



Dear Parent / Guardian

Trespassing on the railway network is extremely dangerous and endangers not only the lives of those on the track, but also passengers, railway staff and the general public

Many people - especially young people - fail to understand the danger they put themselves and others in, when they make the choice to stray onto the rail network. As the Easter holidays approach, we are already seeing an increase in the number of incidents being reported and incidents we're seeing involve children and young people, these incidents include:

- Misusing level crossings by not paying due care and attention or acts of anti-social behaviour/vandalism
- Walking along the railway lines
- Sitting on train station platform edges
- Throwing stones at trains
- Placing objects on the railway lines
- Using the railway as a playground

I am sure you agree that all of the above activities are extremely dangerous.

The British Transport Police and Network Rail are seeking the support of parents, guardians and the local community to highlight the danger and implications of these activities to help us reduce the number of young people putting themselves and others at significant risk.

To assist with the conversation there are a number of online videos available and range depending on the age group of your child:

www.switchedonrailsafety.co.uk

www.networkrail.co.uk/communities/safety-in-the-community/safety-education/

www.youvstrain.co.uk

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pWVvjFqH0UE> (Harrison's Story)

Key Messages

- ✓ Always **STOP, LOOK AND LISTEN** before using a Level Crossing and follow the instructional signage
- ✓ Trains are **ALWAYS** running on the railway and can differ in times meaning that you can never predict when a train will pass
- ✓ Station Platforms are not a playground not every train will be stopping, be aware of your surroundings and **STAY BEHIND THE YELLOW LINE**
- ✓ The Electricity is **ALWAYS** switched on around the railway
- ✓ **DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR CHILDREN ARE?**

Trespassing on the railway is also a **criminal offence** which can involve your child obtaining a criminal record and a fine of £1000.

*If you wish to report any information to us, please call us on **Freephone 0800 40 50 40** or text the information to 61016.*