

Changes to services in Lewes District: April 2026

Service number	Route	Changes to current service	Service provided by	Date of change
12, 12A, 12X, N12	Brighton-Saltdean- Peacehaven-Newhaven- Seaford- Seven Sisters Park- Eastbourne	No change at the current time. Improvements are being planned with an expected introduction date in June 2026 (subject to change). These will be announced when details are confirmed.	Commercial service provided by Brighton & Hove Buses.	June 2026 (subject to change)
13X	Brighton-Saltdean- Peacehaven-Newhaven- Seaford-East Dean- Birling Gap-Beachy Head- Eastbourne	Improved Sunday and public holiday service, running approximately every 30 minutes between Eastbourne Pier and Brighton Station.	Commercial service provided by Brighton & Hove Buses.	19 April 2026
14, 14A, 14B, 14C, N14	Brighton-Saltdean- Peacehaven-Newhaven	No change at the current time. Improvements are being planned with an expected introduction date in June 2026 (subject to change). These will be announced when details are confirmed.	Commercial service provided by Brighton & Hove Bus Company. The improved frequency between Peacehaven and Brighton, introduced in July 2023 with funding from UK Government following ESCC's successful bid for Bus Service Improvement Plan funding, is now provided on a commercial basis by Brighton & Hove Bus Company.	June 2026 (subject to change)

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21 (Sunday)	Lewes-Offham-Cooksbridge-Chailey-Newick-Sheffield Park Gardens-Sheffield Park Station (Bluebell Railway)	<p>Cuckmere Buses have stepped in to provide this Sunday service, as ESCC will no longer fund the 121 Sunday and public holiday service introduced in July 2023, due to the reduction in Bus Service Support Grant from UK Government.</p> <p>Departures from Lewes School Hill will be at 09:15, 11:15, 14:15 and 16:15.</p> <p>Departures from Newick The Bull will be at 09:38, 11:38, 14:38 and 16:38. The bus will serve Sheffield Park Bluebell Railway 6 minutes after Newick, and Sheffield Park Garden 11 minutes after Newick.</p> <p>Cuckmere Buses is a community transport operator reliant on volunteer drivers. Currently they have insufficient volunteers to be able to also replace the 121 on public holidays.</p> <p>To help run their extra services, Cuckmere Buses would be very happy to hear from volunteers prepared to learn to drive a 16 seat minibus. Drivers will need the D1 category on their licences but training and assessment are offered before taking to the road. If anyone is interested please contact Cuckmere Buses on 01323 870920 or email volunteer@cuckmerebuses.org.uk Further details on the website - https://cuckmerebuses.org.uk/volunteering.htm</p>	Provided by Cuckmere Buses without funding from ESCC	26 April 2026

Service number	Route	Changes to current service	Service provided by	Date of change
23 (Sunday)	Newhaven-Piddinghoe-Rodmell-Kingston-Lewes	<p>Cuckmere Buses have stepped in to provide a service to replace the Sunday route 123 journeys currently run by Compass Travel. ESCC will no longer fund the 123 Sunday and public holiday service introduced in July 2023, due to the reduction in Bus Service Support Grant from UK Government.</p> <p>The new 23 journeys will not serve Newhaven Sainsbury's or Newhaven Station, but will additionally serve the Valley Road area of Newhaven. This route change will help to reduce journeys caused by traffic congestion in Newhaven.</p> <p>The Sunday 123 journeys run by CTLA are unchanged.</p> <p>Departures from Lewes Friars Walk will be at 10:20, 12:20, 14:10 (CTLA service 123) and 15:20.</p> <p>Departures from Newhaven South Way will be at 09:42 (CTLA service 123) 10:49, 12:49 and 15:49</p> <p>Cuckmere Buses is a community transport operator reliant on volunteer drivers. Currently they have insufficient volunteers to be able to also replace the 123 on public holidays.</p> <p>To help run their extra services, Cuckmere Buses would be very happy to hear from volunteers prepared to learn to drive a 16-seat minibus. Drivers will need the D1 category on their licences but training and assessment are offered before taking to the road. If anyone is interested please contact Cuckmere Buses on 01323 870920 or email volunteer@cuckmerebuses.org.uk Further details on the website - https://cuckmerebuses.org.uk/volunteering.htm</p>	Provided by Cuckmere Buses without funding from ESCC	26 April 2026

Service number	Route	Changes to current service	Service provided by	Date of change
25 (Saturday)	Lewes-Glynde-Firle-Charleston in Firle-Wilmington-Polegate-Wannock-Willingdon village-District General Hospital-Eastbourne	<p>Service 25 will additionally run on Tuesdays and Thursdays to provide a partial replacement for service 125 (see below). In Lewes the route of service 25 is revised to also include Charleston in Lewes, in Southover Road.</p> <p>On Sundays (but not bank holidays) there will be two new return journeys numbered 25X. These will run between Berwick and Lewes directly along the A27 and the Culfail Tunnel in Lewes. They will depart Berwick Station 08:50 and 13:50, and Lewes School Hill at 13:15 and 17:15. All of these journeys except the 08:50 will also serve Charleston in Firle.</p>	Provided by Cuckmere Buses without funding from ESCC.	26 April 2026
26 (Sundays and Bank Holidays)	Seaford-Alfriston-Drusillas Zoo -Wilmington-Polegate-Wannock-Willingdon-District General Hospital-Eastbourne	Usual seasonal timetable adjustments (16:50 from Seaford to run to Eastbourne, and 18:00 from Eastbourne to Alfriston) reinstated for Summer period until 25 October.	Provided by Cuckmere Buses without funding from ESCC.	29 March 2026
28	Eastbourne-District General Hospital-Willingdon-Hailsham-Battle Road-Golden Cross-Laughton-Ringmer-Lewes-Universities-Brighton	No change.	Commercial service provided by Brighton & Hove Buses. The route between Eastbourne and Ringmer is funded by Development Contributions.	
29, 29A, 29B, 29X	Tunbridge Wells-Crowborough-Uckfield-Lewes-Universities- Brighton (29,29X) (a 29B return journey runs via Ringmer for King's Academy) Heathfield-Framfield-Uckfield-Isfield-Lewes-Universities-Brighton (29A)	<p>No change to existing timetables.</p> <p>A night-service, numbered N29, will be introduced, running between Brighton and Lewes, School Hill, seven nights a week. Departures from Brighton, Royal Pavilion, will be at 01:15, 02:15, 03:15 and 04:15. Departures from School Hill, will be at 01:43, 02:43, 03:43 and 04:43. These journeys terminate at Old Steine in Brighton.</p>	<p>29 and 29X are commercial services provided by Brighton & Hove Bus Company.</p> <p>29A between Lewes and Heathfield is funded by ESCC, with the help of Development Contributions and bus support grant from UK Government.</p> <p>29B is provided with the help of a Development Contribution.</p>	13 April 2026

Service number	Route	Changes to current service	Service provided by	Date of change
30	Lindfield-Haywards Heath-Ashenground-Colwell Road-Princess Royal Hospital-Ridgeway	No change.	Run by Compass Travel with a development contribution for the Ridgeway extension.	
31, 31A, 31B	Cuckfield-Haywards Heath - Princess Royal Hospital-Newick-Maresfield-Uckfield	No change.	Funded by ESCC and the help of bus support grant from UK Government, with a contribution from West Sussex County Council for the section of route in West Sussex.	
39 (Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays only)	Eastbourne Towner-East Dean-Seven Sisters Country Park-Litlington-Alfriston-Charleston in Firle-Charleston in Lewes	No change.	Provided by Cuckmere Buses with funding from a consortium of local arts organisations led by Charleston.	
39	Ridgeway (one journey)-Princess Royal Hospital-America Lane-Haywards Heath-Bolnore	No change.	Run by Compass Travel with a development contribution for the Ridgeway extension.	
40 (Tuesdays and Fridays)	Berwick-Wilmington-Litlington-Charleston Manor-Exceat-Seaford	No change.	Provided by Cuckmere Buses with funding from ESCC and the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	
47	East Saltdean-Brighton-Hove	No change.	Run by Compass Travel. Funded by Brighton & Hove City Council with a financial contribution from ESCC.	
47 (Saturday, Sunday & Bank Holiday Seasonal Service)	Berwick-Alfriston-Seaford-Litlington-Wilmington-Berwick (circular service)	Seasonal reintroduction of the service	Service run by Cuckmere Buses without funding from ESCC.	28 March 2026

Service number	Route	Changes to current service	Service provided by	Date of change
76A (Schooldays)	Peacehaven-East Saltdean-Brighton Longhill School	No change.	Run by Brighton & Hove Bus Company and funded by Brighton & Hove City Council.	
79 (Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays)	Brighton-Ditchling Beacon	Usual seasonal enhancement with an additional later journey in each direction (18:00 from Brighton, Old Steine, and 18:40 from Ditchling Beacon).	Run by Brighton & Hove Bus Company and funded by Brighton & Hove City Council with the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	18 April 2026
119	Seaford local service (including certain journeys to/from Alfriston)	No change.	Run by Compass Travel with funding from ESCC and the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	
120	Seaford local service	No change.	Monday to Friday and Saturday morning services provided by Cuckmere Buses with funding from Seaford Town Council. Saturday afternoon service run by Compass Travel with funding from ESCC and the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	
121	Lewes-Offham-Cooksbridge-Chailey-Newick (and Sheffield Park on Saturdays and Sundays with peak journeys also serving Barcombe)	No change to Monday to Saturday service. The Sunday and public holiday service, introduced in July 2023, will no longer be funded by ESCC. This is due to the reduced level of bus support grant ESCC will now receive from UK Government not being sufficient to support the continuation of all services and the lower number of passengers who have been using the 121 on these days. Cuckmere Buses will provide a replacement service on Sundays (see service 21 above). There will be no replacement on public holidays.	Run by Compass Travel with funding from ESCC and the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	25 April 2026

Service number	Route	Changes to current service	Service provided by	Date of change
122	Lewes-Offham-Cooksbridge-Barcombe-Barcombe Mills loop	No change.	Run by Compass Travel with funding from ESCC and the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	
123	Newhaven-Piddinghoe-Rodmell-Kingston-Lewes (one schooldays journey starts from East Saltdean)	No change to Monday to Saturday service. The Sunday and public holiday service, introduced in July 2023, will no longer be funded by ESCC. This is due to the reduced level of bus support grant ESCC will now receive from UK Government not being sufficient to support the continuation of all services. Cuckmere Buses has stepped in to provide a replacement service on Sundays (see service 23 above). There will be no replacement on public holidays.	Run by Compass Travel with funding from ESCC and the help of bus support grant from UK Government. One Sunday journey in each direction is provided by CTLA (Community Transport for the Lewes Area).	25 April 2026

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125	Lewes-Ringmer-Glynde-Firle-Alfriston-Wilmington-Polegate-Wannock-District General Hospital-Selmeston Road-Eastbourne	<p>Most journeys on this service will be withdrawn due to relatively low level of use and the funding pressures on ESCC due to reduction in bus service grant support from UK Government.</p> <p>Journeys to be retained are: 07:55 from Alfriston to Lewes; 15:49 from King's Academy, Ringmer, to Alfriston and 16:07 from Alfriston to Lewes. These journeys will run on schooldays only.</p> <p>Cuckmere Buses will be providing a partial replacement during the main part of the day by increasing the days of operation of their service 25 (see above) to also run on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Currently 25 runs on Saturdays only.</p> <p>Service 24 will provide some additional journeys between Alfriston and Eastbourne - see the Wealden District or Eastbourne Borough documents for details.</p> <p>Flexibus will offer an alternative in the Ringmer Harrisons Lane/Springett Avenue area, subject to availability at the time of booking. Flexibus will also offer an alternative for travel between Lewes and Alfriston and communities in between on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.</p>	Run by Compass Travel with funding from ESCC with the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	25 April 2026
126	Seaford-Alfriston-Drusillas Zoo-Berwick Station	No change.	Cuckmere Buses journeys run without funding from ESCC. Compass Travel journeys are provided with funding from ESCC with the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	
127	Lewes-Landport-Malling-Tesco	No change.	Run by Compass Travel with funding from ESCC with the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	

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128	Lewes-Nevill-Tesco	No change.	Run by Compass Travel with funding from ESCC with the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	
129	Lewes-Spences Lane-Malling-Tesco-town centre-Wallands Park-Winterbourne-Lewes	No change.	Run by CTLA (Community Transport for the Lewes Area) with funding from ESCC with the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	
132 (Sundays)	Lewes-Malling-Landport-Nevill-Winterbourne	No change.	Run by Community Transport for the Lewes Area (CTLA) with funding from Lewes Town Council.	
145	Newhaven local service	No change.	Run by Compass Travel with funding from ESCC with the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	
149 (Schooldays)	Scaynes Hill-Princess Royal Hospital-Haywards Heath-Lindfield-Fox Hill-Wivelsfield Green-Chailey School	No change.	Run by The Big Lemon with funding from ESCC with the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	
150 (Schooldays)	Withyham-Hartfield-Forest Row-Chelwood Gate-Danehill-Chailey School	No change.	Run by The Big Lemon with funding from ESCC with the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	
166	Lewes-Plumpton-Wivelsfield Green-Princess Royal Hospital-Haywards Heath	No change.	Run by Compass Travel with funding from ESCC with the help of bus support grant from UK Government. Development Contributions fund the Saturday service.	

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167	Lewes-Plumpton-Ditchling-Burgess Hill	No change.	Run by Compass Travel with funding from ESCC with the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	
168	Village Rider circular service linking Burgess Hill-Ditchling-Plumpton-Wivelsfield Green	No change.	Run by Compass Travel with funding from ESCC with the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	
246 (Tuesday & Thursday)	Uckfield-Chelwood Gate-Sheffield Park-Fletching-Uckfield	Service withdrawn due to very low level of use and the funding pressures on ESCC due to reduction in bus service grant support from UK Government. Flexibus would offer alternative provision, subject to availability at the time of booking.	Run by Community Transport for the Lewes Area with funding from ESCC.	9 May 2026
271	Crawley-Handcross-Cuckfield-Haywards Heath-Wivelsfield-Burgess Hill-Hassocks-Brighton-Royal Sussex County Hospital	Timing changes of up to 10 minutes. On Mondays to Fridays, the current 21:25 272 journey from Royal Sussex County Hospital will run as a 271 instead. The current 22:25 271 journey will run as a 272 instead.	Commercial service provided by Metrobus.	9 May 2026
272	Crawley-Ardingly-Haywards Heath-Lindfield-Princess Royal Hospital-Wivelsfield-Burgess Hill-Hassocks-Brighton-Royal Sussex County Hospital	New Saturday evening journeys and a new Sunday daytime service. Other timing changes of up to 10 minutes too. On Mondays to Fridays, the current 21:25 272 journey from Royal Sussex County Hospital will run as a 271 instead. The current 22:25 271 journey will run as a 272 instead.	Run by Metrobus with some funding from West Sussex County Council.	9 May 2026
318 (Schooldays)	Whitesmith-Chiddingly-Muddles Green-East Hoathly-Halland-Shortgate-Ringmer King's Academy	No change.	Run by Compass Travel with funding from ESCC with the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	
468 (Schooldays)	Ditchling-Westmeston-Plumpton-Chailey School	No change.	Run by Compass Travel with funding from ESCC with the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	

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492, 494 (Schooldays)	Seahaven Academy services	No change.	Run by Brighton & Hove Bus Company with funding from ESCC with the help of bus support grant from UK Government.	