

11<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Dear parents,

We are writing to inform you that Thames Valley Police are taking part in National Knife Crime Awareness week commencing Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019, in partnership with Bracknell Forest Council.

Operation Sceptre is a national police operation to actively target knife crime and those who carry knives. Thames Valley Police are committing to a week of targeting knife crime hotspots, conducting weapon sweeps, engaging with affected communities and testing whether retailers will sell knives to young people.

A knife surrender bin has been placed into the following police stations for members of the public to dispose of knives during the week of action.

BERKSHIRE:

- Bracknell
- Loddon Valley
- Maidenhead
- Newbury
- Reading
- Slough

A national increase in knife crime means every force in England and Wales will join Operation Sceptre for one week from 11<sup>th</sup> March.

Operation Sceptre has already seen strong results and continues to grow with more knife sweeps, more checks on retailers and ultimately more dangerous weapons taken off our streets.

Further information and advice will be posted on social media – follow us on Twitter TVP\_Bracknell.

**If you have any information about the possession of knives or criminal activity relating to this type of crime, please report online via our website or call 101. Alternatively, you can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.**

**Inspector Helen Kenny**  
Bracknell NHPT  
Thames Valley Police

**Debbie Smith**  
Education Safeguarding Team Manager  
Bracknell Forest Council

