

A Message from Santa

Dear Children

Welcome to the East Somerset Railway's Santa Specials. Since we are still in the grips of the Coronavirus, we are having to do things a little differently this year. But I am determined to see that you enjoy coming to see me just as much and I hope the grown-ups you have brought with you have a great time too. Here are a few notes to help explain what will happen during your visit.

Passengers are asked to arrive 15-30 minutes before their train departure time, but no earlier to avoid congestion on the platform. Please ensure the grown-ups wear their masks at all times and you too if you can. On arrival, go to the ticket office to collect the boarding pass for your trip to the North Pole and which will give you your carriage and seat number. You will also be given a goodie bag with things to do during the journey and there's even something to stop the grown-ups getting too fidgety.

On the platform, there is an entertainer who will be giving out balloons or you can visit the gift shop. When the train arrives, you are requested to allow passengers to alight from the train and move clear. The doors will be locked while the train is sanitised between services. The train will run non-stop to Mendip Vale where it will pause for 5 minutes before returning non-stop to the North Pole (Cranmore). We regret we are not able to provide refreshments on the train this year.

On return, you will be guided over to the down platform where platform staff will show you to a carriage waiting room and after a short wait you will be shown into my grotto to meet me. There are also refreshments available from the Discovery Centre on the platform (mince pies, mulled wine and hot and cold drinks).

On departure, passengers are asked to exit the station onto the lane to make their way back to the car park.

The Whistlestop Café will also be open, serving from the outside counter.

I hope you have a wonderful time. Merry Christmas!

Santa

