



*Exploring the Wonders
of Learning*

*Kallista Kindergarten
Tom Roberts Rd
(PO Box 106)
Kallista Vic 3791
Ph: 03 9755 2647*

Kallista Kindergarten Fire Evacuation & Closure Policy

Kallista Kindergarten will be CLOSED on days of 'severe', 'extreme' or 'catastrophic' rated fire days.

Kallista Kindergarten has been designated as in an area of high bush fire risk. Accordingly the Department of Education & Early Childhood Development (DEECD) require the kinder to shut on 'Catastrophic' rated fire risk days. In addition, the kindergarten committee has elected to close the kindergarten on days of rated 'Severe' or 'Extreme' but may open on such days at the Kindergarten's discretion. This is in line with many other kindergartens in the area. Information about fire-risk rating days and Total Fire Ban days can be found on www.cfa.vic.gov.au, and where known are broadcast on TV/radio reports the day before. Every effort will be made to inform parents of the kinder being shut in advance, but there may be occasions when fire ratings are not declared until the last minute. Please actively check fire ratings prior to bringing your child to kindergarten.

Should evacuation be required:

Kallista Kindergarten has an arrangement with Kallista Primary School to use their school General Purpose Room (GPR) in case of emergencies.

Please note that this is NOT now rated as a Fire Refuge, but it has been built to be a safer place in event of fire. It only has space for the school and kindergarten children and teachers.

The school GPR is well designed as it is built into an earth bank and is a substantial distance from trees. It has metal shutters for all windows to cope with radiant heat, fire doors, smoke dampeners, a generator for electricity to run emergency lighting and a large air conditioner, a water tank and pumps, fire hoses, satellite phone and some food and blankets. Once the children are evacuated to the school GPR, they will remain there until it is safe to leave.

Those parents who are at home if a bush fire approaches should either be prepared to stay at home activating their fire protection plan or evacuate early.

Please don't come to school to get your children then try to outrun a fire. There is always loss of life when people try to evacuate too late. Please do not try to come into a fire area to get your children.

Phone number for the Kallista Primary School General Purpose Room is 9755 3740

Please note that this evacuation procedure & policy is subject to change pending Bush Fire Regulations & Recommendations arising from the Royal Commission, DEECD, State or Federal Government.

Kallista Kindergarten will close on Code Red Days Extreme Days Severe Days

Fire Procedures

1. Where possible, we will advise you of our plans to close via email the day prior

You should

- 1 Confirm we have your current contact information
- 2 Have alternative care arrangements for your child in case of closure

Kallista Kindergarten is committed to ensuring that we are as prepared as possible this bushfire season. The safety of children and staff is paramount.

FIRE DANGER RATING



Families are ultimately responsible for monitoring weather forecasts