



Dec 10, 2021 15:25 GMT

West Midlands Railway urges passengers to check journeys this weekend

West Midlands Railway is urging passengers to check their journeys before travelling this weekend with some service cancellations expected due to shortages of available traincrew.

The operator has experienced an increase in cases of Covid-19 among its staff in recent days, on top of existing shortages caused by delays to driver training during the pandemic.

A number of services are likely to be amended or cancelled on Saturday and Sunday, with road replacement transport in operation. Services are also

expected to be busy.

Jonny Wiseman, WMR customer experience director, said:

“Passengers travelling on the trains this weekend should check their journeys before setting out for the station as some services will be subject to cancellation due to the impact of Covid-19.

“We will have extra staff out on the network to offer travel advice and we will arrange road replacement transport where necessary. I would like to thank our passengers for their patience and understanding as we continue to feel the impact of the pandemic.”

Football fans planning to use public transport to attend matches in the West Midlands this weekend are advised to leave extra time for their journeys due to the possibility of disruption.

Passengers are also being reminded that face coverings are now mandatory on public transport, unless exempt for medical reasons.

A new timetable is also coming into effect on Sunday 12 December, with passengers urged to check departure times.

Ends

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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