SCHOOL BUS PROCEDURES IN THE FIRE DANGER SEASON

With the risk of bushfire it is important for procedures to be pre-planned and known to the school community.

When a Catastrophic Fire Danger Day is forecast for the next day, schools will be informed by 4.00pm and all school buses will be cancelled for the following day. Parents / Caregivers will hear the warning on the news via radio or television as school will already be dismissed. Allendale School will remain open during a Catastrophic Fire day.

If a Catastrophic rating is declared on the morning of a school day, the buses will continue as normal.

In the event of a bushfire endangering a school bus route, the bus will remain at school and students will be supervised until it is considered safe for the bus to leave. Students will be allowed to leave the school if collected by their parents / caregivers or a responsible adult with written permission by parent / caregiver.

If buses leave school and find there is a fire along the route, the drivers will not let students off the bus unless collected by a parent / caregiver. It is recommended that parents have a pre-arranged policy known to their bus students in case it is not possible for them to be collected. For example students should remain on the bus, return to Allendale East Area School and remain there to be collected.

To be consistent with other schools in the district all excursions away from ‘safe’ areas will be cancelled on days of Total Fire Ban.

The arrangements for school bus routes in the event of a bushfire will be communicated through local radio or where possible by telephone.