



WAROONA

DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

Information for Parents on Bushfire Procedures for Waroona District High School

Waroona District High School has been placed on the Department of Education bushfire zone register as it is located in a designated bushfire risk area.

Pre-empted closure

If a fire with a behaviour index of 75 (extreme fire danger) or greater is forecast for the Shire of Waroona, the school may be required by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) or the Department of Education (DoE) to invoke a pre-emptive (planned) closure. A 'catastrophic' fire danger rating poses a significant threat to the school if a fire starts. It is likely to be uncontrollable, unpredictable and fast-moving.

Parents and carers will receive a text message to inform them of a possible pre-emptive closure of the school.

The final decision to pre-emptively close the school will be confirmed with the principal no later than 4:30 pm on the day before the pre-emptive closure. If the forecast changes after the 4:30 pm deadline, the school remains closed.

Parents and carers will receive a text message to either confirm or cancel a pre-emptive closure of the school.

Typically, schools will be required to close for a day at a time however, this will depend on changing weather conditions. Parents and carers will receive a text message to advise if the school will reopen the day after the pre-emptive closure, or whether it will remain closed.

Pre-emptive closure information will also be posted to the Waroona DHS Facebook page.

Parents and carers are encouraged to monitor official bushfire information sources for current information about fire danger ratings:

1. [Emergency WA website](#)
2. Department of Fire and Emergency Services
 - Information line, 13 33 37
 - Twitter, https://twitter.com/dfes_wa
3. Local radio
 - [ABC Emergency WA](#)
 - ABC local radio
 - 6PR

CONSIDERATE

ASPIRING

RESPONSIBLE

ENGAGED

SAFE

ABN 70 185 869 775

55 Millar Street, PO Box 220, Waroona WA 6215

Tel: 08 9782 7000

www.waroonadhs.wa.edu.au

Response when a bushfire starts, and the school is open

In the event of a bushfire threatening Waroona DHS, the school will activate its Bushfire Plan immediately.

During a bushfire, Emergency Services provide as much information as possible through several different channels. There are three levels of warning:

- **ADVICE**
- **WATCH AND ACT** and
- **EMERGENCY WARNING**

Advice Warning stage

A fire has started but there is no known danger. The bushfire is not threatening lives or property but may be causing smoke near the school. All evaporative air conditioners are to be turned off and regular checks of the school are to be undertaken paying special attention to the evaporative air conditioners.

Watch and Act Warning stage

There is a possible threat to lives and property. Conditions are changing.

The principal will prepare to move or evacuate students, staff and visitors. The principal's decision to relocate students, staff and visitors to our internal safer building location or an offsite evacuation location will be based on an assessment of known information and advice from the Incident Controller or Emergency Services.

Emergency Warning stage

The school is in danger as the area will be impacted by fire. Immediate action needs to be taken. The principal will be advised whether staff, students and visitors can leave the area or must shelter in the internal safer building location. Evacuation orders are directed by the Incident Controller or Emergency Services.

Parent access - Internal Safer Building Location (if evacuation offsite it is not possible)

- Parents are **NOT** to pick up students until they are informed it is safe to do so. Parents should monitor local media, the ABC and the www.emergency.wa.gov.au website
- Parents will be informed by SMS when it is safe to collect students, upon advice from the Incident Controller or Emergency Services
- For parents without a mobile phone to receive the SMS, they are encouraged to call South Metropolitan Regional Education Office on 9336 9563

Parent access - Offsite Evacuation Location

- Parents will be informed by SMS where to collect students, upon advice from the Incident Controller or Emergency Services
- For parents without a mobile phone to receive the SMS, they are encouraged to call South Metropolitan Regional Education Office on 9336 9563

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