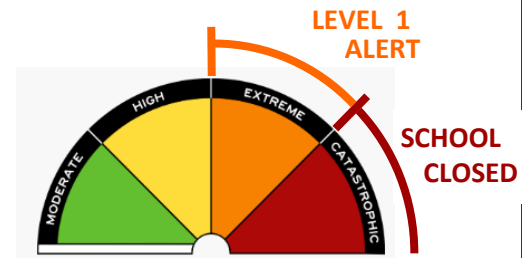


## BRIDGEWATER PRIMARY SCHOOL'S GYM IS OUR BUSHFIRE SHELTER IN THE EVENT OF A BUSHFIRE

Emergencies and all fires	000
Adelaide Hills Council	8408 0400
Emergency Services Hotline	1800 362 361
CFS Website	<a href="http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au">www.cfs.sa.gov.au</a>
Parent Information Hotline	1800 000 279



**ON CATASTROPHIC DAYS BRIDGEWATER PRIMARY WILL BE CLOSED**

Procedures for staff and students are well documented and practice fire drills are held at the school on a regular basis.

**Every day during the Bushfire season, you must regularly check your mobile phone number/s.**

Contingencies are in place for excursions/camps planned on Total Fire Ban days.

The school has three **ALERT LEVELS** to identify the process required for different levels of risk.

### CATASTROPHIC DAY

*Bridgewater Primary School is rated as an **EXTREME FIRE RISK SCHOOL**.*

**BRIDGEWATER PRIMARY SCHOOL and OSHC will be CLOSED when the Fire Danger Index in the Mt. Lofty district is CATASTROPHIC. BPS and OSHC may be closed by the Minister of Education on Extreme Days.**

### LEVEL 1 ALERT - TOTAL FIRE BAN DAY - EXTREME

This alert is declared on days of extreme fire danger as identified through **ABC Radio 891AM, Bureau of Meteorology <http://www.bom.gov.au>** and the **CFS website <https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au>**. Parents may choose not to send children to school on **Extreme days** in line with their family Bushfire Action Plan. Please advise BPS promptly if you choose not to send your children to school on **Extreme Days**.

Think... Where will you be today? If BPS move to Level 2 or Level 3 Alert, will you be able to collect your children from school safely?

### LEVEL 2 ALERT - FIRE REPORTED IN CLOSE PROXIMITY

This alert is declared in response to a **BUSHFIRE INFORMATION MESSAGE** issued by the Police and Emergency Services advising of a potential threat to public safety by a bushfire in our **Area of Concern**. The School's **Area of Concern** includes both the school grounds and the surrounding district from which our school draws students. When school declares a **LEVEL 2 ALERT**, the Principal will notify staff who will respond following the school's procedures. The school will endeavour to alert parents by SMS. **\*Check media and SMS messages to establish if it is safe to collect your child.** Parents may choose to collect their children if safe to do so, but **must sign them out at the Front Office**.

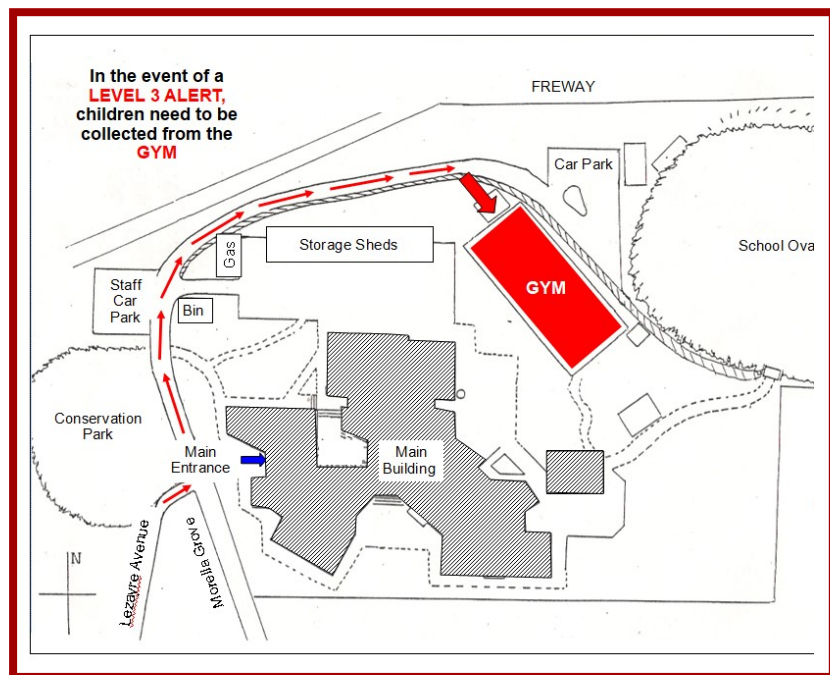
### LEVEL 3 ALERT - FIRE IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF BPS

**\*Check media and SMS messages to establish if it is safe to collect your child.** This **Level 3 Alert** comes into operation when a **BUSHFIRE WARNING MESSAGE** is given to advise that a bushfire in the district presents a **direct threat** to the school grounds and buildings. All students and staff will shelter in the **Gym**. Students will remain in the **Gym** until safe for collection by a parent or person nominated on the previously by the parent. Parents/nominated people must be sure that the student/s they collect have been **signed out** with the **adult in charge** of the whole school list.

**BUSHFIRE INFORMATION MESSAGES** and **BUSHFIRE WARNING MESSAGES** will be issued via multiple media communication channels including local radio stations. The school will make every effort to contact families. **However, it is your responsibility to keep yourself informed.** Once we are in the Gym we will be unable to take calls or answer messages from parents. Please do not call or text the school as the phone lines must be clear for Emergency Services.

**\*At all levels of alert** the Principal is responsible for decision-making regarding the safety and movement of students and staff, unless Police and Emergency Services intervenes directly or through an authorised officer, whose authority to act has been established beyond reasonable doubt.

# Emergency Bushfire Shelter (BPS GYM) in the event of a Fire in the Immediate Vicinity (Level 3 Alert)



## FAMILY BUSHFIRE ACTION PLANS ARE VITAL!

What plans do you have in place for your children when Bridgewater Primary School and OSHC are **CLOSED** on **CATASTROPHIC** days?

Will you send your children to school on **Extreme Total Fire Ban** days?

(You must notify the school before 9am if your child is not attending school on any given day.)

**THESE DECISIONS NEED TO BE MADE NOW TO PROTECT YOUR FAMILY!**

It is **IMPERATIVE** that **YOU** ensure Bridgewater Primary School has your **current mobile number** and that you **regularly check your mobile for messages during every day of the bushfire season.**

## CATASTROPHIC DAY INFORMATION

### BRIDGEWATER PRIMARY SCHOOL AND OSHC WILL BE CLOSED

**Bridgewater Primary School is rated as an EXTREME FIRE RISK SCHOOL.**

Bridgewater Primary School and OSHC will be **CLOSED** on days when the Fire Danger Index in the Mt. Lofty district is deemed **CATASTROPHIC**.

- Where possible, **advanced** warning will be given to schools and parents up to 48 hours before a **CATASTROPHIC** day.
- **Confirmation** of a **CATASTROPHIC** day by the CFS may only occur after 4pm the day prior.
- **CATASTROPHIC** days can be declared at any time. It is important to check the Fire Danger Rating for the Mt. Lofty district every morning (see steps 1 to 5 below) **before** bringing children to school.
- **There will be no staff on site on a CATASTROPHIC day.** Enact your Family Bushfire Action Plan. Leaving early, **before a fire starts**, is clearly the safest option.
- Parents will be able to **confirm SCHOOL CLOSURE** by:
  1. SMS message from BPS to parent/carers mobile.
  2. Parent Bushfire Information Hotline **1800 000 279** - will operate the day before and through-out school closures.
  3. ABC Radio (891AM) and ABC television.
  4. CFS website **www.cfs.sa.gov.au**.
  5. Sign displayed out the front of the school (where possible).

DfE's **GUIDE FOR FAMILIES** is available at:

<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/bushfire-and-your-childs-school-or-preschool-brochure.pdf>