

## **BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

As the fire season approaches and in light of Black Saturday, it is timely to remind parents of the college emergency procedures in the event of a bushfire.

The government and the Department of Education are in the process of making recommendations to the community (including schools) in regard to bushfire preparation. At this stage, schools in high risk areas such as Monbulk College, are ensuring that their Emergency Procedures are adequate and school sites are being assessed for potential risk. Monbulk College has been listed on the Bushfire at Risk Register and so similar to the start of this year the college will be pre-emptively closed on CODE RED (catastrophic) days. Notification of this will be provided as a notice three days before and confirmed the day before. Closures will also be listed on the web at [www.education.vic.gov.au/bushfires](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/bushfires).

Parents are advised to enact their family fire plan on such days.

In the event of a bushfire outbreak on a day that students are at school, parents are advised that students and staff will be evacuated to the **college gymnasium** and will reside there until Emergency Services indicate that it is safe to leave.

As it is unsafe to be on the roads during a time of bushfire and given that the police are likely to close roads to allow access for emergency vehicles, we encourage parents **not to come to the college immediately** but to listen to the local radio or contact police/emergency services to determine when it may be safe to collect their child.

If you do arrive to collect your child during an emergency we request that **parents line up in the gym foyer** and speak to the Operations Manager so that your child can be located and signed out.

Please note that at such a time, **the school can only release students to a parent or legal guardian in person.**

School Bus Transport during a fire Danger Period.

- Buses will **not** be released from school until appropriate authorities have been contacted and any risk assessed.
- The above will also apply to excursions and camps (both departing and returning).

If you have any questions about the College Emergency Procedures, please contact Assistant Principal Karen Shiel.