

Orama Public School Flood Plan



Orama Public School is on Darkwood Road. The road is subject to regular flooding due to low lying bridges. In the event of an imminent flood the following procedure should be followed:

1. Check the river levels on the BOM website. Anything over 2.9m at Thora Bridge and the buses will not travel. Hobarts Bridge is the first bridge to close between Waterfall Way and the school. Richardson's Bridge is the first bridge to close further up Darkwood Road.
2. School to confirm action with bus companies
3. If in doubt ring Bellinghen SES
4. Contact Director, Educational Leadership to communicate developments
NOTE: FOR EVACUATION IT CAN TAKE UP TO ONE HOUR FOR BUSES TO ARRIVE
5. School to activate the **distribution list** on school mobile. Send message as per development (NON-OPERATIONAL or EVACUATION) and monitor those families who reply 'RECEIVED' to the message. Sample text messages below. Post same message (omit Reply RECEIVED to this message) on Facebook.
6. Call families with poor mobile reception.
7. Contact WHS Incident Report and Support
8. Contact Safety and Security
9. Contact Media Unit- Newcastle
10. Update school website and Facebook page with an alert/post. Send BCC email to key stakeholders (parents, community members and staff) from school email.

Effective: February 2021

Review: February 2022

Text Message for NON-OPERATIONAL:
Orama Public School is NON-OPERATIONAL (insert day and date) due to flooding. Please reply RECEIVED to this message.

Text Message for EVACUATION:

Orama Public School is EVACUATING due to rising flood waters at Hobarts Bridge. If you are further along Darkwood road (past the school) please collect your child ASAP. If you are between Waterfall Way and OPS, a school bus will evacuate your child. We will be in touch with further instructions. Please ensure an adult is at home to supervise your child. Reply RECEIVED to this message.

Following Text Message for bus parents on Evacuation:

The bus to Bellinghen has just left Orama Public School. It will arrive at St. Mary's at approximately (Insert time, add 35 minutes to departure time). Please ensure your child can be collected from their regular bus stop by an adult.

School Mobile Number: (To only be used in times of flooding, fires, power outages and excursions)
0436 864 823