

How will I know when the school is reopening?

Typically, schools will be required to close for a day at a time however, this will depend on changing weather conditions. Parents and carers will receive a text message to advise if the school will reopen the day after the pre-emptive closure, or whether it will remain closed.

You will receive text messages from one of the school's emergency SMS mobile services, which are
0437 510 236
0460 013 018
(SMS only, please do not place calls.)

Parents and carers are encouraged to monitor official bushfire information sources for current information about fire danger ratings:

1. [Emergency WA website](#)
2. Department of Fire and Emergency Services
- Information line, 13 33 37
- Twitter, https://twitter.com/dfes_wa
3. Local radio
- [ABC Emergency WA](#)
- ABC local radio
- 6PR

Alternatively, you can call the school administration staff on 08 6866 1750, or the Wheatbelt Education Regional Office on 08 9622 0200.

Need more information?

Contact the school on 6866 1750 if you have any questions about pre-emptive closures during the bushfire season.



**Nyabing Primary School
Hobley Street
NYABING WA 6341**

Telephone: 6866 1750

Sowing Seeds of Success

Bushfire Safety Information

This brochure contains important information about the processes followed when the school is threatened by a bushfire or a Fire Danger Rating above 75 is declared.

At Nyabing Primary School, we consider the safety of students and staff to be extremely important. Bushfires happen every summer and they usually start suddenly and with very little warning. As our school is surrounded by bushland there is the potential for a bushfire to threaten our school, so it is vitally important that all staff, students and parents know what to do in this situation.

PREPARING FOR BUSHFIRE SEASON

The following activities have been implemented to minimise the risk and prepare for the bushfire season:

- Bushfire Response Plan developed.
- School registered for State Alert.
- School library identified as the on-site 'safe haven'.
- Evacuation drills conducted with students and staff.
- Circle of safety developed by minimising fuel for a bushfire on the school site.
- Parents advised of school bushfire procedures.
- Parents requested to keep emergency contact information up to date.

What is a 'Safe Haven'?

The library has been selected in consultation with the Department's FESA representatives as the school's 'safe haven' as it is located away from bush, surrounded by bitumen courts and bare ground, big enough to house all students and staff members, contains student learning materials, and has many types of communication systems, e.g. telephone, radio, television, computers, and is accessible to emergency services.



DURING BUSHFIRE SEASON

If a bushfire is judged to be a threat to the school during a school day:

- The principal will make contact with emergency services to establish the status of the fire and the degree of risk and also liaise with the Wheatbelt Education Regional Office.
- One of the following strategies may be implemented
 - normal school program continues
 - students evacuated to the designated 'safe haven', i.e., the school library
 - students evacuated by bus, if available, to an alternative site designated by the Incident Controller.
- The school will endeavour to contact all parents if an evacuation is implemented.
- Parents should stay tuned to ABC Local Radio, check with FESA on 1300 657 209 or www.fesa.wa.gov.au for updates on the bushfire. Alternatively, parents may call the school administration staff on 08 6866 1750 or contact the Wheatbelt Education Regional Office on 08 9622 0200.
- In the event of a bushfire threatening several schools simultaneously, buses may be limited and it may be safer to remain on-site in the school 'safe haven' rather than travel during a bushfire due to several factors including limited visibility, road closures and changing weather conditions.

Should I collect my child from the school?

Parents should give careful consideration to the safety of their children before collecting them during a bushfire as road access and visibility may be compromised and additional vehicles on local roads may impede emergency vehicles attending the school.

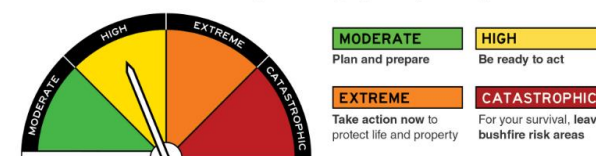
Students will only be released to a person listed as an emergency contact on a student's enrolment record.

The parent or alternative emergency contact person will be required to sign-out a student before leaving the school or evacuation site.

BUSHFIRE ZONE REGISTER

Nyabing Primary School has been placed on the Department of Education bushfire zone register as it is located in a designated bushfire risk area. Inclusion on this register means that if a fire behaviour index of 75 (extreme fire danger) or greater is forecast for the Shire of Kent, our school may be required to invoke a pre-emptive (planned) closure. A 'catastrophic' fire danger rating poses a significant threat to the school if a fire starts. It is likely to be uncontrollable, unpredictable and fast-moving.

The new Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS) levels are:



What does this mean for our school?

If Nyabing PS is directed to enact a pre-emptive closure, parents and carers will receive a text message to inform them of the school's closure.

The final decision to pre-emptively close the school will be confirmed with the principal no later than 4:30 pm on the day before the pre-emptive closure. If the forecast changes after the 4:30 pm deadline, the school will remain closed to prevent confusion and uncertainty for parents/carers.

Parents/carers will be advised of the confirmation of closure, or its reversal, by an SMS to their mobile phone on the day before the planned closure.