



*Our ROLE is to empower learners for individual, community and global leadership. We value Respect, Optimism, Learning and Environment.*

### NOTICE TO STUDENTS AND PARENTS REGARDING DAYS DECLARED CODE RED

Bendigo Senior Secondary College is not listed on the Fire Risk Register so we do not close on days designated as Code Red.

However, our main priority is to ensure the safety of students, staff, their families and their property. As such we appreciate that some students may be unable to attend school on these days. Where this occurs, we require you to contact the College and let us know of your child's absence or provide a signed letter explaining the absence on the student's return to school.

On these days some staff may also be absent (as their child's school, kindergarten or child care centre may be closed, their property may be at risk, aged parents or young children may need to be cared for or transport to school may be dangerous). Where this occurs, classes will be cancelled but students will be encouraged to continue with private study in the library.

Where possible, up to 3 days notice of a Code Red day will be provided by authorities and will be confirmed no later than midday the day before, after which the warning will not change. We encourage all parents to check news bulletins, the CFA website [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au), the Department of Sustainability and Environment's website [www.dse.vic.gov.au](http://www.dse.vic.gov.au) or the Education Department's website [www.education.vic.gov.au](http://www.education.vic.gov.au) for up to date warnings. Schools on the 'Bushfire At Risk Register' can be found at <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/bushfires/register.htm>

It is unlikely that on days designated as Code Red, school bus services will be running so many students will be unable to attend school. However, classes will continue to operate where possible bearing in mind that some students will be absent. Yard duty supervision of students before school, during recess and lunchtimes will occur.

Off-site activities in areas affected by a predicted Code Red day will be cancelled or recalled and this will be confirmed with students and parents by an SMS message or telephone call on the previous day. Off-site activities can include camps, excursions, field trips and sporting activities.

Again we stress that our main priority is to ensure the safety of students, staff, families and properties and we understand that every family's situation and experiences are different.

Please contact the College if you have any questions regarding Code Red days.

Dale Pearce  
Principal

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