



Bushfire Emergency Contact Numbers

000	To report a fire
8721 0200	Mount Gambier High School
8724 5300	Mr Adam Box Education Director Education Office Mount Gambier
1800 000 279	Parent Information Hotline
1300 362 361	CFS Bushfire Emergency Hotline

MOUNT GAMBIER HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT INFORMATION FOR THE 2019 BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY SEASON

The following is information regarding the coming 2018 Fire Danger season.

Catastrophic Fire Danger Day Within Fire Ban District – Mount Gambier is District 9.

This school will remain open when the Country Fire Service and Bureau of Meteorology forecast a “catastrophic fire danger” day. We are not rated as a “High Risk” school.

However, school buses and taxi services to country areas eg Carpenter Rocks, Compton, Glenburnie, Glencoe, Kongorong, Moorak, Suttontown, Tarpeena will not operate on a catastrophic fire danger day in our district.

Parents will need to make alternative arrangements for their children on these days.

Only schools rated “High Risk” will be closed.

What is a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating?

Catastrophic fire danger rating days are days when the weather conditions mean that should a fire start, it will be difficult to control.

Should this school or any outlying area be threatened, every attempt will be made to contact parents and caregivers to inform them. For this reason, it is particularly important that contact details for all students, particularly those on Department for Education and private bus routes, are kept up to date.

On days with Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating or Total Fire Ban Days:

- ◆ Students will be reminded of emergency procedures related to bus travel outside the city
- ◆ The Principal will make a risk assessment and decision to cancel excursions which involve travel outside the city
- ◆ Staff and student groups who are offsite at camps and excursions will be advised of the fire danger rating and whether they need to put their safety plan in place.



Updated: 5 September 2019

Approaching Bushfire Process

In the event of a local bushfire, staff at Mount Gambier High School have duty of care of all students including travel to and from school in the affected areas.

We must comply with the directions of the South Australian Police (SAPOL) and the Country Fire Service (CFS) who are in control of the situation.

If there is a local bushfire, the CFS and the local Education Office will advise the school to stop the school bus runs in specific areas.

The affected students will be supervised by staff until the Emergency Services report that the situation is safe to release them from the school site. The Canteen will provide food and drink for students.

Staff will require **contact with parents** to confirm the safe transfer of students to relatives or nominated persons.

- It is our responsibility to ensure that all affected bus students are safe – they must report to the Student Office and be prepared to wait for relatives (rather than leave without notice for a friend's home).
- If your child is a driver of a vehicle, and lives in an affected area, they must follow directions from staff, SAPOL officers or any other emergency service personnel.

- Students require written permissions to take passengers in their vehicles.

Once again, the safe transfer of students is our highest priority.

How Parents Can Help

- ◆ Read all the bushfire information available.
- ◆ Talk to your children about what will happen if a bushfire occurs when they are at school.
- ◆ Website available for parent information:
www.education.sa.gov.au
www.cfs.org.au
- ◆ Listen to local ABC Radio – 1476 AM for current updates.
- ◆ Watch current warnings on local television channel.

Emergency Contact Details – Are they current?

If you have changed your contact details since your child enrolled, please contact the Student Office to have the latest information updated to avoid any frustration in being unable to contact families.