

Bushfire Preparedness Policy

Responsibility Emergency Operations Coordinator

Endorsed by Council August 2023

Due for Review August 2026



<p>Rationale</p>	<p>Bushfire preparedness is not just a concern for schools listed on the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR). While we not on the BARR, Berwick Fields will ensure it is bushfire ready and that all appropriate measures are met within the school to ensure student safety prior to and in the event of a bushfire emergency in Victoria. Consideration is also given to student transport to and from school, participation in offsite activities (including camps, excursions and sporting activities) and the risk of localised fire events.</p>														
<p>Managing Offsite Events</p>	<p>For all camps and excursions in Terms 1 and 4, the Principal class will make a judgement about the safe travel of students to and from these locations, in consultation with information from the CFA.</p> <p>In the event of a CODE RED day being declared in a region, any excursion or camp to that area will be cancelled. If a CODE RED is declared while students are on camp, the school will arrange to return students to school, or move to the closest emergency refuge point, at the earliest possible opportunity.</p>														
<p>Implementation Schedule</p>	<p>The Emergency Operations Coordinator will ensure the following actions are taken to monitor and remove, where required, flammable materials. Flammable material storage areas will be appropriately labelled with HAZCHEM signage.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="395 1106 1465 1848"> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1106 930 1173">Branches overhanging building</td> <td data-bbox="938 1106 1465 1173">Visual inspection in Week 1 of each term</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1178 930 1279">Debris and rubbish around and under buildings</td> <td data-bbox="938 1178 1465 1279">Visual inspection in Week 1 of each term</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1283 930 1384">Gutters</td> <td data-bbox="938 1283 1465 1384">Inspection in the January and October school holidays</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1388 930 1525">Dry grass and vegetation</td> <td data-bbox="938 1388 1465 1525">Regular lawnmowing. Visual inspection in Week 1 of each term</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1529 930 1630">Safe storage of flammable materials</td> <td data-bbox="938 1529 1465 1630">Visual inspection in the last week of each term, ensuring correct and secure storage.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1635 930 1771">Points of egress</td> <td data-bbox="938 1635 1465 1771">All community members are responsible for reporting any obstructions they observe to exit doors or gates around the school.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1776 930 1848">Fire hoses and extinguishers</td> <td data-bbox="938 1776 1465 1848">Inspected annually by the CFA</td> </tr> </table>	Branches overhanging building	Visual inspection in Week 1 of each term	Debris and rubbish around and under buildings	Visual inspection in Week 1 of each term	Gutters	Inspection in the January and October school holidays	Dry grass and vegetation	Regular lawnmowing. Visual inspection in Week 1 of each term	Safe storage of flammable materials	Visual inspection in the last week of each term, ensuring correct and secure storage.	Points of egress	All community members are responsible for reporting any obstructions they observe to exit doors or gates around the school.	Fire hoses and extinguishers	Inspected annually by the CFA
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