



Operated by West Midlands Trains

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Thousands of extra seats as West Midlands Trains unveils expanded timetable

Rail operator West Midlands Trains is adding thousands of extra seats to its timetable from next week as demand for train travel continues to increase amid the easing of lockdown measures.

The operator – which runs West Midlands Railway (WMR) and London Northwestern Railway (LNR) services – is stepping up its timetable with dozens of extra services from Monday (July 6).

However, the advice remains that trains are for essential journeys only. Passengers are being reminded to check their journeys before travelling and to bring a face covering to wear on their journey in line with the new mandatory regulations.

Julian Edwards, managing director of West Midlands Trains, said: “This new timetable marks an important milestone for our customers and our colleagues as the country begins to get back to work.

“Since the pandemic began we have moved quickly to adapt our timetable based on the level of demand and the availability of our own staff, who are not immune to the effects of coronavirus.

“I am pleased we are now in a position where we can run more trains with as many carriages as we possibly can to help our passengers travel with confidence.”

Key changes in the timetable include:

- 40,000 additional seats will be provided on LNR services to and from London every weekday, including 10,000 at peak times
- Additional peak services between Worcester and Birmingham New Street every weekday
- Trains between Birmingham and Wolverhampton will operate to an increased frequency from Monday-Saturday
- Services between Crewe and Stafford via Stoke-on-Trent will now continue to Birmingham New Street from Monday-Saturday

Passengers returning to the railway for the first time since lockdown are being urged to avoid peak travel times, buy their tickets online and allow extra time as some stations may have one-way systems in operation.

The new timetables will be available to view at www.wmr.uk and www.lnr.uk this week – follow @WestMidRailway and @LNRailway on Twitter for the latest travel updates.

West Midlands Trains has produced a new passenger safety video containing information on travelling by rail during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. The broadcast-quality video is available for use by the media - please email press.office@wmtrains.co.uk for a download link. A preview version can be viewed [here](#).

About West Midlands Trains

For further information on this release, call our press office on 03300 955150 or email press.office@wmtrains.co.uk

West Midlands Trains operates both West Midlands Railway and London Northwestern Railway services.

- **London Northwestern Railway** services operate between Liverpool and Birmingham, and on the West Coast Main Line to and from London Euston.
- **West Midlands Railway** services operate to destinations across the West Midlands via Birmingham New Street and Birmingham Snow Hill.

For more information on these services visit westmidlandsrailway.co.uk or londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk

The West Midlands Trains franchise started on 10 December 2017 and will run until 2025/26.

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