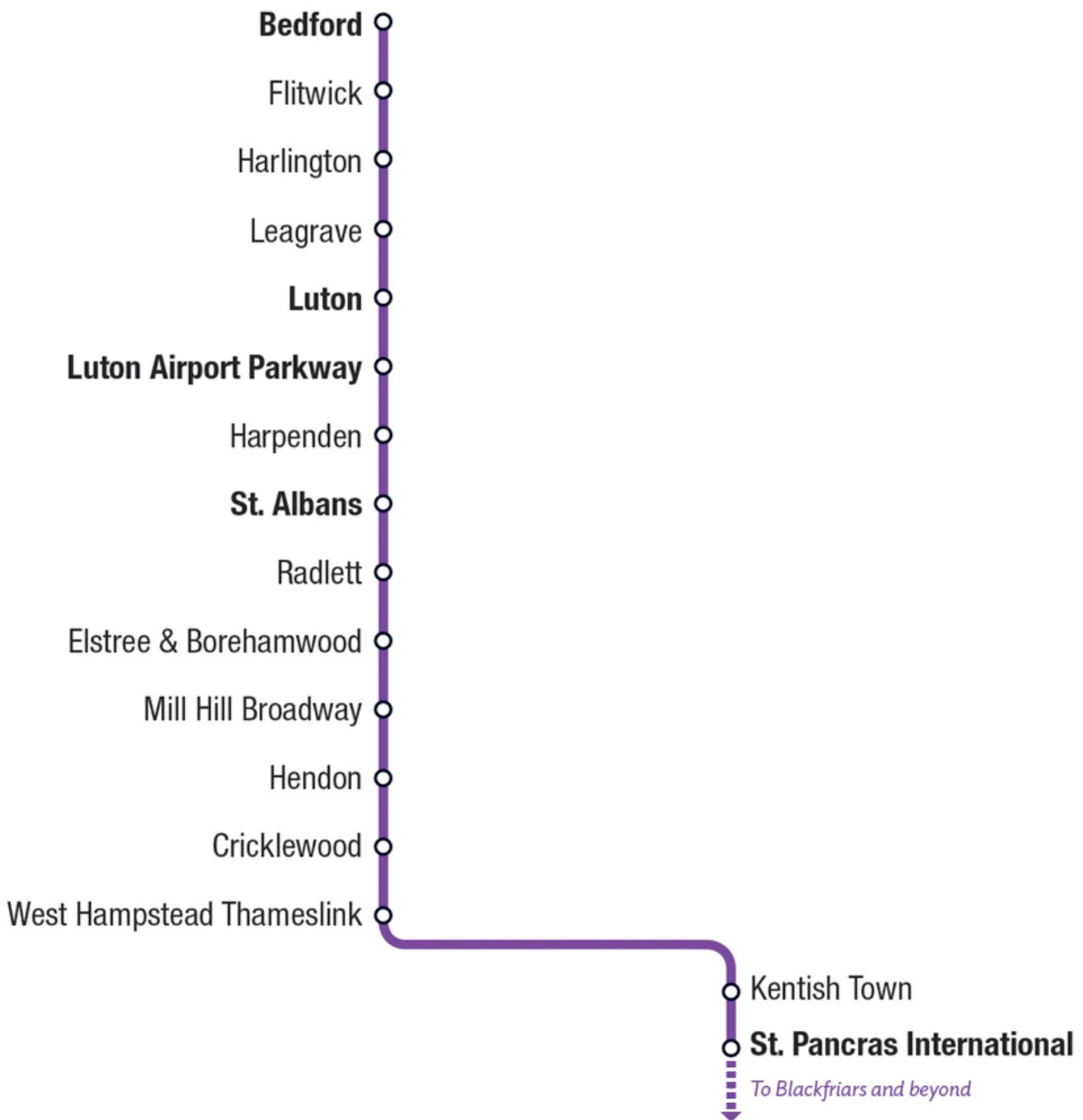


# Thameslink – Central London to Bedford route



# New rolling stock

- During 2015, some of the older 319s in use on the route will be replaced by new-build class 387s on an interim basis.
- The existing Thameslink fleet will then be entirely replaced by new-build class 700 Siemens trains between 2016 and 2018.



Class 700

# Key service changes

## By the end of 2018

- there will be 3,000 more standard-class seats into St Pancras in the three-hour morning peak compared to today, an increase of around 15%
- total standard-class capacity (including standing space) into St Pancras on this route in the morning peak will more than double; more 12 car trains will operate
- at the busiest times, 16 trains per hour from this route will operate through the Thameslink core (serving St Pancras, Farringdon, City Thameslink, Blackfriars). Half of these will also serve London Bridge.
- there will be additional late evening fast services to Bedford (departing London between 2200 and 0000) and increased frequency of stopping services to St Albans on Sundays

# December 2015 changes

- a three year trial of additional overnight services from Central London to Luton Airport will commence. This is aimed specifically at passengers catching early-morning flights from Luton Airport. The extra trains, enabling half-hourly service from central London in the early morning hours, will also call at West Hampstead Thameslink, St Albans and Harpenden.
- four off-peak trains per hour will be provided between Bedford and Gatwick Airport – two of these will extend to Brighton. The pattern for December 2014 south of Blackfriars is affected by Thameslink Programme works and not yet confirmed.

# Luton Airport

- Additional overnight trains (see above)
- Rail services to be better signposted and advertised at the airport, with a new staffed kiosk and real-time train departure boards.
- Smart ticketing to be introduced on bus link. Oyster Pay As You Go to be extended to cover services to/from Luton Airport Parkway, including bus link, subject to agreement with TfL.

# Stations

Major enhancements are planned for St Albans and Luton stations, in partnership with Network Rail. The detail of these will be further consulted on with local stakeholders and communities.

All stations on the franchise will benefit from a share of the £50m investment planned in improving station facilities and appearance. Benefits for stations on the Thameslink Central London to Bedford route include the following:

- **Interactive touch screens** to be installed at St Albans, St Pancras, City Thameslink and Blackfriars, providing train running information, journey planning, connection information and local maps
- **Ticket gatelines** to be introduced at Cricklewood, Flitwick, Mill Hill Broadway and Radlett

Our investment programme for stations includes funding for more CCTV, toilet refurbishments, new retail facilities, help points and car

park improvements – as well as plans for increased cycle storage and improved transport integration. More details on specific plans for individual stations will be provided at a later stage.

## Free Wi-Fi

Free Wi-Fi is planned to be introduced at 104 of the busiest stations across the GTR franchise.

## First to last station staffing

First to last station staffing will be introduced at Cricklewood, Elstree & Borehamwood, Flitwick, Harpenden, Leagrave, Mill Hill Broadway, Radlett and West Hampstead Thameslink – as part of plans to provide first to last staffing at the 101 busiest stations on the GTR franchise.