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Our Ref: RH/GS/LT

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Dear Resident,

Indian Variant Confirmed in Leek

The Variant of Concern Identified in India has now been confirmed in Leek, after an outbreak across three schools in the town.

More than 30 positive coronavirus cases have been recorded, with many of these confirmed as Indian Variant of Concern. The vast majority of these are linked to the outbreak across Westwood College, St Edward's Middle School and Leek High School.

It is important that we do everything we can to contain this outbreak quickly and reduce the risk to everyone in the town.

We are therefore asking anyone who has links to **ALL** schools in Leek to get a PCR test, so any positive tests can be sent to the labs to check if they are the Variant of Concern.

A national Mobile Testing Unit will be in Leek at the former Britannia Building Site HQ from Thursday (June 4). This should be booked online [at www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus). Select the option "my council has asked me to book a test."

We are also putting in place additional testing locally. The following is taking place from 9.30am to 4pm.

- Thursday 3rd St Edward's Middle School and Leek High School
- Friday 4th St Edward's Middle School and Leek High School
- Saturday 5th St Edward's Middle School

People who attended the following venues on the specified dates are also being asked to get tested. This is linked to people who may visited the venues while infectious only and people can continue to visit and support the businesses.



- The Three Horseshoes Country Inn & Spa, Blackshaw Moor between 24-26 May
- The Black Lion, Cheddleton between 22-23 May

You can find out more and book a test at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/leektesting Walk-ins are also accepted subject to availability. If you have any further concerns or questions you can also contact our dedicated Covid Helpline on 0300 111 8050

We are also asking everyone who is eligible to have the vaccine to book an appointment if they haven't already. We know that 600 people in Leek who are eligible have not booked to have their first dose.

We have a small window of opportunity to stop the spread of this variant and we need the support of families in Leek to do this.

So please, if you have any contact with pupils or staff at any Leek school or have visited one of the venues on the specified dates, book a test as soon as possible.

Thank you for your support in helping keep Leek safe.

Yours sincerely



Dr Richard Harling MBE
Director of Health and Care

