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Merseyrail trains "cover up" as part of new face covering campaign

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As face coverings are now mandatory on public transport, Merseyrail has gone one step further to reinforce the message to customers by 'covering up' five of its trains.

A large yellow face covering has been added to the outside of five of the rail operator's trains alongside the message 'Have you got it covered?' and is now visible travelling around the network.

It has been mandatory for passengers to wear face coverings on public transport since 15 June unless exempt, and this latest campaign is part of Merseyrail's commitment to ensuring passengers adhere to the rules on their trains and at stations to protect themselves and others while travelling.

Additionally, various statues across the Liverpool City Region including The Beatles, Cilla Black and even a Lambanana have been sporting Merseyrail branded face coverings to help raise awareness.

These customised masks will also be available to purchase in Merseyrail's Mtogo stores at Liverpool Central, Southport and Liverpool South Parkway from today (Tuesday 08 September).

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The campaign also comes as schools prepare to fully reopen and many employees begin to return to their places of work.

Educating passengers on the use of face coverings is just one of the steps Merseyrail has taken to ensure that passengers can enjoy a safe, reliable and efficient service when travelling. Other steps include:

- Social distance signage at stations on floors, escalators and lifts
- Queuing systems at busier stations
- Increased cleaning regimes using specialist microbial cleaners that kill pathogens on surfaces

Suzanne Grant, Commercial Director at Merseyrail, said: "The safety of our passengers and our staff has been our top priority during this pandemic and the wearing of face coverings is a major part of this.

"We have been reminding our passengers about the new rules for a number of months now and we wanted to reinforce this message in a more visible and unique way. I would encourage all of our passengers to let us know if they spot these trains on our network by sharing their images with us on social media by tagging us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.

"All of our staff are working hard to keep people moving across the Liverpool City Region as safely as possible, and I would ask that our passengers support us in this by wearing a face covering, socially distancing where they can, using contactless payments and travelling outside busier times where possible."

Photo credit: Merseyrail

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