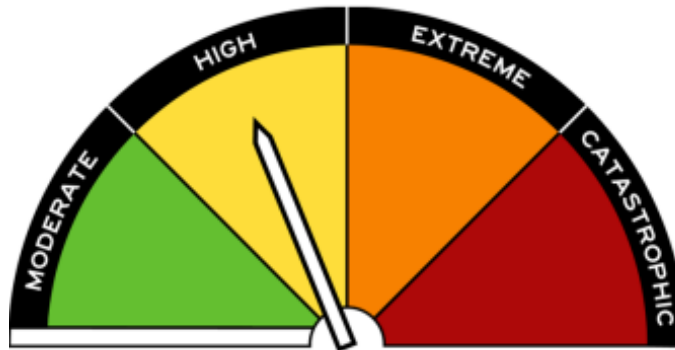




## School Procedures for the Bushfire Season 2022/23



In September 2022, all Australian jurisdictions will implement a nationally consistent four-tier fire danger rating system which has been agreed by states/territories, and driven by findings of Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements (2020)

It is based upon improved bushfire prediction science, simplifying community messaging and ensuring consistency across borders.

Kallista Primary School is a Category 2 school, under the Bushfire at Risk Register.

**Our school will relocate on all Extreme days, and on Catastrophic days our school will be closed to everyone.** This includes staff, students, parents and visitors. Out of School Hours Care will not operate.

**All school community members will be notified by SMS the day before, to confirm closure.**

You must ensure you have given the school your current mobile and telephone contacts so that we can notify you of relocation or closure. This is a parental responsibility. We do not want children dropped at the school when it is closed. We will also put up signs outside the school, informing that the school is closed.

### **EXTREME FIRE DANGER RATING DAY – SCHOOL RELOCATION PLAN**

On an EXTREME Fire Danger Rating Day- The school will put into place our relocation plan.

Our relocation school is Fairhills Primary School, Manuka Drive, Ferntree Gully. It is not compulsory to use the relocation school, and families may choose to make other arrangements for the care of children, in line with their fire plan.

Parents must be able to drop off and pick up their children. Transport to and from the relocation, school is not available. Parents will also be able to use the Fairhills Primary's Before and After School Care if needed. More information about relocation will be provided in early Term Four. *Please contact the principal- Christine Finighan- on 97552633, should you have any concerns or require more information.*

### **CATASTROPHIC DAYS – NO RELOCATION OPTION**

On **CATASTROPHIC DAYS** there is no relocation option and families will need to make alternate arrangements for the care of children. On high fire danger rating days such as these, families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan.

**REMEMBER- children should never be left at home alone, or unsupervised, or in the care of older children.**

***What must parents do?***

- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. You will receive SMS messages if the school is to be closed the next day.
- Keep informed about our bushfire procedures by reading our newsletters and COMPASS messages, and by checking our website at <http://kallistaps.vic.edu.au/> .
- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed on CATASTROPHIC days- when our relocation school is not available.
- Most importantly during the bushfire season, if you're planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan.
- You can access more information about children's services closures on the Department of Education and Training website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

**On high fire danger rating days such as these, families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan.**

***Keep up-to-date information on this year's fire season-***

\*Visit the VicEmergency website at [emergency.vic.gov.au](http://emergency.vic.gov.au)

\* or call the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226.