

Train timetable changes FAQs

2026 train timetable changes

September 2026



Transport for NSW acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and pays respect to Elders past and present.

Why is the public transport network changing?

Transport for NSW (Transport) is making changes to the Sydney Trains network to enable the full deployment of the Mariyung fleet on the South Coast Line. The new timetable will deliver improvements for the South Coast, T4 Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra and T8 SYD Airport & South West and T2 Leppington & Inner West lines. The new timetable aims to enhance service reliability, giving passengers increased confidence when planning their train journey.

What does this mean for passengers?

Changes will occur across the the South Coast, T4 Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra, T8 SYD Airport & South West and T2 Leppington & Inner West lines. Journey times, departure platforms and train times will change. This means trains people use may depart at different times and stop at different stations. We encourage passengers to allow extra travel time and to plan their trip at Trip Planner.

The changes mean passengers spend less time waiting for a train and will now be able to turn up and go across southern Sydney. Benefits include:

- Metro-like service levels on the T8 SYD Airport & South West Line with 16 services per hour in the morning peak (meaning a train every four minutes or less) through the Airport, Mascot and Green Square stations.
- Eight trains per hour in the peaks (meaning a train every eight minutes or less) at many T4 southern Sydney and Sutherland Shire stations such as Kogarah, Banksia, Allawah, Cronulla, Kirrawee, Oatley and Penshurst.
- More services at key interchange stations, such as 16 services per hour at Sutherland and 20 services per hour at Hurstville in the peaks (meaning a train every three or four minutes towards Sydney CBD in the morning peak and from the Sydney CBD in the afternoon peak).
- Four trains per hour from Wollongong to the Sydney CBD during peak times (meaning a train every 15 minutes).
- Improved interchange options for passengers to access the whole city across suburban, intercity and Metro services at Sutherland, Hurstville, Wolli Creek and Sydenham stations, as well as Central Station.
- Two more late-night services between the Sydney CBD and Cronulla, supporting Sydney's night time economy and helping people get home safely at night.
- Improved access to important services such as hospital and TAFE at Kogarah by better integrating Loftus, Engadine, Heathcote and Waterfall passengers to the T4 network.
- An increase in local "shuttle" services improving public transport options for anyone moving around the Wollongong and Illawarra region.

When will the changes be implemented?

The train timetable changes will occur on **Sunday 15 November 2026**.

What train services are changing?

When the new timetable is introduced on 15 November 2026, the Sydney Trains network will feature the following changes:

T4 T4 Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra Line

Passengers will benefit from more frequent services during peak periods, weekends and late nights, as well as improved local connections and more reliable journeys.

With around 249,000 passengers travelling on the Illawarra corridor each weekday, representing approximately 25% of all passengers across the Sydney rail network, additional capacity is needed to support increasing demand, particularly during peak travel times.

The majority of passengers travelling on the T4 Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra Line will benefit from more seats, more comfortable journeys and wait times that are up to five minutes shorter during peak periods.

Stopping patterns will be adjusted to create consistent services across the morning and afternoon peak periods.

Weekend service levels and stopping patterns will align with off peak timetables, meaning more consistent services for passengers.

Late night services will be increased at a number of stations across the line, reducing wait times for late night passengers and longer-distance travellers.

SCO South Coast Line

The timetable will deliver additional services for South Coast passengers, meaning a service every 15 minutes in the peak and every 30 minutes in the off peak between Wollongong and the Sydney CBD.

The majority of passengers travelling on the South Coast Line will benefit from more seats, more comfortable journeys and wait times that are up to five minutes shorter during peak periods.

Additional local services will operate between Wollongong and Thirroul, improving local connectivity.

All South Coast Line services will stop at Sydenham, providing passengers improved connections to Sydney Metro services.

The new timetable simplifies operations by separating South Coast and T4 Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra Line services between Arncliffe and Central. With all T8 SYD Airport & South West Line services now operating via the Airport tunnel, South Coast services will operate on the tracks previously used by T8 Airport & South Line via Sydenham north of Wolli Creek, reducing conflicts and improving reliability.

By separating these services, passengers will benefit from fewer service disruptions and more reliable, consistent journeys.

All South Coast Line services will operate to and from Central station platforms 1-14 and will no longer operate on the Eastern Suburbs railway to Bondi Junction. South Coast passengers wanting to access T4 Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra Line stations from Town Hall to Bondi Junction will be required to interchange at Central.

Passengers travelling from the South Coast to Sydney Airport can choose between the fastest journey option, which requires two interchanges, or interchange at Central for a simpler journey requiring just one interchange.

T8 T8 SYD Airport & South West Line

The T8 Airport and South Line will be renamed the T8 SYD Airport & South West Line to better reflect the destinations it serves.

All T8 SYD Airport & South West Line services will operate via the Airport Tunnel, providing more services for Airport tunnel stations in the morning and afternoon peak periods.

Passengers travelling on the T8 SYD Airport & South West Line between Wolli Creek and Green Square will benefit from more seats, more comfortable journeys and wait times that are up to 2.5 minutes shorter during peak periods. Passengers between Wolli Creek and Green Square will receive a service every four minutes in the morning and afternoon peak periods.

Passengers between Macarthur and Revesby will no longer have a direct connection to Sydenham, St Peters, Erskineville and Redfern. To connect to Sydney Metro services, passengers can interchange at Central.

St Peters and Erskineville were temporarily moved to the T8 Airport & South Line in 2024 following the closure of the T3 Bankstown Line. These stations will permanently move to the T4 Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra Line.

T2 T2 Leppington & Inner West Line

Passengers on the T2 Leppington & Inner West line will benefit from improved local connectivity as well as improved access to Parramatta outside peak periods.

Services that currently terminate at Homebush during the daytime on weekdays will be extended to Parramatta, providing an all-stops T2 Leppington & Inner West Line service between the Sydney CBD and Parramatta every 15 minutes.

Passengers at Flemington, Homebush, Lidcombe, Auburn, Clyde and Granville will benefit from improved local connectivity as well as improved access to Parramatta during the daytime.

Changes for St Peters and Erskineville Passengers

St Peters and Erskineville will move to the T4 Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra Line, directly connecting passengers to stations on the line, including Martin Place and Bondi Junction. Passengers travelling between the Eastern Suburbs and Inner West will now have options that don't require a long interchange at Central or Redfern.

Trains will now arrive and depart from platforms 24 and 25 at Central, instead of aboveground platforms that are used by T8 Airport & South Line services.

A direct connection to Sydney Metro services at Sydenham and Central will be maintained. Passengers will now have the option to connect to Sydney Metro services at Martin Place.

There will be some minor timing changes across other lines on the train network to support the adjusted timetable.

Will there be changes to train line names?

Yes. With the introduction of the new train timetable, the T8 Airport & South Line will change to T8 SYD Airport & South West Line to better reflect the destinations it serves.

Why are these changes being made?

A new train timetable is needed to enable full deployment of the Mariyung fleet on the South Coast Line.

Currently, South Coast Line and T4 Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra Line services share the same tracks through the Wolli Creek area. In the new timetable, the two lines will operate on separate tracks between Arncliffe and Central. This will also allow for improved reliability on both lines, reduces operational conflicts, helps minimise disruption when incidents occur and creates capacity for additional services in the future.

When planning services, Transport considers the needs and requirements of all passengers along the corridor and how to manage loading along the line to ensure services are balanced and not overcrowded as this can impact passenger comfort and network reliability.

Will the changes lead to increased journey times?

While some passengers may experience longer journey times, many passengers will receive more frequent services. The timetable changes deliver additional services for passengers on the T4 Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra Line, South Coast Line, T8 Airport & South Line and the T2 Leppington & Inner West Line.

The largest journey time increases will be experienced by passengers between Waterfall and Loftus. An interchange may save this passenger group up to 5 minutes, resulting in net journey time increase, when compared with today, of around 6-8 minutes.

Passengers travelling from stations between Waterfall and Sutherland will see an increased journey time of up to 12 minutes as these services will now stop at stations between Hurstville and Arncliffe, and Sydenham, St Peters and Erskineville.

How can passengers find out more about how these changes will affect them?

We will ensure passengers are kept informed of any service changes in advance through a range of communications channels, including but not limited to our online trip planning tools, updated timetable booklets, station posters and wayfinding signage, street teams, guard and station announcements, and passenger information displays.

We encourage passengers to plan their trip via Transport's Trip Planner at transportnsw.info/trip

What does this mean for my journey?

When the train timetable changes, journey times, departure platforms and train times will change. This means trains people use may depart at different times and stop at different stations.

We recommend checking the updated timetables and connections before you travel.

From 1 November, passengers can plan their journeys with Trip Planner at transportnsw.info or using the Opal Travel app.

How do I provide feedback on services?

To provide feedback on Transport services, please visit feedback.transportnsw.info

How are decisions made when making changes to the public transport network?

When making changes to the network, Transport considers what will deliver the best outcomes for the majority of passengers. This is done through the analysis of Opal data which demonstrates where and when our passengers are travelling, as well as forecast changes in future travel needs. When developing train timetables, Transport takes into consideration a range of factors including passenger demand, availability of trains and capacity to operate trains on the network.

How do T4 Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra Line passengers access Sydney Metro services?

All T4 Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra Line services will stop at Sydenham, providing passengers with access to Sydney Metro M1 North West & Bankstown Line services.

What will happen when Sydney Metro opens between Sydenham and Bankstown?

When Sydney Metro opens between Sydenham and Bankstown, passengers west of Bankstown will be able to interchange at Bankstown to access Metro services to the Sydney CBD, Chatswood, and Northwest Sydney.

Services from Bankstown to Sydenham will operate on the new Metro line through the Sydney CBD. This change reduces complexity on the Sydney Trains network, while also freeing up capacity on the City Circle previously used by the T3 Bankstown Line.

What are the changes for stations between Waterfall and Loftus?

Passengers travelling from stations between Waterfall and Loftus will see an increase in T4 Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra Line services in the morning peak hour, reducing the wait time for services by five minutes.

South Coast Line services will no longer stop at Waterfall, Heathcote, Engadine and Loftus in peak periods.

On this section of the network passengers will have more services. As result, journeys times will take longer simply due to increased congestion on the tracks, the need to accommodate more passengers boarding and alighting, and the need to stop at all stations between Hurstville and the City to manage patronage growth.

To maintain school connectivity for students travelling from South Coast Line stations, one South Coast service will continue to stop at Waterfall, Heathcote and Loftus in the morning and afternoon. In the morning, the service operates as an extended shuttle service from Wollongong to Sutherland departing Waterfall at 8.26am, Heathcote at 8.30am and Engadine at 8:33am. In the afternoon, the additional stops will be on a Central to Port Kembla service departing Engadine at 3.41pm, Heathcote at 3.44pm and Waterfall at 3.49pm.

How do Waterfall, Heathcote, Engadine and Loftus passengers avoid the additional journey times?

Passengers will have the option to complete a simple interchange at Sutherland to access South Coast and T4 Cronulla branch services providing a journey time saving of up to 5 minutes in the morning and afternoon peaks.

In peak periods Cronulla branch services will operate on average every seven to eight minutes and South Coast services will operate every 15 minutes from Sutherland.

Passengers can also save time by interchanging at Sydenham to catch the Metro into the Sydney CBD, North Sydney and North West Sydney.

What are the late night service improvements on the T4 Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra Line?

Late night services will be increased at a number of stations across the T4 Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra Line, reducing wait times for late night passengers and journey times for longer-distance travellers.

Currently, the T4 Illawarra Line has a service every 30 minutes to Cronulla and every 30 minutes to Waterfall. When the new timetable is introduced, there will be a service every 15 minutes to Cronulla and every 30 minutes to Waterfall.

Stations including Sydenham, Wolli Creek, Rockdale, Kogarah, Hurstville and Sutherland will now receive a service every 10 minutes, while Tempe, Arncliffe, Mortdale, Oatley, Como, Jannali, Kirrawee, Gymea, Miranda, Caringbah, Woolooware and Cronulla will receive a service every 15 minutes.

How do I access the airport if I am travelling on the South Coast Line?

South Coast Line passengers can interchange at Central for a single connection to T8 SYD Airport & South West Line services or alternatively, interchange to a T4 Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra Line service at Sutherland to access Wolli Creek for T8 SYD Airport & South West Line services to the Domestic Airport and International Airport stations.

Why will airport connectivity be removed from the South Coast Line?

Currently, South Coast and T4 Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra Line services operate on the same set of tracks through Wolli Creek. When the new timetable is introduced, Wolli Creek will be removed as a stop on South Coast Line services to enable more frequent services to be introduced on the South Coast and T4 Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra lines.

South Coast Line services will continue to pass through Wolli Creek, however there is no platform next to the track on which they will operate to enable services to stop. This change means that some passengers who currently interchange at Wolli Creek for the Domestic or International Airport, will need to interchange differently to reach their destination.

Why are South Coast services terminating at Central?

The current timetable operates peak and weekend South Coast Intercity services to Bondi Junction via the Eastern Suburbs Railway. That section can only accommodate 8-car trains and is not compatible with the new Intercity Mariung fleet which will soon operate as 10-car trains.

The changes support increased service frequencies and improved network performance.

South Coast passengers will benefit from trains every 15 minutes between Wollongong and Sydney during peak periods, additional services throughout the day and the full rollout of the Mariung fleet.

Passengers travelling beyond Central will continue to have access to frequent onward connections across the rail and Metro network.

Are there improvements for passengers south of Dapto?

Due to current network constraints and a single track from Dapto, it is not possible to operate additional services south of Dapto. Adding additional services would only be enabled via investment in track duplication.

Selected additional services will also extend to Dapto and Port Kembla if possible, however, frequency increases beyond Dapto are limited without track duplication.

Why are passengers in South West Sydney losing direct access to Sydenham?

The timetable has been designed to improve service patterns across the network, support better connections between rail and Metro services, and meet high demand at Airport Line stations, improving reliability across the network.

While some passengers may travel differently, customers will continue to have access to Sydney Metro and other major destinations through a range of rail and interchange options, including at Central for T8 SYD Airport & South West Line passengers.

Passengers are encouraged to check their journey before travelling to understand any changes that may affect their regular trip.

Will these changes affect school students?

The timetable has been developed to support a broad range of passenger journeys, including travel to schools and education precincts.

To maintain school connectivity for students travelling from South Coast Line stations, one South Coast service will continue to stop at Waterfall, Heathcote and Loftus in the morning and afternoon. In the morning, the service operates as an extended shuttle service from Wollongong to Sutherland departing Waterfall at 8.26am, Heathcote at 8.30am and Engadine at 8:33am. In the afternoon, the additional stops will be on a Central to Port Kembla service departing Engadine at 3.41pm, Heathcote at 3.44pm and Waterfall at 3.49pm.

Transport will provide updated timetable information well in advance so students, schools and families have time to understand any changes to regular travel patterns.

Passengers are encouraged to use Trip Planner and other journey planning tools before the new timetable begins.

Will there be bus changes?

Bus services across Greater Sydney, the Illawarra and Shoalhaven may be updated with revised timetables to better meet passenger travel needs. These changes are part of an ongoing program of network improvements designed to deliver a more integrated, flexible and easy-to-use public transport system, providing better connections and a more convenient travel experience for passengers. To plan ahead, please visit transportnsw.info