



25<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Grant Road Crowthorne

Berkshire RG45 7HZ

Tel: 01344 772658

Fax: 01344 776623

E: [secretary@edgbarrowschool.co.uk](mailto:secretary@edgbarrowschool.co.uk)

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Covid and Surge Testing Update**

Thank you so much for participating in the PCR surge testing earlier this week. I have been somewhat nervous to write with an outcome as we only receive the results when you inform us. I am led to believe that all results have now been returned. We sent off 1296 kits and, thankfully, we have not received any positive results to date. With rising case numbers around us, we must remain vigilant and we continue to encourage the students to follow the in-school guidance around Hands, Face, Space and Fresh air.

You will also recall that we have been part of a pilot study for Daily Contact Testing (DCT), this pilot allowed students to continue to attend school following a daily supervised test. We only had one case during the 8-week trial, and those close contacts have their final test on Monday at the end of the 10 day period. I'm afraid today is the last day of the DCT trial, any cases reported after today will have to return to the standard 10 day isolation period and will be unable to attend school. The results of the trial will be reported once all the data is analysed.

Bracknell Forest remains a surge test area and the local authority are keen to encourage as many people to test as possible. There is a particularly low uptake of tests in 17-24 year olds who are a key group in reducing the spread of the virus. The local authority have asked us to share the following message:

*Bracknell Forest Council, together with Public Health England and the Department of Health and Social Care, are carrying out surge testing in the GU47 0 area.*

*This follows notification that the Delta variant (B.1.617.2, first identified in India) has been identified from positive tests in the area. This, coupled with low vaccine uptake levels locally, increases the risk of further transmission.*

*Our staff and pupils are being tested and we urge parents and carers, who do not have COVID-19 symptoms and live or work in GU47 0, to get tested too.*

*This will help identify cases who can then self-isolate and help contain the spread. This includes people who have had the vaccine as well as those who are doing regular lateral flow testing. If you have had a positive PCR test in the past 90 days, you do not need to come forward for testing.*

*If you have not yet had your PCR surge test, the test sites will be open until 30 June, so please do get tested. The sites are located at:*

- *Pyes Acre car park (8am to 8pm)*
- *Sandhurst Memorial Hall car park (8am to 8pm)*
- *Owlsmoor Community Centre car park (8am to 8pm)*
- *Bracknell Leisure Centre (2pm to 8pm)*
- *Morgan Recreation Ground car park (8am to 8pm on 23, 24, 26, 28, 29, 30 June)*

*Get tested and do your bit to protect your loved ones and your borough.*

Thank you for your on-going support.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Matthews', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Mr S Matthews**  
**Headteacher**