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West Midlands Railway to run additional trains as schools return

West Midlands Railway will introduce a small number of additional services on routes via Birmingham Snow Hill from next week as school pupils prepare to return to the classroom.

From Monday 8 March, six extra trains will run on the route each weekday afternoon to help provide capacity for students using the railway to travel home from lessons.

The Birmingham Snow Hill lines serve communities across the south of

Birmingham as well as destinations including Stratford-upon-Avon, Worcester and Hereford.

Passengers are being reminded that the railway should be used for essential journeys only while the current Government restrictions remain in place.

Jonny Wiseman, customer experience director for West Midlands Railway, said:

"Our routes via Birmingham Snow Hill serve destinations close to a number of large schools which is why we are introducing extra trains from Monday to help returning pupils travel with confidence.

"We encourage pupils using the train to maintain social distancing on board and remind all customers that everyone aged over 11 must wear a face covering by law, unless exempt on medical grounds."

Passengers are advised to check their train times before setting out.

Meanwhile, passengers are also being reminded the Stourbridge Town branch line will be closed from Tuesday 9 March - Friday 12 March while Network Rail carries out essential track maintenance work. Rail replacement transport will be in operation.

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<u>westmidlandsrailway.co.uk</u> or <u>londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk</u>

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