

# Loxton Lutheran School

## BUSHFIRE AND CATASTROPHIC DAY PROCEDURES

### GENERAL

Loxton Lutheran School does not want any student or member of the school community to be placed at any risk from a bushfire, and so the following procedures have been adopted for Bushfires and Catastrophic Days.

1. Our school obtains information on bushfires through the media and the Association of Independent Schools of SA (AISSA). The AISSA is normally notified of significant bushfires.
2. We seek to comply with bushfire warnings from emergency management authorities.
3. When the school is aware of a bushfire in an area, the school will:
  - cancel any excursions or trips into that area
  - cancel school bus runs
4. When the school becomes aware that students may be at risk from an active bushfire, if they travel home after school, these students will be able to stay at school until arrangements for their well-being are finalised.
5. In these situations, the school bus **will not** travel into the bushfire area and relevant students will stay at the school until other arrangements are made.
6. In the event that students remain at school because of a bushfire, the school will endeavour to contact parents, and the school phone 08 8584 7496 will be staffed.
7. In the event that communications to the school are not functioning, parents are encouraged to contact the Bushfire Information Hotline on 1300 362 361.
8. Parents are encouraged to provide the details of an alternative accommodation provider who can be contacted by the school in these situations. It is recommended that the alternative accommodation provider is in an area that is regarded by the CFS as a safer settlement or bushfire safer precinct that can be safely accessed from the school. Details of safer locations are available at [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au)
9. If your home is in an area that may be at risk from a bushfire or your children travel to and from school through an area that may be at risk from a bushfire, please complete the Bushfire and Catastrophic Day Information Form and provide details of alternative accommodation to which your child can be directed. To assist the school in determining students who may be at risk if there is a bushfire, please also indicate the road normally used to reach your home.
10. If your child(ren) are not at any risk please indicate this on the attached form so that we can be sure that no one is missed.
11. Please inform us of any changes that may impact on whether it is safe for your children to travel home in the event of a bushfire.

### BUS OPERATION

Loxton Lutheran School's buses **will not** operate

1. In bushfire-affected areas (see above)
2. On days declared Catastrophic (Code Red)

## **CATASTROPHIC DAYS**

1. It is the responsibility of Loxton Lutheran School, and its staff, to listen to ABC local radio after 5:00 pm on the day immediately preceding a possible Catastrophic Day to ascertain the Fire Danger Rating for that following day.
2. On declared Catastrophic Days, **school buses** will **not run** (this includes DECS operated buses as well as those operated by the Loxton Lutheran School)
3. Although it is the responsibility of parents to listen for weather warnings regarding the declaration of Catastrophic Days (via local media), Loxton Lutheran School will attempt to contact all parents whose children travel to and from school on its buses to notify them of the non-operation of its buses.

## **CONCLUSION**

We acknowledge the cooperation of parents, other schools and bus contractors. The safety of our students is our first priority.

**Adopted by LLS School Council on: ...27/07/2010.....**

**This policy will be reviewed in 2013**

**BUSHFIRE AND CATASTROPHIC DAY INFORMATION FORM**

**PARENT INFORMATION**

IS YOUR HOME IN AN AREA THAT MAY BE AT RISK FROM FIRE?      YES    NO

If your answer is YES please advise:

Student Name:

.....  
.....  
.....

**STUDENTS AT OTHER SCHOOLS:**

Name: .....

School: .....

Name: .....

School: .....

Name: .....

School: .....

DO YOUR CHILDREN TRAVEL AFTER SCHOOL THROUGH AN AREA THAT MAY BE AT RISK FROM FIRE?      YES    NO

**ALTERNATIVE ACCOMMODATION:**

Name of contact person: .....

Phone Number: .....

Address: .....  
.....