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West Midlands Railway urges passengers to check journeys this December

West Midlands Railway is urging passengers to check their journeys carefully this month ahead of a new timetable coming into effect next week.

Departure times on some routes will change from Sunday 12 December. With trains expected to be busy in the run-up to Christmas, passengers are advised to check their travel plans.

The operator is also reminding passengers that some services may be cancelled at short notice due to ongoing staffing shortages caused by the

impact of the pandemic on its driver training programmes along with a recent increase in Covid-19 related absences.

Jonny Wiseman, WMR customer experience director, said:

“Over recent months we have been delighted to welcome more passengers back to the railway following the easing of coronavirus restrictions.

“With timetables changing next week and the impact of Covid-19 creating the possibility of cancellations due to driver shortages, I am urging passengers to check their journeys before setting out to the station and to avoid relying on the last train home wherever possible.

“We do all we can to avoid cancellations but where we have no choice we always look to give passengers as much notice as possible and arrange alternative transport wherever possible.

“I would like to thank our passengers for their understanding as we continue to work our way through our driver training backlog.”

Passengers are also being reminded it is once again mandatory to wear a face covering when on board public transport and fines for non-compliance may apply.

Visit www.wmr.uk/plan to check live and future departure times. For more on how WMR is tackling its training backlog, visit www.wmr.uk/snowhillplan

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](https://www.westmidlandsrailway.co.uk) or [londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk](https://www.londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk)

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