

Back to school launch for rail safety campaign

The rail industry is putting out a fresh warning to school pupils and their parents to not take rail safety for granted.

With the new school term, the rail industry is asking passengers to Respect the Edge by:

- Keeping away from the edge of the train platform, regardless of whether there is a train arriving or not
- Standing behind the yellow line and paying attention to platform markings and station announcements
- Not rushing to board a train when the door alarm is sounding – this means the doors are closing; once they are closed they do not reopen and you could become trapped.



The industry is highlighting the risks surrounding train travel, particularly to children, those who are travelling with small children and to those unfamiliar with catching the train.



Over 1.73 billion passenger journeys are made every year and train travel remains one of the safest modes of transport in the UK, however harm can still occur as passengers board and alight trains. The potential for slips, trips and getting caught in the doors is a small risk, but one that the industry wants to manage by raising awareness. The number of passenger incidents at the platform edge increased by 7% in 2017/18, compared with the previous year and this is a trend that industry doesn't want to see continuing.

Following a high-profile news story this summer where a child was seen hanging over the edge of a train platform in [Trowbridge](#), the industry is highlighting the risks posed to children and families travelling around the rail network.

Tom Lee, Director of Standards at RSSB, said: *"The rail industry takes passenger safety extremely seriously and we want to ensure that those travelling across the rail network don't put themselves at unnecessary risk. The Respect the Edge campaign has been designed to remind passengers to take care when boarding and alighting trains and look out for children who may be unfamiliar with travelling during the new school term."*

-Ends-

Notes to Editors:

More information about the Respect the Edge campaign, including media assets can be found on [the RSSB website](#).

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About RSSB

Through research, analysis, and insight RSSB supports our members and stakeholders to deliver a safer, more efficient and sustainable rail system.

Our vision is to be a centre of excellence, valued by its members and stakeholders as an essential contributor to their success.

Our independent evidence based approach is built on strong technical capability, and the enabling of collaborative industry engagement for the benefit of the whole rail system



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