



Whian Whian Public School

'Creative and Caring'

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Principal: David Condon

20 September 2023

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE UPCOMING BUSHFIRE SEASON

Dear parent/carer,

I am writing to advise you of bushfire emergency arrangements for our school this bushfire season.

Our school is in a bushfire prone area and is listed as Category 1 on the NSW Department of Education's bushfire risk register.

To ensure the health, safety and welfare of students and staff, the department has determined that on days when NSW Rural Fire Service declares a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating for Far North Coast - North Eastern, our school will temporarily cease operations for the following day.

In addition, schools may be made non-operational due to changing higher risk conditions and advice from emergency services and the State Emergency Operations Centre.

We will advise parents via our website, text messages, Facebook pages or by email if the school is non-operational. We also recommend that you stay up to date with bushfire and grassfire activity by using the [Hazards Near Me](#) app (set a watch zone for your school area), and by monitoring local media. You can also review fire activity and alert levels on the [RFS](#) website.

The Fire Danger Rating does not mean there will be a bushfire, but rather weather conditions that could pose a high risk for a bushfire event. The measure is proactive to ensure staff, students and the community remain safe.

To ensure that we continue to support student learning on these days, I have put the following arrangements in place:

In circumstances where the school is closed for an extended period of time, students will be contacted with instructions regarding learning they can do from home. This will be similar to the organisation during lockdown. There will be online as well as hard copy options to support learning.

Our school will inform our school community after 4pm if there is a change to the operational status of the school for the following day. To assist the school in contacting all families please ensure that you have provided us with up-to-date contact details.

Further information on up-to-date communication of school operations, can also be found through:

- our school website or Facebook page
- NSW Department of Education's School Safety website:
education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/school-safety
- NSW School Updates app:
education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers/nsw-school-updates-app, and
- social media.

We recommend that all of our families follow the advice of the NSW Rural Fire Service and ensure that your family knows what to do if there is a fire.

It can take as little as five minutes to make your plan. Discuss it with your family so you know what you will do in the event of a fire. www.myfireplan.com.au

Please contact the school on 6689 5240 if you would like any further information about this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Dave Condon

Principal