



BUSHFIRE ZONE REGISTER

Bushfire Zone Register

The Department of Education is committed to maximising the safety of its students and staff. Jurien Bay District High School has been added to the Bushfire Zone Register. Inclusion on this register means that the school may be required to invoke a pre-emptive closure on a day for which a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating (FDR) has been declared for Jurien Bay or Shire of Dandaragan. A Catastrophic FDR means that if a fire starts, it is likely to be uncontrollable, unpredictable and fast moving.

What does this mean for our school?

When given advance warning by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) that a Catastrophic FDR has been forecast for a given day, the Deputy Director General, Schools may direct the pre-emptive closure of Jurien Bay District High School. If the school receives such a directive, you will be informed of the possible planned closure by a letter sent home with your child and via SMS.

In the intervening period between the declaration of the pre-emptive closure and the day of planned closure, DFES will keep the Department informed of any change to the FDR forecast for the declared day. The final decision to pre-emptively close the school will be confirmed with the principal no later than 4.30pm on the day before the planned closure. If the forecast changes after that deadline, the closure will stand, regardless of improvements to the weather conditions later in the afternoon of the day before the planned closure or overnight. The intention is to limit confusion or uncertainty for parents and to allow you ample time to make alternative child care arrangements.

Parents will be advised of the confirmation of closure, or its reversal, by an SMS on the day before the planned closure.

How will I know when the school is reopening?

It is anticipated that the school will typically only be required to close for a single day at a time, however this will depend on the weather. You will receive an SMS to advise you whether the school will reopen the day after the planned closure, or whether it will remain closed.

I ask that you monitor local media for current information about fire danger ratings and notification of schools reopening. Staying tuned to ABC Local Radio in your locality is advisable. You can also check with DFES on 13 DFES (13 33 37) or www.dfes.wa.gov.au

Questions?

Please contact the school on 96886100 if you have any questions about planned closures during the bushfire season.