

Bush Kinder Cancellation

Authorised by:	This policy was adopted by the Ripponlea Kindergarten Committee of Management at a committee meeting
Approved date:	28 April 2025
Review date:	April 2028

Purpose

This policy outlines the circumstances when Ripponlea Kindergarten's Bush Kinder program will be cancelled.

Values

Ripponlea Kindergarten is committed to:

- ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all children attending Bush Kinder
- meeting its duty of care obligations under the law.

Scope

This policy applies to parents, staff, committee members, people authorised to collect children, volunteers and students on placement working at Ripponlea Kindergarten.

Background and legislation

Legislation and standards

This policy is informed by the following legislation:

- Education and Care Services National Regulations
- Education and Care Service National Law 2010
- National Quality Standard
- Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004
- Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007

Related policies

- *Excursion & Service Events Policy*
- *Bush Kinder Delivery & Collection of Children Policy (Bush Kinder Specific)*
- *Bush Kinder Emergency Evacuation (Bush Kinder Specific)*
- *Bush Kinder Snake Awareness Policy (Bush Kinder Specific)*
- *Bush Kinder Protective Clothing Policy (Bush Kinder Specific)*
- *Occupational Health & Safety Policy*

- *Incident, Illness, Trauma & Injury Policy*
- *Sun Protection Policy*
- *Water Safety Policy*
- *Supervision of Children Policy*
- *Child Safe Environment Policy*

Procedures

Bush Kinder runs all year round. It will be cancelled only in times of extreme weather or due to staff assessment of suitability on the day:

- forecast temperature is 35°C or greater
- forecast wind speed greater than 45km per hour
- forecast electrical/thunderstorms activity
- Bureau of Meteorology weather warnings of extreme storm conditions, excessive rainfall, dust storms, hail storms or other extreme weather forecasts
- Environment Protection Authority Victoria advice of very poor or hazardous air quality

Staff will notify parents via Kindyhub if the session is cancelled and held back at home kinder. This may occur on the day of session, either before it starts, or mid-session. Staff will cancel mid-session only if conditions deteriorate significantly. Parents will be notified by SMS or phone call.

Staff will assess local conditions on site and consult the following apps and websites:

- Bureau of Meteorology: BOMweather (Bureau of Meteorology's weather app), location: Ripponlea
- Environment Protection Authority Victoria: <https://www.epa.vic.gov.au/>
- Vic Emergency: <https://emergency.vic.gov.au/respond/>

Evaluation

To assess whether the policy has achieved the values and purposes we will:

- seek feedback about this policy and its implementation from parents of children participating in the Bush Kinder program. This can be facilitated through discussions and the annual survey
- ask staff to share their experiences and observations about the effectiveness of this policy
- regularly review the policy and Kinder practices to ensure they comply with any new legislation, research or best practice procedures.

Attachments

- Nil