

KEYNETON PRIMARY SCHOOL

has a 'moderate/high risk' bushfire rating.

This means on days of catastrophic bushfire weather warnings, our school will be closed.

BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY CONTACTS

School number: **8564 8258**
Principal's mobile: **0419 803 138**

Please note that these numbers may be engaged during an emergency situation and you may not be able to get through immediately.

Gawler Office, Bushfire Coordinator:

Kathryn Bruggemann
Phone: **8522 0900**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

DECD Emergency and Crisis Management Website
Department for Education and Child Development
www.crisis.sa.edu.au

SA Country Fire Service (CFS) Website
www.cfs.org.au

Use this site yourself after 4pm to check for the following day's fire bans

IF IT'S CATASTROPHIC in the Murraylands – KEYNETON PRIMARY SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED.

CFS Bushfire Information Line
1300 362 361

During a catastrophic bushfire weather forecast or an actual bushfire, a Parent Information Hotline will be activated.

PARENT INFORMATION HOTLINE
Ph: 1800 000 279

YOUR CHILDREN

and the

BUSHFIRE SEASON

Important information for Parents and Carers 2016/2017

Bushfire season can be an anxious time for children and families, especially after last summer's fires.

Our school is in a moderate/high risk bushfire area and we have emergency plans to keep everybody as safe as possible in the event of a bushfire.

Please read this information carefully in the best interests of your children.

By being prepared, and acting now, you will help our school to be bushfire ready and keep our children as safe as possible.

Thank you for your support.

BEFORE THE BUSHFIRE SEASON

DECD schools and preschools prepare for the bushfire season and develop plans for the threat of a bushfire. We consult with fire authorities and building specialists to be better prepared. Our schools and preschools in high risk areas must:

- Complete a Bushfire Safety Audit checklist.
- Prepare buildings and grounds including clearing gutters, and removing vegetation
- Update their Bushfire Action Plan and inform families of changes.
- Practise bushfire safety drills.
- Ensure power-fail telephone handsets and battery powered radios are in working order.
- Ask parents and carers to update their emergency contact details.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

We ask parents and carers to:

- Read all bushfire information provided.
- Talk to your children about what will happen if a bushfire occurs when they are at school.
- Make sure your emergency contact details are up-to-date with our school.

CATASTROPHIC BUSHFIRE WEATHER DAYS AT KEYNETON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Catastrophic bushfire days are days when the weather conditions mean a fire is more likely to start and be more difficult to control.

When a catastrophic bushfire weather day is forecast for the following day by the Bureau of Meteorology, all 'moderate high' and 'high risk' schools and preschools in the declared Fire Ban District will be closed, and school buses and taxis will not operate.

Parents and carers will need to make alternative arrangements for their children on these days.

We will make every attempt to contact parents to inform them that our school will be closed.

If we know before 3.30 you will receive written notification. You will also receive a text message and a sign will be posted on the front gate.

Please make sure your emergency contact details are updated immediately.

APPROACHING BUSHFIRE

If our school is open and a bushfire is approaching, the safety of children is our highest priority.

The South Australian Police (SAPOL) and the Country Fire Service (CFS) will take charge if a bushfire is approaching. They recommend that in such an event, everybody should remain at their school unless instructed to do otherwise. We would contact you via text message if it was possible.

Principals must comply with SAPOL or CFS instructions, we would evacuate if it was deemed necessary by them.

If the police have not advised an evacuation, everyone will remain inside a designated building (The Lodge) and emergency procedures will be activated. These will include:

- Moving everybody inside, closing windows, doors, and blocking crevices, cracks and gaps.
- Plugging downpipes and filling roof gutters with water, if there is time.
- Checking that taps are working and filling available containers with water.
- Hosing down walls, garden etc. on the side facing the 'fire-front' and leaving garden sprinklers on.
- Remaining inside and putting fire drill procedures into action with the children until the main fire-front passes.
- Listening to the local ABC Radio Station for information.

We hope that we will never have to enact fire drill procedures. However we are working with our school community to be bushfire ready in the event of a bushfire emergency and trust that parents and carers will add their support.

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