



Dear Parent

Community Relations  
Western House  
1 Holbrook Way  
Swindon  
SN1 1BD

**Network Rail 24-hour  
National Helpline  
03457 11 41 41**

2 September 2021

Our reference: DAC 184m 0ch – 194m 66ch

Dear Parent,

### **Dartmoor railway line – driver training**

The Dartmoor line between Okehampton and Exeter will be reopening for regular passenger services later this year. Before the line can formally open, GWR need to train the drivers who will operate the new services. This involves trains being driven at line speed along the route so the drivers can familiarise themselves with the operational requirements.

The training will start on 20 September and last for 6-8 weeks. This means there will be frequent trains operating along the line and we are liaising with the local schools to ensure children are reminded about railway safety.

Whilst there are 6 level crossings on the Dartmoor line, only 2 are for pedestrians to use - Penstone footpath crossing (EX17 5JS) and Colebrooke Two Moors Way Footpath crossing (by Waterford Plantation). However, during driver training, both these crossings will remain closed.

Once driver training has been completed, a new pedestrian crossing system will be active. This is designed to make the crossing safer and comprises of a set of red and green lights.

As a reminder, once in operation if the light is showing **green**, then you can cross cautiously and quickly. If the light is showing **red**, this means a train is approaching and it is **not** safe to cross. To prevent any accidents on the new level crossing, we need to make sure that you know how the crossing should be used.

Pedestrians using the foot crossing should follow the below instructions:



**Safety** – See something suspicious? Contact British Transport Police 0800 405040.



1. **Check that the green light shows**
2. **Cross quickly, ensuring that the gate is closed behind you**
3. **If there is no light, do not cross. Please telephone the crossing operator.**

For more information on railway safety and education please do visit these links:

<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/communities/safety-in-the-community/> and  
<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/stories/educational-resources-for-children>

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any additional questions or concerns about the work taking place in your area please call our dedicated 24-hour National Helpline on: 03457 11 41 41 or visit [www.networkrail.co.uk/contactus](http://www.networkrail.co.uk/contactus).

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Matthew Thompson", written in a cursive style.

**Matthew Thompson**  
Communications Manager