



FOCUS: RAIL SAFETY

Trespassing on the railway can have utterly devastating consequences from life-changing, potentially fatal injuries through to prosecution. But there's another hidden cost in the effects on the trespasser, their loved ones, railway staff and the wider community.

Electricity powers trains and it is NEVER turned off

DO YOU KNOW?

You CAN'T tell which rail is electrified

The top SPEED of a train is 125 mph

Wearing rubber soled shoes WON'T stop you being electrocuted

If you hit the emergency brakes on a train, it will pass through a distance the size of TWENTY football pitches before it stops



HOW CAN YOU BE RAIL SAFE?



If you drop something on the railway track, it is never safe to lower yourself down onto the tracks – even if you've dropped something incredibly valuable or important. There are a number of risks from an oncoming train. Even though you may not be able to see the train, trains move incredibly quickly and can be very quiet. There is also the danger of electrocution from the third rail. The third rail constantly has electricity running through it to power the trains.

It is never safe to move over the tracks at a Level Crossing when the lights and alarms are going off. This means that a train will arrive imminently. Even if you are late – it's time to weigh up the risks.

Throwing obstructions onto a railway line is illegal and highly dangerous. Although this may seem like a bit of harmless fun it can have serious consequences. From causing severe delays to people's journeys to potentially causing a very serious train accident. It's also likely that this dangerous behaviour will be caught on CCTV, which could mean a fine or a custodial sentence.

If you see an animal on the railway track, you should report this. An animal on the tracks could cause an accident. The first important but difficult decision is to never follow a pet onto the tracks. If this happens the owner should call the Network Rail 24hr Helpline 03457 11 41 41.

IF YOU ARE WORRIED THAT SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS BEHAVING DANGEROUSLY ON RAILWAY TRACKS OR PUTTING PRESSURE ON YOU TO DO THE SAME, TELL YOUR FORM TUTOR OR ANY TRUSTED ADULT SO WE CAN SUPPORT YOU AND THEM TO MAKE SAFE CHOICES