

Times

are

changing

20th May 2018

EAST MIDLANDS TRAINS

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Times are changing here at East Midlands Trains

On Sunday 20th May 2018, we're making major changes to our timetable.

The changes will include different departure times, quicker journey times for some routes and extended times for others. There'll also be fewer station stops with calls removed at Bedford and Luton during peak travelling times.

This is to allow the new Thameslink timetable to be introduced, which is part of the wider £7bn Government-sponsored Thameslink programme, and impacts services on our shared lines between Bedford and London.

We're working hard together to keep our customers and stakeholders informed of every change that's happening across our network. Information about the changes and downloadable timetables can be found on our dedicated webpage: eastmidlandstrains.co.uk/May2018.



Jake Kelly
Managing Director

Overview

What's happening?

On Sunday 20th May 2018, we're making major changes to our timetable.

The changes will include different departure times, quicker journey times for some routes and extended times for others. There'll also be fewer station stops with calls removed at Bedford and Luton during peak travelling times.

Customers travelling between Bedford, Luton and London will need to use the regular Thameslink services.

Why?

This is to allow the extra Thameslink trains being delivered through the Government-sponsored Thameslink programme to run on our shared lines between Bedford and London.

A brand new Thameslink timetable will be introduced from May 2018. This represents one of the biggest timetable recasts in recent railway history.

It will provide thousands of extra peak-time seats, improved journey times and better connections on Thameslink services from Bedford to Farringdon, for Crossrail when it opens, as well as to London Bridge and further south.

Detailed planning has been taking place over several months across the rail industry to ensure the new Thameslink timetable can be successfully introduced. As a result, major changes need to be made to our timetable.

These changes are expected to be in place until 2020 when the Midland Main Line upgrade is due to be completed, creating more track capacity with a sixth path into London.



Services to the Main Line route to London will see changes in the May 2018 timetable, please check timetable for details.

Midland Main Line Upgrade

Unprecedented improvements have already started on the transformation of the Midland Main Line, which runs between London St Pancras, Nottingham and Sheffield – delivering the biggest upgrade of this line in almost 150 years.

This transformation has to happen as, although more trains are running than ever before, the increase in passengers is outstripping supply. Our network, stations and platforms are dealing with more passengers than they are designed for.

To help meet the challenge of rising demand, the Midland Main Line is being improved. This will support better journeys from 2020 and the growth of the regional economies, connecting people to more job, education and leisure opportunities.

For long-distance journeys, this upgrade will reduce journey times between Nottingham, Sheffield and London by up to 20 minutes in peak times and support a brand new fleet of bi-mode trains from 2022, with more seats.

For journeys from Corby, through Luton and into London, the consultation on the next East Midlands franchise proposed that this upgrade enables passengers to benefit from a new and dedicated express service. From 2020, the trains would be fast and comfortable, like today, but also longer and quieter, with more seats and lower emissions.

Overall, the upgrade will enable over 1000 additional seats an hour at peak times into London – a 50% increase.

Delivering these benefits requires upgrades including:

- › track realignment
- › station remodelling
- › platform construction and lengthening
- › capacity works
- › bridge reconstructions
- › signalling works and wires south of Kettering and Corby to power modern electric and bi-mode trains

Why is this happening?

Over £7 billion is being invested to transform north-south travel through London with the Thameslink programme. This will deliver new and more reliable trains with more services at peak times and improved connections. The Thameslink programme will run alongside the biggest upgrade of the Midland Main Line since it was completed in 1870.

In order for the new Thameslink timetable to work effectively, East Midlands Trains services have to be changed.

Along with the Department for Transport, Network Rail and Thameslink, we are doing everything we can to mitigate the impact of these changes. Once complete in 2020, the Midland Main Line upgrade will provide greater capacity on the network and will enable future timetable improvements and more journey time benefits.

What will the impact be for customers?

The changes will mean that some departure times to and from London will change, with some journey times increasing and others decreasing.

The biggest change will be for customers travelling from, to or through Bedford and Luton. Southbound trains arriving into London St Pancras between 0700 and 1000 on weekdays and northbound trains departing London St Pancras between 1600 and 1900 on weekdays will not call at Bedford or Luton.

Services will continue to call at Bedford and Luton outside the peak periods. Services will continue to call at Luton Airport Parkway throughout the day.

What happens to southbound customers wanting to travel to Bedford and Luton?

For customers who commute during peak hours from Leicestershire and Northamptonshire to Bedford, an alternative, fully accessible bus service will be provided.

This will run half-hourly between Wellingborough and Bedford and connect with rail services at Wellingborough.

Season ticket holders travelling on the bus service will be eligible for up to 50% discount on their ticket and there will be up to 25% discount on Anytime fares for the bus. For more information, contact CSC.manager@eastmidlandstrains.co.uk.

Will there be fares discounts for customers where trains have been moved to accommodate the new Thameslink timetable?

Customers who will have to travel on the bus service between Wellingborough and Bedford will receive up to 50% discount on their season ticket. There will also be up to a 25% reduction on Anytime fares for travel on the bus.

In addition, as a result of the timing changes, a number of trains leaving London will see cheaper tickets introduced. For example, the new 1901 (was 1857) service from London to Sheffield will offer Super Off Peak tickets instead of Anytime on weekdays – a 60% reduction in ticket price.

Why are some services from Sheffield, Derby, Leicester and Nottingham slower than they are today?

We have had to make some significant changes to our timetable to accommodate the new Thameslink timetable.

We have worked hard to produce a timetable that largely protects long-distance services and in some cases we have managed to offer some journey time benefits. We are continuing to work on the timetable to determine whether we can improve journey times any further for December 2018.

How are East Midlands Trains going to ensure that trains are on time with the additional trains running in the Thameslink timetable?

We are proud to have been the UK's most punctual long-distance train operator for over nine years – a record we'd like to keep.

We recognise that with Thameslink operating more services on our lines we will need to be more focused than ever to make sure our trains run on time.

Therefore as well as our investment in extra staff, we've also got three additional HST trains coming into our fleet to help provide extra resilience for the new timetable.

In addition, Network Rail is investing £300m in infrastructure resilience across the Thameslink network to protect and enhance performance.

If you had more trains, could you stop at Bedford and Luton in peak times?

It is not possible to increase the capacity of the peak train services due to the mix of fleet and differing performance characteristics of the HSTs and Meridian trains.

This is a temporary arrangement and we believe the solution is the planned upgrade to the infrastructure on the Midland Main Line route into London, along with the provision of new trains.

Once the Midland Main Line Upgrade programme is complete in 2020, this will provide a sixth path into London which will increase the track capacity and provide the ability to run extra services.

Why can't you do a 'pick up and set down' at Bedford and Luton for customers from the north instead of the bus?

The performance modelling undertaken by the industry shows that Bedford in particular will be very congested in the morning peak, so the long-distance services have been moved to use the fast line and cannot call as there is no platform.

In the evening, the issue is with reduced capacity on the stopping services. We have considered pick up and set down calls, however these are not effective with modern journey planning and booking tools.

We believe commuters to and from London would use the services regardless, which would result in major crowding on the trains which is a safety and comfort issue.

Why can't you provide a train shuttle service rather than the bus between Wellingborough and Bedford?

There are currently no spare trains to operate a shuttle service and fitting a shuttle service in between all the other trains is also difficult. We appreciate this change will be extremely inconvenient for these passengers. We will continue to work with the industry to see if an alternative option can be found to reinstate train services at the earliest opportunity. Direct travel will still be possible outside of peak times and those season ticket holders using the replacement coach service will be eligible for up to 50% discount on their season ticket. There will also be up to 25% discount on Anytime fares on the bus.

How is the weekend timetable affected?

Services will continue to call at Bedford and Luton throughout the day on Saturdays and Sundays, as well as during weekdays outside of the peak.

However, there will be changes to departure times and journey times from all stations to and from London and customers are advised to check the weekend timetable for further information. There are very few changes to Sunday services.

Is this linked to the cancellation of the electrification programme to Sheffield and Nottingham?

The new timetable has been developed to deliver the extra services created by the Thameslink programme alongside the upgrade of the Midland Main Line.

The Midland Main Line improvements will mean more services for passengers and cut journey times from Nottingham and Sheffield to London by up to 20 minutes in the peak from 2020.

The Thameslink changes are compatible with the aspiration to increase the frequency of long-distance services.

How long will these changes be in place for?

Along with the Department for Transport, Network Rail and Thameslink, we are doing everything we can to mitigate the impact of the short-term changes. Once complete in 2020, the Midland Main Line upgrade will provide greater capacity on the network and will enable future timetable improvements and more journey time benefits.

Can Sheffield, Nottingham and Leicester's faster journey time aspirations ever be achieved with more Thameslink trains on the tracks south of Bedford?

Once complete in 2020, the Midland Main Line upgrade will provide greater capacity on the network and will enable future timetable improvements and more journey time benefits. These improvements will cut journey times from Nottingham and Sheffield to London by up to 20 minutes in the peak from 2020.

Will there be any impact on local or regional East Midlands Trains services?

There will be no impact on local or regional services, although the changes to London services mean that some connections will change.

Will the new trains (Angel HSTs) have the same facilities on board as the existing trains?

They will be very similar to the existing HSTs already in use on our network.

What is the impact of the Derby Resignalling programme on the May 2018 timetable?

There will be temporary changes to the timetable as a result of the Derby Resignalling programme from 22 July to 7 October.

This work will affect services between London and Derby and Sheffield. We are expecting to run a normal mainline timetable between London and Corby/Leicester/Nottingham throughout this period.

For more information, visit derby2018.co.uk.

How does this relate to the DfT consultation for the next East Midlands franchise? That talked about removing Bedford and Luton stops from intercity style services?

The next East Midlands franchise is expected to start in 2019. Shortly after this, Network Rail upgrade work will create capacity for an additional sixth long-distance path for services to and from London.

The Department for Transport has proposed in its consultation on the next franchise, that this extra capacity is used to deliver more seats on the fast, direct service between Corby, Kettering, Wellingborough, Bedford, Luton and Luton Airport Parkway and London St Pancras with longer, quieter, comfortable and more efficient trains.

Feedback from this consultation is now under consideration by the Department for Transport, and will be used to inform future services.

What are you doing about the specific timetable issues we have already raised with you?

We are collating all responses and building a plan to improve the timetable from December 2018 and beyond, which will involve looking at detailed solutions for the issues raised.

There is currently a big gap in evening train services from London to Kettering and Wellingborough, why is this?

We have listened to customer feedback on this issue and have identified a temporary improvement to apply from the May timetable change for approximately six months. The 21:19 London to Nottingham train will now depart at 21:05 and call additionally at Luton Airport Parkway, Bedford, Wellingborough and Kettering. Network Rail are processing the change and it will appear in journey planning systems soon. We are looking at a more comprehensive solution to the gap to apply from the December 2018 timetable change.

How is your station affected?

Sheffield, Chesterfield

New departure times:

Morning peak departures from Sheffield to London are largely unchanged:

Current	0600	0629	0649	0724	0729	0746	0829	0849
New	0600	0625	0649	0724	0729	0746	0826	0859

Evening peak departures from London to Sheffield:

Current	1558	1626	1657	1700	1757	1815	1825	1857
New	1602	1631	1647	**	1747	1819	1834	1901

**This service will now start at Kettering

On weekdays, some of our off-peak departure times will change too:

Sheffield to London

The train at 49 minutes past will be on the hour.
The train at 29 minutes past will stay the same.

Chesterfield to London

The train at 01 minute past will be at 12 minutes past. The train at 41 minutes past will stay the same.

London to Sheffield

Trains at 26 and 58 minutes past will be at 31 and 02 minutes past.

London to Chesterfield

Trains at 26 and 58 minutes past will be at 31 and 02 minutes past.

Services:

On weekdays, some journey times will be quicker while others will be extended:

- › The northbound 1700 service from London to Sheffield will now start from Kettering – passengers are advised to use either the 1647 or 1747 services from London.
- › The southbound 1700 (was 1649) service from Sheffield will no longer stop at Kettering. Passengers for Kettering should change at Leicester for the 1814 service.
- › The 1800 (was 1738) service from Sheffield to London will no longer stop at Belper. A Belper stop will be added to the 1729 service.
- › The 0724 weekday service from Sheffield to London will be 6 minutes quicker.
- › The 0729 weekday service from Sheffield to London will be 8 minutes longer.
- › The 1712 service from Chesterfield will no longer stop at Kettering.
- › The 1812 service from Chesterfield will no longer stop at Belper.

Please check the timetable for further details.

Derby, Long Eaton

New departure times:

Morning peak departures from Derby to London:

Current	0604	0633	0705	0722	0736	0801	0819	0901
New	0604	0634	0705	0723	0730	0802	0819	0857

Evening peak departures from London to Derby:

Current	1558	1626	1657	1700	1745	1757	1825	1857
New	1602	1631	1647	**	1719	1747	1819	1901

**This service will now start at Kettering

On weekdays, some of our off-peak departure times will change too:

Derby to London

Trains at 01 and 21 minutes past will be at 04 and 31 minutes past.

Long Eaton to London

The train at 30 minutes past will be at 40 minutes past.

London to Derby

Trains at 26 and 58 minutes past will be at 31 and 02 minutes past.

London to Long Eaton

The train at 26 minutes past will be at 31 minutes past.

Services:

On weekdays, some journey times will be quicker while others will be extended:

- › The 0730 (was 0736) service from Derby to London will be 12 minutes quicker.
- › The 1719 (was 1745) service from London to Derby will be 8 minutes quicker.
- › The 1819 (was 1825) service from London to Derby will be 10 minutes quicker.

Please check the timetable for further details.

How is your station affected?

Nottingham, Beeston, East Midlands Parkway

New departure times:

Morning peak departures from Nottingham to London:

Current	0630	0652	0710	0755	0805	0832	0905
New	0631	0652	0711	0756	0805	0832	0912

Evening peak departures from London to Nottingham:

Current	1615	1629	1715	1730	1745	1815	1830
New	1605	1634	1705	1719	1734	1805	1834

On weekdays, some of our off-peak departure times will change too:

Nottingham to London

Trains at 05 and 32 minutes past will be at 12 and 45 minutes past.

London to Nottingham

Trains at 15 and 29 minutes past will be at 34 and 05 minutes past.

East Midlands Parkway to London

Trains at 35 and 43 minutes past will be at 45 and 56 minutes past.

London to East Midlands Parkway

Trains at 15 and 26 minutes past will be at 34 and 31 minutes past.

Beeston to London

The train at 11 minutes past will be at 18 minutes past.

London to Beeston

The train at 29 minutes past will be at 05 minutes past.

Services:

On weekdays, some journey times will be quicker while others will be extended:

- › The 1734 (was 1715) service from London to Nottingham will be 8 minutes quicker.
- › The 1719 (was 1745) service from London to Nottingham will be 5 minutes quicker.
- › The 1805 (was 1830) service from London to Nottingham will be 5 minutes quicker.
- › The 1745 (was 1732) weekday service from Nottingham to London will now stop at Kettering.

Please check the timetable for further details.

Leicester, Loughborough

New departure times:

Morning peak departures from Leicester to London:

Current	0604	0639	0659	0706	0719	0736	0742	0756	0805	0819	0824	0832	0856	0900
New	0604	0639	0659	0707	0719	0734	0743	0755	0803	0821	0826	0832	0855	0859

Evening peak departures from London to Leicester:

Current	1615	1626	1629	1657	1700	1715	1730	1745	1757	1815	1825	1830	1857
New	1605	1631	1634	1647	1705	1719	1734	1747	1805	1819	1834	1901	

On weekdays, some of our off-peak departure times will change too:

Leicester to London

Trains on the hour and at 24, 32 and 53 minutes past will be at 03, 13, 26 and 38 minutes past.

London to Leicester

Trains at 15, 26, 29 and 58 minutes past will be at 02, 05, 31 and 34 minutes past.

Loughborough to London

Trains at 21 and 42 minutes past will be at 27 and 52 minutes past.

London to Loughborough

Trains at 26 and 29 minutes past will be at 31 and 05 minutes past.

Services:

On weekdays, some journey times will be quicker while others will be extended:

- › The 0803 (was 0805) service from Leicester to London will be 16 minutes quicker.
- › The 1605 (was 1629) service from London to Leicester will be 5 minutes quicker.
- › The 1805 (was 1830) service from London to Leicester will be 10 minutes quicker.

Please check the timetable for further details.

How is your station affected?

Market Harborough, Kettering, Corby

New departure times:

Morning peak departures from Market Harborough to London:

Current	0620	0654	0713	0733	0757	0819	0914
New	0620	0654	0712	0733	0758	0818	0913

Evening peak departures from London to Market Harborough:

Current	1615	1629	1715	1730	1745	1825	1857
New	1605	1634	1705	1719	1734	1818	1901

Morning peak departures from Kettering to London are largely unchanged:

Current	0631	0645	0706	0724	0730	0743	0759	0809	0817	0829
New	0631	0648	0705	0723	0729	0743	0756	0809	0817	0829

Evening peak departures from London to Kettering:

Current	1601	1629	1700	1730	1745	1800	1815	1830	1900
New	1547	1605	1650	1705	1719	1750	1805	1834	1847

On weekdays, some of our off-peak departure times will change too:

Market Harborough to London

Trains at 14 and 46 minutes past will be at 26 and 51 minutes past.

London to Market Harborough

Trains at 15 and 29 minutes past will be at 34 and 05 minutes past.

Kettering to London

Trains at 26 and 56 minutes past will be at 51 and 01 minutes past.

London to Kettering

Trains at 01 and 29 minutes past will be at 47 and 05 minutes past.

Corby to London

The train at 16 minutes past will be at 41 minutes past.

London to Corby

The train at 01 minute past will be at 47 minutes past.

Services:

On weekdays, some journey times will be quicker while others will be extended:

- › The 0818 service from Market Harborough to London will be 17 minutes quicker.

- › The 0829 service from Kettering to London will be 18 minutes quicker.
- › The 1847 (was 1900) service from London to Kettering will be 16 minutes quicker.
- › Between 0606 and 0855, services from Kettering to London will no longer be stopping at Bedford or Luton.
- › Between 1657 and 1937, services from London to Kettering will no longer be stopping at Bedford or Luton.

Please check the timetable for further details.

Wellingborough

New departure times:

Morning peak departures from Wellingborough to London:

Current	0654	0714	0732	0738	0751	0807	0825	0842	0903
New	0657	0714	0731	0738	0751	0804	0825	0838	0903

Evening peak departures from London to Wellingborough:

Current	1601	1629	1700	1730	1745	1800	1815	1830	1900
New	1547	1605	1650	1705	1719	1750	1805	1834	1847

On weekdays, some of our off-peak departure times will change too:

Wellingborough to London – Trains at 03 and 34 minutes past will be at 08 and on the hour.

London to Wellingborough – Trains at 01 and 29 minutes past will be at 47 and 05 minutes past.

Services:

On weekdays, some journey times will be quicker while others will be extended:

- › The 0838 (was 0842) service from Wellingborough to London will be 14 minutes quicker.
- › The 1605 (was 1629) service from London to Wellingborough will be 5 minutes quicker.
- › The 1805 (was 1830) service from London to Wellingborough will be 6 minutes quicker.
- › During off-peak times there will continue to be two trains an hour from London to Kettering, with the exception of departures from London between 2005 and 2130 when there is a gap in service that is planned to be rectified as soon as possible.

Please check the timetable for further details.

How is your station affected?

Bedford, Luton

East Midlands Trains services will no longer stop at Bedford or Luton during peak periods (0600 - 1000 and 1600 - 1900). This affects services to London in the morning and from London in the evening.

Customers are advised to use Thameslink services instead or our bus service from Wellingborough.

This will affect the following East Midlands Trains services:

Luton

- › Southbound services between 0630 and 1027
- › Northbound services between 1527 and 1947

Bedford

- › Southbound services between 0630 and 1023
- › Northbound services between 1547 and 1947

On weekdays, some of our off-peak departure times will change too:

Bedford to London

Trains at 17 and 47 minutes past will be at 23 and 13 minutes past.

London to Bedford

Trains at 01 and 29 minutes past will be at 47 and 05 minutes past.

Luton to London

The train at 03 minutes past will be at 28 minutes past.

London to Luton

The train at 01 minute past will be at 47 minutes past.

If you're travelling northbound

From Bedford

If you're travelling northbound on an East Midlands Trains service during evening peak hours, you'll need to use our bus service to Wellingborough. From Wellingborough, connect onto another East Midlands Trains service to your destination.

From Luton

If you're travelling northbound on an East Midlands Trains service during evening peak hours, you'll need to use our bus service from Bedford to Wellingborough. From Wellingborough, connect onto another East Midlands Trains service to your destination.

Alternatively, you can double back to Luton Airport Parkway on a Thameslink service then connect northbound onto an East Midlands Trains service.

Travelling between Bedford, Luton and Luton Airport Parkway

If you use East Midlands Trains services between Bedford, Luton and Luton Airport Parkway at peak times, you'll need to take a Thameslink service instead.

Thameslink services

Thameslink will also introduce a new timetable from 20th May, offering extra services to London. There'll continue to be regular Thameslink services from Bedford and Luton to London, with a number of faster services throughout peak times. Please see the Thameslink timetable for details.

EAST MIDLANDS TRAINS