

CATASTROPHIC BUSHFIRE RATED DAYS

Parent Information

Belair Primary School has been determined by the Department for Education and the CFS (Country Fire Service) as a **HIGH (R-2)** potential bushfire risk site.

On days when weather conditions are declared as **Catastrophic** for the Mount Lofty Ranges **the school and OSHC service will be closed.**

The CFS now provides a 4-day advance forecast, we would encourage you to check these forecasts to enable you to make decisions and plan ahead.

On rare occasions, it may be necessary for the department to direct the school to close because of bushfire activity and/or an increased bushfire threat level. The decision to close school is not taken lightly because of the known impact on parents, and caregivers. As a consequence, a formal direction to close is only issued under predefined circumstances or when there is a genuine belief that the school will be endangered by a bushfire event if they remain open. When the school has been directed to close, no person is permitted to be on site. This means that all services, including Vacation Care, Out of School Hours Care, and any scheduled activities by private user groups will also be cancelled.

It will not always be possible for the school to provide information to you during school hours so **please check your phone regularly for SMS messages** and updates.

All school closures are coordinated by the Department for Education Security and Emergency Management Unit. For more information on days of 'catastrophic' fire danger ratings, including school closures contact –

The Department for Education Emergency Information Hotline on 1800 000 279.

It is important that each family has their own personal bushfire survival plan in place for days of catastrophic fire danger or in the event of a bushfire threat.

We recommend families follow the link below –

<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/sites-and-facilities/bushfires-and-emergency-closures>

and download a copy of the "Bushfires and Your Child's School or Preschool brochure" which provides parents with advice on how to prepare for the fire danger season, and what to do if a bushfire is burning near your child's school.



Rob Houston
Principal