



Kentlyn Public School | Georges River Road | Kentlyn 2560

PO Box 5222 Minto, 2566 | Phone: 4628 2455 – Fax: 4628 4365
kentlyn-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Monday 16 October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE UPCOMING BUSHFIRE SEASON

I am writing to advise you of bushfire emergency arrangements for our school this bushfire season.

Our school is in a bushfire prone area and is listed as Category 1 on the NSW Department of Education's bushfire risk register.

To ensure the health, safety and welfare of students and staff, the department has determined that on days when NSW Rural Fire Service declares a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating for Kentlyn, our school will temporarily cease operations for the following day. **Please continue to monitor updates via our Seesaw and/or Skoolbag apps.**

In addition, schools may be made non-operational due to changing higher risk conditions and advice from emergency services and the State Emergency Operations Centre.

We recommend that you download the [Parent App](#) and select to monitor advice from our school which will push notifications to you advising that the school is non-operational. We also recommend that you stay up to date with bushfire and grassfire activity by using the [Hazards Near Me](#) app (set a watch zone for your school area), and by monitoring local media. You can also review fire activity and alert levels on the [RFS](#) website.

The Fire Danger Rating does not mean there will be a bushfire, but rather weather conditions that could pose a high risk for a bushfire event. The measure is proactive to ensure staff, students and the community remain safe.

To ensure that we continue to support student learning on these days, I have put the following arrangements in place:

Students on this day are encouraged to:

- keep a journal of their experiences during the fire warning, including their thoughts and feelings
- read books or educational materials related to science, nature, or current events
- access work via our students Studyladder or Reading Eggs accounts
- draw/sketch or colour in – expressing themselves creatively
- spend some time playing with board games or puzzles
- cook or bake at home with an adult
- participate in some indoor activities such as dance by following steps from a YouTube video or watch a documentary



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- write/draw a safety plan on how they would evacuate in case of a fire emergency around their home
- play music and sing some songs; make their own instrument with various odds and pieces around the house
- think about others affected by the fires and find ways to help, such as preparing care packages for evacuees or donating to relevant charities. (charity and kindness).

Parents/Carers are also encouraged to access home learning packages, set by the department, which are available for all Kindergarten to Year 6 students. (Kindergarten – Early Stage 1, Years 1 and 2 – Stage 1, Years 3 and 4 Stage 2 and Years 5 and 6, Stage 3.) These activities are set out in weeks with 5 days' worth of content. You may access these activities by clicking on the link below.

<https://sites.google.com/education.nsw.gov.au/guided-learning-packages>

Our school will inform our school community after 4pm if there is a change to the operational status of the school for the following day. Please ensure that you have an active account with our Seesaw App and have access to our Skoolbag app to further assist us with communicating and keeping you informed. If you need further assistance regarding connecting or downloading these apps, please contact the lovely ladies in the office to assist.

Further information on up-to-date communication of school operations, can also be found through:

- Seesaw and Skoolbag apps
- NSW Department of Education's School Safety website: [education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/school-safety](https://www.education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/school-safety)
- NSW School Updates app: [education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers/nsw-school-updates-app](https://www.education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers/nsw-school-updates-app), and
- social media.

We recommend that all our families follow the advice of the NSW Rural Fire Service and ensure that your family knows what to do if there is a fire.

It can take as little as five minutes to make your plan. Discuss it with your family so you know what you will do in the event of a fire. www.myfireplan.com.au

Please contact the school on 02 46282455 if you would like any further information about this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Androula Kavallaris

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Principal