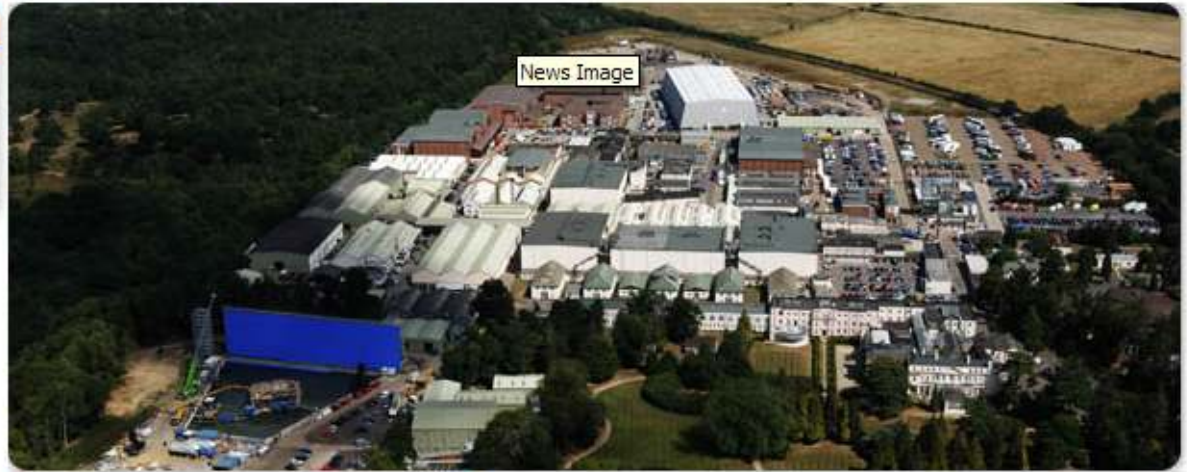


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TV

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**NATIONAL FILM COMPETITION GIVES STUDENTS A VOICE AGAINST KNIFE CRIME**

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Young people across the UK are being given the opportunity to have their say in the fight against knife crime through an open access film competition with a difference: The Life Channel Young Filmmakers' Competition 2009. The competition is run in association with the Daily Mirror's national Stop Knives Save Lives campaign, which aims to 'end knife crime and make the streets of our towns and cities safe once again' through a five point blueprint. Pinewood Studios Group has lent its support by offering an exclusive tour of the Studios as a prize.

Alan Mains, former Detective Superintendent for the Police Service of Northern Ireland, was responsible for leading Northern Ireland through its first Knife Amnesty. He welcomes and supports the competition. "11-21 year olds are unfortunately the most affected by this type of crime," Mains said. "The significant advantage The Life Channel brings to this problem is the ability to empower the relevant people to come up with innovative ways of how we in society should protect our young teenagers. It is so important that these age groups let us know how they perceive knife crime, as this can help us figure out how to better deal with the issue." Students are encouraged by the competition to communicate, through a 90 second film, their perception of knife crime and what it means in their lives. No knives may be used at any time during filming.

Open to budding filmmakers, 11-21 years old nationwide, the competition gives all entrants the equal opportunity for their messages and ideas to gain exposure. Making a difference to millions across the country, winning films from each region will be covered in national and regional press, as well as shown across The Life Channel's TV networks. The best 12 entrants will be judged by a high profile panel including king of the I'm a Celebrity jungle Joe Swash, Hollywood star Ray Winstone, former So Solid Crew member and actor Ashley Walters, Assistant Chief Constable Duncan McCausland and Phil Austin, Chief Executive of The Life Channel. Films will be judged at regional level, with awards designed to assist top entrants in their future filmmaking activities.

To apply and find out more, go to: www.thelifechannel.com or film.stopknivessavelives.co.uk