

The Hills School

Mary Street, Northmead NSW 2152
 Telephone: 9639 7334, 9639 8448, Fax 9686 3471
 Email : thehills-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au
 www.thehills-s.schools.nsw.edu.au



11 October 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Bushfire Plan Information

With the recent unseasonably hot weather it's an appropriate time to advise you of the procedures The Hills School has in place in the event that there is any bushfire activity in our local area.

The Hills School has been recognised on the List of NSW government schools in identified bush fire prone areas. The Hills School is **not** in a high risk bush fire prone area. The school has a documented Bushfire Plan which is incorporated into our school's Emergency Management Plan.

Communicating efficiently and effectively with our parents and carers is an integral part of this plan. As you are aware, The Hills School has incorporated an **app** into its parent communication stream. This will enable us to instantly transmit information to parents/carers in the event of an emergency. If you haven't already, you simply download the **Flexibuzz** app to your smart phone (android or iphone), tablet, PC or Mac.

If there is a bushfire in the local area, there are three degrees of response that The Hills School may make under advice from the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) and the Department of Education Health and Safety.

If there is a bushfire in the local area, it is the responsibility of parents/carers to monitor communication from the school via the Flexibuzz app.

No imminent danger Students Remain At School	School Temporarily Ceases Operating During School Day	School Temporarily Ceases Operating The Following Day
No imminent danger from local bushfires – smoke in the air	To ensure the safety of staff and students the school may be required to temporarily cease operations and close immediately	Health and Safety, School Director or NSW RFS have advised to temporarily cease school operation
Students remain at school [no outdoor activities]	Parents are responsible to monitor the Flexibuzz app or school website for information	The Hills School notifies school community via alert notice on the Flexibuzz app and the school website
Parents are responsible to monitor the Flexibuzz app or school website for information	When notified – all parents are responsible to collect their child immediately from school, this includes those attending respite or those normally travelling via Assisted School Travel Transport.	The Hills School notifies Assisted School Travel of school closure. Assisted School Travel will notify contractors and drivers directly.
Student afternoon transport will remain as normal	The school will notify Assisted School Travel of the school closure. Parents are to collect students, NO transport will operate that afternoon . Assisted School Travel will notify contractors and drivers directly.	Continue to monitor situation. Return to normal operations as soon as possible.

continued over ...

No imminent danger Students Remain At School	School Temporarily Ceases Operating <u>During</u> School Day	School Temporarily Ceases Operating The Following Day
<i>Parents must remain alert for further information</i>	Parents are responsible to advise the school immediately if they are unable to collect their child to discuss alternative arrangements	<i>Parents must remain alert for further information</i>
	<i>Parents must remain alert for further information</i>	

In an extreme emergency, the school does have an off-site evacuation point at Northmead Bowling Club. However, for the safety of staff and students we would endeavour to make a decision to temporarily cease operations early enough to avoid having to evacuate to this off-site location.

If you are having any difficulties in downloading the Flexibuzz app to your smart phone (android or iphone), tablet, PC or Mac, you can contact Flexibuzz friendly technical support team via email at team@flexibuzz.com

Additionally, our staff are always willing to assist families with this new technology.

Should you have any queries regarding these procedures please contact the school to discuss.

Yours sincerely

Peter Gurrier-Jones
Principal