracy, rule of law, respect, and individual liberty.

### B. Task: Reflective Journal Entry (8 mins):

- Students write a journal entry imagining they are an officer who has faced a significant challenge requiring bravery.
- Prompts:
  - What problem did you face, and how did you solve it?
  - How did you demonstrate bravery and sacrifice?
  - How did your actions uphold British values?
- Encourage students to explore their emotions and the impact of their actions on others.

## 5. Plenary (5 minutes)

**Objective:** Reinforce key learning points and encourage personal reflection.

- **Class Discussion:**
  - Why is bravery important in policing?
  - How do officers balance bravery, sacrifice, and problem-solving with maintaining fairness and respect?
- **Exit Question:**
  - On a sticky note, students answer: *What is one way in which police officers show bravery while solving problems?*



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## Materials Needed:

- Scenario cards for group activities.
- Handouts or slides explaining the SARA Model.
- Writing materials for journal entries.

## Extension Ideas:

- Research a real-life example of police sacrifice (e.g., PC Nicola Hughes and PC Fiona Bone) and write a short report.
- Create a poster illustrating the SARA Model, including examples from the lesson.
- Write a thank-you letter to a police officer, highlighting their bravery and sacrifice.

This lesson emphasises bravery alongside sacrifice, weaving these concepts into practical problem-solving tasks and reflective activities.

