



Inspiring a love of learning
in a caring community

BUSHFIRE POLICY

Mil Lel Primary School is in the LOWER SOUTH EAST FIRE BAN DISTRICT and is NOT a high bushfire risk school and will remain open on all fire ban days.

When Total Fire Bans have been declared, very hazardous fire weather conditions are predicted. The CFS has 3 ratings categories for fire danger: Severe, Extreme and Catastrophic.

Our school will follow the process below when any Fire Ban is in place:

Declaration of Fire Ban

- Attendance list is kept on Central Register Sheet in Front Office.
- Generator and sprinklers are checked and started (by principal or grounds person), radio is on and tuned to ABC.
- If a school excursion or another off site activity involving the school (eg swimming lessons) is to occur a risk assessment will be carried out to determine if it proceeds or not (refer to Risk Management Checklist). Regional Office to be advised.
- If a bushfire is burning prior to departure and is likely to threaten the intended campsite or excursion site, then the excursion/camp must be cancelled.

Fire in our area of concern as notified by the CFS/The Department of Education Mount Gambier Office

- Children to remain at school.
- School keeps in contact with CFS/The Department of Education Security and Emergency Management.
- School advises The Department of Education Mount Gambier Office.
- Children are ONLY released to parents or other adult with parent signature and current date in the Departure/Return Register located in the Front Office. Admin staff will record this information in the Central Register Sheet, as children are collected. If the Front Office is unattended then report to the Library.
- Staff will remain with students until all danger has passed. Students not collected are catered for after hours at school.

Fire threatens school as notified by the CFS/The Department of Education Mount Gambier Office

- Steps above to apply.
- Children to remain at school.
- In-vacuation siren is sounded if required.
- All people move to the Administration building.
- Staff to complete roll check of students.
- All windows and doors are closed, draughts blocked and air conditioning turned off.
- Combustible material is removed eg artwork.
- Extinguishers to main building and containers filled with water.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- The Administration building is the refuge area.
- The ABC will broadcast any relevant information (ABC 1476AM).

CATASTROPHIC FIRE DANGER AND BUS INFORMATION

Declaration of CATASTROPHIC FIRE DANGER RATING the day before:

- Our school will remain open.
- Bus and taxi services within the local area will not run, including the Mil Lel bus service.
- Contact families who access the bus run.

Declaration of CATASTROPHIC FIRE DANGER RATING during the day:

- Buses operate as per normal unless otherwise instructed by emergency services.

In the event of the school bus and/or the bus route being affected by a fire, buses WILL NOT be permitted to leave the school without consultation between The Department of Education Mount Gambier Office, CFS and our school. Children will be kept at school and cared for by staff, volunteers and welfare services for as long as is necessary. Parents will be contacted as soon as is practically possible. Children will be released only to their parents or to other persons authorized by their parents; either in writing or a documented phone call.

Review Date 2021

Further information:

Information about fire bans: www.cfs.sa.gov.au

Further information from The Department:

www.education.sa.gov.au

CFS Bushfire Information Hotline: – **1300 362 361**



Government of South Australia
Department for Education