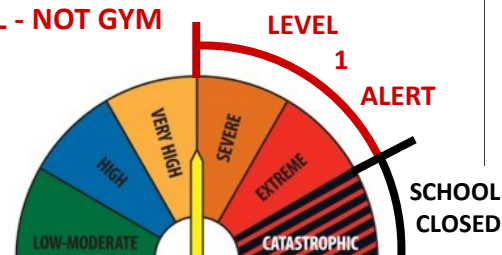


# BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

**BRIDGEWATER PRIMARY SCHOOL HALL IS CLASSIFIED AS A BUSHFIRE REFUGE (BR) IN THE EVENT OF A BUSHFIRE**

**REMEMBER TO COLLECT STUDENTS FROM THE HALL - NOT GYM**

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Emergencies (and all fires)      | 000  |
| Adelaide Hills Council           | 8408 0400  |
| CFS Bushfire Information Hotline | 1300 362 361   |
| CFS Website                      | <a href="http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au">www.cfs.sa.gov.au</a>       |
| Parent Information Hotline       | 1800 000 279   |
| Alert SA Website                 | <a href="http://www.alert.sa.gov.au">www.alert.sa.gov.au</a>   |
| School Closure Detail            | <a href="http://www.crisis.sa.edu.au">www.crisis.sa.edu.au</a> |
| DECD Emergency Crisis Website    | <a href="http://www.crisis.sa.edu.au">www.crisis.sa.edu.au</a> |



**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 the mobile phone number that you have nominated for us to contact you on. 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** (more information on back of this page)

*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— SEVERE AND EXTREME (TFBD)**

This alert is declared on days of severe and extreme fire danger as identified through **ABC Radio (891AM)**. Parents may choose not to send children to school on extreme days - in line with their family Bushfire Action Plan - advise BPS promptly if you choose not to send your children to school. Think - where will you be today? If BPS move to Level 2 or 3 Alert, will you be able to safely collect your children from school? All teachers are notified when a **LEVEL 1 ALERT** has been declared.

## **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 school's procedures. The school will endeavour to alert parents by SMS. If necessary the Principal will notify the official fire information radio station **ABC Radio (891AM)** of the school's procedures, so that parents can be kept informed. **Check media and SMS messages to establish if it is safe to collect your child (see note\* below).** Parents may choose to collect their children if safe to do so, but must sign them out in their Studio roll book and at the Front Office. If the **LEVEL 2 ALERT** continues beyond normal dismissal time, the school will seek to use **ABC Radio (891AM)** and SMS to notify parents of its decision regarding dismissal of children.

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

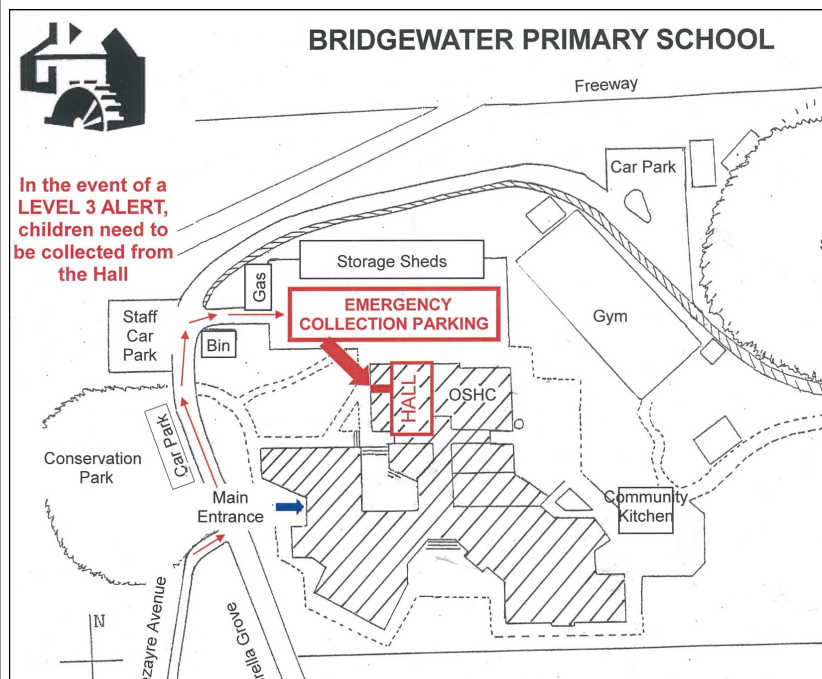
**Check media and SMS messages to establish if it is safe to collect your child (see note\* below).** This Level 3 Alert comes into operation when a **BUSHFIRE WARNING MESSAGE** is given to advise that a bushfire in the district presents a **direct threat** to the school grounds and buildings. All students and staff will be evacuated to the **Hall**. Students will remain in the **Hall** until safe for collection by a parent or people nominated on the **Pink Consent Form** (updated annually). 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. Nominated staff will remain until all students have been collected, or directed to evacuate by Emergency Services.

**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 Hall we will be unable to take calls or answer messages from parents. Please do not call or text, phone lines need to 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 Collection Point

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 if your child is not attending on those days)

**THESE DECISIONS NEED TO BE MADE NOW!**

**YOU NEED TO PROTECT YOUR FAMILY!**

*It is **IMPERATIVE** that **YOU** ensure Bridgewater Primary School has your current mobile numbers and that you regularly check these mobile numbers during each 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 **may only occur after 4 pm the day before**, once it has been confirmed by the CFS.
- **CATASTROPHIC** days can be declared at any time. It is important to keep checking the Fire Danger Rating, including a check on the morning, before bringing children to school, via the details set out below (1-7).
- **There will be no staff on site on a CATASTROPHIC day.** Please enact your Family Bushfire Plan. It is not safe to be in a **CATASTROPHIC** zone.
- Parents will be able to **confirm school closure** by:
  1. SMS message from BPS to parent nominated mobile/s
  2. Parent Bushfire Information Hotline 1800 000 279 which will operate the day before and through-out school closures or visit [www.crisis.sa.edu.au](http://www.crisis.sa.edu.au)
  3. ABC Radio (891AM) and ABC television
  4. CFS website [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au)
  5. Alert SA website [www.alert.sa.gov.au](http://www.alert.sa.gov.au)
  6. Sign displayed out the front of the school (where possible)
  7. Calling BPS on 8339 1600 or 8339 3301, BPS Mobile 0458 810 681 (day prior only) or Barb's mobile 0407 942 619 (**emergency use only**).

Up-to-date information is available from [www.crisis.sa.edu.au](http://www.crisis.sa.edu.au)