

Bushfire Procedures - Parent Information

Extreme Fire Danger -Total Fire Ban Day – School Level 1 Alert

During the fire season the CFS issues the Fire Danger Ratings by 5 pm daily for the following day. These ratings are determined in conjunction with Bureau of Meteorology and broadcast on radio, Television and the CFS website www.cfs.sa.gov.au

Parents are asked to monitor these days and be alert for the possibility of collecting their children from school prior to the end of the day in the event of sufficient notice of a local bushfire.

School Level 1 procedures:

- "Total Fire Ban Day" displayed on electronic Belair Primary School sign on Main Road.
- Staff and students will be notified via the P.A. system of Level 1 Alert.
- Administration staff will monitor media sources for bushfire warnings and updates.
- Planned excursion will be reviewed. No excursion will take place in area where a total fire ban is in place.
- Teachers to display "Total Fire Ban Day" signage in a prominent position in the classroom.
- Teachers will discuss Bushfire Procedures (level 2 & 3 Alert) with students.
- Students can be collected from the classroom but must be signed out at the Front Office.

Bushfire Watch and Act Message - School level 2 Alert

This alert is declared in response to a **BUSHFIRE WATCH and ACT MESSAGE** issued by the Emergency Services and / or the Department for Education SEM Team advising of a potential threat in the local district. It may also be declared by the Incident controller (Principal or delegate) when there is smoke in the air that impacts on outside activities.

School Level 2 procedures:

- Staff and students will be notified via the P.A. system of Level 2 Alert.
- Planned excursions will be cancelled.
- Prepare to move students to the Gym.
- All students to return to classroom and remain indoors at all times.
- Support staff proceed to Gym to assist with emergency setup.
- Students can be collected from the classroom but must be signed out at the Front Office.
- **Students will not be dismissed at home time. Parent/Authorised person must collect students from school.**
- Access gates will be unlocked.

Bushfire Emergency Warning - School level 3 Alert

BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY WARNING is issued by the Emergency Services and /or the Department for Education SEM Team to advise that a bushfire in the district presents a direct threat to the school and requires an immediate response from the public to ensure their safety and survival.

School Level 3 procedures:

- Staff and students will be notified via the P.A. system of Level 3 Alert.
- Students and staff move to the Gym.
- All persons on the school site are to follow the schools Level 3 procedures.
- No person will leave the Gym until the immediate area has been deemed safe.

Once the front has passed

- Students will remain in the Gym or other suitable location and await collection by Parents/Authorised persons. As this is a very unpredictable scenario the safety and wellbeing of the students will be the priority we would ask that everyone remain patient and await instruction from the Principal or delegates/emergency service personnel who will direct and control this process.
- Post emergency procedures to be completed by school Incident Response Team.

A copy of the school's full procedures is available on the school website.

Visit the CFS website www.cfs.sa.gov.au for more information on how to prepare for the bushfire season.

Catastrophic Fire Danger – School Closed

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 school will inform you by **email and SMS.** When closed 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.

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. Parents are asked to be ready and alert for the possibility of a school closure.

All school closures are coordinated by the Department for Education Security and Emergency Management (SEM) 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