



WINMALEE PUBLIC SCHOOL

1-15 Leslie St Winmalee NSW 2777

website: www.winmalee-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

SAFE • RESPECTFUL • LEARNERS

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 2019-20 BUSH FIRE SEASON

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to let you know about arrangements for our school for the current bush fire season.

Our school has been identified as a school at increased risk if a bush fire were to break out on a day when a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating is issued for our area.

To ensure the health, safety and welfare of students and staff, the NSW Department of Education has determined that on days when a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating is issued for our area, the school will temporarily cease operations for the day(s) the rating is current and alternative learning arrangements will be put in place. This is based on information obtained through a bush fire assessment of our school arranged by the department.

A Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating is likely to occur on a very small number of days during the bush fire season, if at all. To ensure that we continue to support student learning on these days, I have put the following arrangements in place:

Once the school has been officially notified of the rating, information will be relayed to parents through our School Website, SENTRAL and Social Media.

The school will only receive notification of a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating anytime up to 4.30pm the day before the forecast is issued. To assist me in contacting all parents please ensure that you have provided the school with up-to-date home or after hours contact details.

Information for parents and carers provided by the department about these arrangements is attached. Up to date bush fire information will also be available to you on the department's bush fire safety website. The link for this site is: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/inside-the-department/health-and-safety/emergency-planning-and-incident-response/emergency-management-procedures/bushfire-planning>

In the event of a bush fire emergency during school hours the Police and local Emergency Services would advise us. Because of the likely breakdown of communication and transport systems at such times, students would be kept at school or evacuated to a control point. Students would be kept under teacher supervision until the danger had passed or until students were collected by parents or by someone authorised in writing by parents.

Please contact the school on 4754 1574 if you would like any further information about this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Ford

Principal
