



## Sunbury & Macedon Ranges Specialist School

Sunbury Campus  
127-143 Circular Drive, Sunbury 3429  
P.O. Box 304, Sunbury 3429  
Phone: 9744 4879/9744 7734 Fax: 9740 8581

Bullengarook Secondary Campus  
705 Bacchus Marsh Rd., Bullengarook  
P.O. Box 962, Gisborne 3437  
Phone: 5428 9222 Fax: 5428 9442

Sunbury Campus email: [sunbury.macedon.ranges.ss@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:sunbury.macedon.ranges.ss@education.vic.gov.au)  
Bullengarook Campus email: [sunbury.macedon.ranges.bullengarook@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:sunbury.macedon.ranges.bullengarook@education.vic.gov.au)  
Website: [www.smrss.vic.edu.au](http://www.smrss.vic.edu.au)

12<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

### CONFIRMED SCHOOL CLOSURE/LEARNING FROM HOME ARRANGEMENTS

I am writing to advise you that our school, Bullengarook Campus, **will be enacting our approved pre-emptive action plan for closure/learning from home plan, Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February**, due to an **Extreme fire danger rating** in our **local government area (LGA), Macedon Ranges Shire Council**

The department's [Bushfire and Grassfire Preparedness Policy](#) requires schools at high risk of bushfire to enact pre-emptive action plans based on LGA-level fire danger forecasts issued by the Bureau of Meteorology. Conditions can vary significantly across the wider weather district, so using local forecasts helps us to respond appropriately to risks in our local area and maintain stability and educational continuity for our students and school community.

LGA forecasts are a subset of weather district ratings, and while not issued publicly, they are provided to the Department of Education and emergency services to support operational activities. This policy is consistent for all schools at high levels of risk, and this approach is supported by emergency services.

Action your family's bushfire survival plan if your own triggers are met. We encourage you to follow your family bushfire survival plan and the advice of emergency services.

The school is expected to re-open on Friday 14<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 our pre-emptive action plan 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 forecasted 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 school's learning from home arrangement/closure, including displaying posters at our school entrances and messaging via our XUNO platform and school Facebook page. If 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 undertaking learning from home/closed on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February.

Your child's teacher will be sending a link to the online Webex learning session.

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

For more information on bushfire preparedness, visit the [department's website](#).

You can find more information on emergencies and preparedness actions here:

- 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 (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Brendan Nolan

Campus Principal