



No. 5218

## Sunbury & Macedon Ranges Specialist School

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16<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

## **CONFIRMED EXTREME DAY CAMPUS CLOSURE**

I am writing to advise you that our school Bullengarook Secondary Campus will be enacting our approved pre-emptive bushfire action plan for school closure, <u>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February</u> due to an <u>Extreme</u> fire danger rating day forecast for our area, the Macedon Ranges, Local Government Area. This is consistent with the Department of Education and Training's Bushfire and Grassfire Preparedness policy.

The school is expected to re-open on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February**, when conditions are predicted to improve. We will keep in regular contact to ensure you are aware when school will resume as normal.

I realise that enacting these pre-emptive bushfire plans may result in you having to make alternative arrangements for your child, but the safety of our students and staff remains our top priority. Given the predicted weather conditions, we urge that your child is not left at home unattended or in the care of older children.

We are taking all possible steps to ensure our school community is aware of the closure, including displaying posters at our school entrances, and sending an SMS and communicating with all families. If, however, you know of other families who, for any reason, may not be aware of these arrangements, please contact them to help ensure they are aware that the school will be closed on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February.

You should also explain to your child and family members that the school site will be and that for safety reasons, no staff will be on-site.

For further information, please see the department's bushfire preparedness policy.

Multiple sources that offer information on emergencies are listed below:

- VicEmergency app that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
- Website https://emergency.vic.gov.au
- Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency)
- Twitter (<u>https://twitter.com/vicemergency</u>)
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters

Can parents and carers, please acknowledge receipt of our SMS message that was sent this afternoon. Apologies for the late notification as the Australian Fire Danger Rating was updated from High to Extreme last night. The school was alerted by the department this morning, and this was confirmed after 1:00pm.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Joanne Nolan Principal