

## CYCLONE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

### **Cyclone Watch/Warning:**

Children are to attend school as normal.

### **Blue Alert**

The school will usually remain open.

If a Yellow Alert is likely to be declared at some time during the school day the school will not open and children will be notified to remain at home.

If the school is to close, this information will be broadcast via the following **local** radio stations. Emergency information is broadcast at approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  past the hour. The frequency of the updates will depend on the type of cyclone alert. School closure will be broadcast between 6.15am – 7.45am.

- ABC Radio – is the official radio station for alerts from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES).
- Spirit Radio – gives unofficial information.

The closure advice will be repeated each morning until the decision to re-open the school is made.

School buses may be affected at this stage. Any change to the bus operation will be given on the radio at approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  past the hour.

**PLEASE DO NOT RING THE SCHOOL.** All information and updated reports relating to warnings and school closures **ARE ISSUED ON THE RADIO.** Please keep yourself informed.

### **Yellow Alert**

If a Yellow Alert is declared during a school day, the following will occur:

**Yellow Alert before 12:00:** – students can be picked up immediately from their classroom. The school will close at lunch time. Students will not be sent home until instructions are received from parents.

**Yellow alert after 12:00:** – students can be picked up immediately from their classroom. The school will close at the usual time. Students will not be sent home until instructions are received from parents.

**Yellow alert after 14:00:** - If a Yellow Alert is called at or after 2.00pm schools will generally be closed the following day. Please continue to listen to the radio to receive information as to when schools will open.

The above does not preclude immediate closure in extenuating circumstances and if deemed necessary by the Cyclone Committee.

### **Red Alert**

School will remain closed during a Red Alert.

In the event that a Red Alert is proclaimed after 2.00pm, schools will remain closed the following day.

In the event that a Red Alert is proclaimed after 2.00pm but subsequently cancelled, the Regional Executive Director, in consultation with the Cyclone/Emergency Committee has the discretion to ensure that schools open the following day.

## **AFTER THE CYCLONE**

If a Red Alert is called after 2.00pm schools will generally be closed the following day to allow for assessment and repair of serious damage. Please continue to listen to the radio to receive information as to when schools will open.

**Please keep yourself informed via the radio, until all threat from the cyclone is past.**