

Thornbury Kindergarten

Bush Kinder

Program Handbook 2027

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PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Permission

To participate in this program parents/carers must provide permission for their child via the online enrolment process.

Parents/carers should also provide the kindergarten with any changes to their family information including **updating the list of authorised people to collect your child**.

Communication

We ask parents to **always have their mobile phone with them and turned on** throughout the duration of a Bush Kinder session. It's important that parents are easily contactable when necessary and aware of any updates throughout the session.

Teachers continually assess any changes to the environment while with children and will put into place the established Emergency Management Plan as needed. This may include walking to the identified safe assembly points. Further details can be found in the risk assessment. Please refer to the Session Relocation or Cancellation section for more details.

Please save the relevant phone number to your phone:

Contacts for Bush Kinder in session:

Bush Kinder Mobile Telephone	Red - Danielle Logan	0499 102 144
	Blue – Lauren Ireland	0499 102 144
	Yellow – to be confirmed	0480 277 442
Darebin Parklands Ranger	Kim Davis	0419 325 108
Darebin Council Team Leader, Natural Resource Manager, Darebin Creek	Michelle Perry	0419 750 533

Contacts for Thornbury Kindergarten:

Kindergarten	director@thornburykinder.com	9484 1095
President	president@thornburykinder.com	
Director	Angela Storer	9484 1095
Bush Kinder rep	offsite@thornburykinder.com	9484 1095

Pick Up & Drop-Off

The drop-off point for the Bush Kinder session is the home base and is indicated in the Session Overview, as well as discussed in the orientation session. You will be advised at your child's orientation session of the bush kinder drop off location. Bush Kinder signage will be displayed around the perimeter of the site.

Parents and carers are required to:

Drop-off	Pick-up
Alert staff of your arrival to sign your child in using the attendance book and record the time of arrival.	Alert staff of your arrival to sign your child out using the attendance book and record the time
Remain with your child at home base until the session **begins**. All children will assemble here until the Bush Kinder session formally commences.	Ensure the staff are aware that you have collected your child.
Apply sunscreen to your child on days where the UV index is 3 or above	Collect your child's belongings (bag, water, hats, food containers, rubbish).
Dress your child in clothes appropriate for the weather, e.g. waterproof pants and top and appropriate shoes for wet conditions at site.	Be mindful that staff are actively supervising children and may not be able to speak to you until after **all** the children have departed.

Remember to bring an extra bag for taking home wet and muddy clothing

Late Collection of Children

- Please make yourself familiar with Thornbury Kindergarten's late policies and procedures.
- Please remember that the service late collection policy of charging one dollar per minute also applies at bush kinder. If you are going to be late please call staff and advise them.
- Once the Bush Kinder facilities are packed up on site, staff will relocate with your child to Assembly Point A (as marked on the evacuation maps) to wait for your arrival. This facilitates the staff's ability to continue with packing up the Bush Kinder equipment.

Please refer to main *Delivery and Collection of Children (Bush Kinder)* Policy for full procedures relating to collection by authorised person, late collection and late collection fees.

Clothing

Thornbury Kindergarten's Bush Kinder program is intended to operate across a broad spectrum of weather conditions, allowing children to experience nature and its elements across the seasons. For this reason, there is some particular clothing requirements in the Bush Kinder setting that may differ from requirements in a centre-based environment (see **Clothing** section below)

Please note: if your child is not dressed suitably or appropriately for Bush Kinder, they will not be able to participate in the session. Further details on this can be found in the *Delivery and Collection of Children (Bush Kinder) Policy.*

BUSH KINDER – AN OVERVIEW

Bush Kinder is one of two programs offered at Thornbury Kindergarten (the other is Out & About Kinder). As part of the program, children experience play and learning in nature at the Darebin Parklands or Darebin Creek Reserve.

Children and teachers bring that learning back to home kinder, and home kinder learning can also inform the scope of Bush Kinder experiences and learning. Just like children doing the Out & About Kinder sessions, children doing Bush Kinder spend their remaining hours of kinder at home kinder.

The children's learning at Bush Kinder will:

- Tap into a sense of wonder and curiosity about the world.
- Notice birds, plants and insects.
- Develop new ideas for dramatic play informed by engagement with nature.
- Increase problem solving and resilience to engage with open ended natural resources and experiences (for example building a bush cubby or tree climbing).
- Challenge and trust children, through play, to experience challenge and develop self-awareness in managing risk according to ability and self-confidence.
- Look for ways to be creative and to spark imaginations.
- Build awareness of our impact on the world.

PROGRAM RATIONALE

It is extremely important for lifelong health to be physically active every day. It is recommended that toddlers and pre-schoolers be active for 3 hours every day.
https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/physical-activity-and-exercise
Bush Kinder provides children with natural opportunities to establish healthy habits through active play as they run, climb, jump, balance and build.

Why is play in nature important?

At Thornbury Kindergarten we believe children are competent, capable and eager to learn. Their learning is natural and embedded in the people, places and experiences of their world. We value play in nature because it is intrinsically motivating for children and offers so many opportunities to learn, interact and develop language skills. One of the fundamental principles of the Bush Kinder program is that children learn to be adaptable, hardy and resilient. One of the ways they do this is by learning to have fun in all weather conditions including rain, which is often the most fun of all!

Learning and Development Outcome 4 of the Victorian Government's Early Years Learning Framework focuses on children being confident and involved learners. It states that "Children are active learners and thinkers who use their senses to investigate, experiment, count, compare and create theories about how things work. Dispositions such as curiosity, persistence and creativity enable children to manage challenges and learn from mistakes." (DE, 2026).

The Bush Kinder program provides a natural environment for children that has no toys or manufactured resources and can encourage the development of long-term learning dispositions such as creativity, wonder, persistence, discovery and confidence as children resource their own learning.

Current research suggests that the identified benefits of bush kinder include:

- children's inner wellbeing is benefitted by being outdoors as the natural environment enhances their health, learning and behaviour by supporting personal and social development, as well as physical and mental health
- the sense of calm and restoration gained from spending time in the bush

- fostering an appreciation of the natural world and the interdependence between people, animals, plants, lands and waters providing opportunities for children to engage with all concepts of sustainability through environmental education. (ACECQA 2022)

Thornbury Kindergarten's Bush Kinder program is intended to support young children's learning and development through play. Play experiences at Bush Kinder are diverse and vast, but typical experiences and goals may include (though not limited to):

Possible Play Experiences	**Learning and Developmental benefit**
Playing imaginative games using the resources nature provides	• Long term learning dispositions such as creativity, persistence and confidence are fostered as children resource their own learning at the BK site using their imagination and natural materials rather than have materials provided for them, for example they use a stick to write. • Play in natural environments supports more diverse, imaginative, creative and collaborative thinking. Creativity is an important learning disposition as it encourages the development of problem-solving skills, the ability to express yourself and supports taking risks to be actively involved in learning.
Role play	• Children develop verbal and social skills to negotiate roles in games and to communicate what an object stands for in a game, for example they use a stone to be a dinosaur egg. • Role play requires the children to share imagination and a goal, drawing on teamwork and the ability to respond to expectations of behaviour.
Building shelters or other large structures from branches, with the help of other children and adults	• Children develop skills in goal definition, planning, measuring, balancing, collaborating, perspective taking, gross and fine motor development and perseverance. • Children can increase their awareness and knowledge of mathematical and physics concepts.
Counting objects, looking for patterns in nature, collecting objects and classifying or sorting	• Children develop their mathematical understanding as they observe and engage in their natural world. • Lifelong learning dispositions are fostered such as curiosity, problem-solving, persistence and confidence. • Children are supported to advance their understanding of the foundations of mathematical development through matching, sorting, comparing and ordering.

Listening to stories; singing songs and rhymes	• Oral storytelling, songs and rhyme contribute to the children's development of pre-reading cognition and concentration. • These opportunities also support relationship building between the educators and children.
Arranging natural items to make a picture, or building a mini-beast habitat	• Creating art supports the children in the development of their cognitive processing, problem solving skills, fine motor and muscle control, perceptual development, imagination, resilience, persistence. • These learning experiences also foster STEM skills such as planning, designing, thinking, measuring and adapting.
Exploring for mini beasts	• As children learn about and are actively part of their natural environment they begin to appreciate and care for the world and the people, plants and animals in it. This type of learning is lifelong and ensures positive, sustainable outcomes.
Drawing / mark-making	• Creating art supports the children in the development of creative self-expression, hand-eye coordination, fine motor skills, left / right eye orientation, crossing the midline and cognitive planning.
Climbing trees, walking on logs and rocks, and exploring nature	• Children develop strength when they have the opportunity to move and use big muscle groups in a variety of ways every day. • Children who have opportunity to develop confidence in their physical skills will also develop academic and emotional confidence. • Children are supported to assess and manage risk and make appropriate choices which further develops their resilience, self-regulation and autonomy. This assists children to begin to consider the impact of their actions on themselves and on others. In so doing, children learn to take on challenges and accept responsibility. • As children climb, swing, twirl and spin they develop their core strength, spatial and visual awareness, vestibular and proprioceptive systems. Developing these is important for self-regulation and being ready to learn. • Offers opportunities for increasing core strength and big muscle groups necessary for sitting up strong and focusing for group times, as well as developing fine motor control.

	• Children are involved in motor planning skills as they balance on a log or a rock and climb trees. • Being physically active can help young children to achieve and maintain a healthy weight. It can also help children to develop strong bones and muscles, enhance cognitive development and emotional regulation, as well as develop movement patterns and motor skills.
Playing hide-and-seek and other group games	• Physical activity can provide opportunities for young children to interact with others, make friends and develop social skills. • The larger and unimpeded space within the BK sites is ideal for larger group games which develops the children's ability to understand and follow rules and develops perspective-taking through anticipating the thoughts and actions of peers.
Play involving water where it occurs naturally (for example puddles and walks in the rain)	• As children experience the outdoors, they develop their understanding of all weather conditions and their own effect on the natural environment. • When interacting with water the children are supported to assess and manage risk and make appropriate choices. This assists children to begin to consider the impact of their actions on themselves and on others. In so doing, children learn to take on challenges and accept responsibility.
Walking within the Bush Kinder environs	• Children improve their strength and stamina and develop a sense of responsibility for their own needs. • Children develop responsibility for their own belongings.
Resting / quiet reflection	• Children develop an awareness of their own physical needs and limitations which supports the development of responsibility for themselves. • Aids self-awareness and character development
Experiencing a variety of weather conditions and weather changes	• As children experience the outdoors, they develop their understanding of seasonal cycles and increase their appreciation and connection to the natural world. • Being in a variety of weather conditions supports the development of the children's self-help skills.

Why is being involved in our community important?

Thornbury Kindergarten's Bush Kinder program is intended to build on the existing connection children and their families have to their community.

Bush Kinder helps children develop positive, meaningful connections to people and places and helps children to see themselves as active contributors to the world. As children's sense of connection to trusted people and community increases so too does their sense of belonging and well-being. A strong sense of belonging and well-being underpins a disposition for learning.

Learning Outcome 2 of the Victorian Government's Early Years Learning and Development Framework focuses on children's connectedness with others and the wider world. It says: "Children strive for connection and seek belonging – to people, country, place and communities that help them to learn about local ways of being… As children experience settings beyond home and kinship groups in which they live, their experiences, relationships and connections broaden."

Being at Bush Kinder gives children the opportunity to engage meaningfully in the world around them. They are given opportunities to gain knowledge and build necessary life skills. Children begin to learn how to deal with unplanned events and to begin to make responsible and appropriate choices as they engage in the world. These things can only be learnt through personal experience.

SESSION OVERVIEW – All programs

Staff

When children are offsite as part of the Bush Kinder Program the staff to child ratio is 3 staff to 22 children. This is above the Department of Education regulations which require a staff ratio of 1 qualified adult to 11 children.

The children attend Bush Kinder with their group teacher and educator and an additional staff member. All kindergarten staff have a Level 2 First Aid Certificate.

Session Outline

Prior to the commencement of each session, staff will inspect the bush space for safety.

Each Bush Kinder session will begin with the group meeting together with the staff. A story may be told or a group discussion may take place. The natural boundary markers of the Bush Kinder site will be pointed out and discussed as required with the children. The children will then be free to engage in play within the boundaries of the Bush Kinder site.

The children will have the opportunity to play in the rain, roll down grassy mounds, balance along fallen logs, get involved in dramatic play, find insects and draw with sticks in the ground. The teachers will note each child's developmental progression, advancing skill levels and particular interests. The teachers will use this knowledge to support the children's learning just as they do at home kinder. Teachers will support children as they take the risks and face challenges essential to well-rounded learning.

At times a specialist may assist the children's learning. We are fortunate to have access to Rangers who know and understand this natural environment. We may also engage the expertise of a musician or a crafts person if this will support the children's learning. We invite involvement of the Indigenous Australians who have a spiritual and historic connection with this land to share their knowledge and expertise with the children.

Use of Fire Pit

We have introduced a small fire pit at Bush Kinder. The introduction of fire respects children as capable learners and has high expectations for every child's learning and capabilities. This expectation of capability promotes resilience, aids self-regulating behaviour, and is an important protective factor for children's future outcomes.

A thorough and comprehensive risk management plan has been developed which incorporates the following strategies:

- a staff member will be present at all times when the fire is active;
- children will be seated when at the fire at a specified distance;
- the fire will be extinguished well before the end of each session;
- water and a fire blanket will be present at the site at all times;
- fire safety and consistent rules will be discussed with the children prior to use.

Training & Awareness Sessions

Dog and snake awareness sessions will be run as part of the Bush Kinder orientation process for staff, children and parents/carers.

Risk Assessment

Extensive risk evaluation, which includes fire pit risk assessment, has been carried out by Bush Kinder staff and is available from staff.

WHAT WILL MY CHILD NEED?

Please refer to the Thornbury Kindergarten policy *Delivery and Collection of Children (Bush Kinder) Policy* for requirements and procedures regarding the refusal of entry to the Bush Kinder session.

Water

Parents/carers are required to provide a named water bottle of fresh water at all sessions. There will be access to drinking water to refill this when required on site. All participants on site at bush kinder are required to have a water bottle.

Food

Parents/carers are required to provide healthy snacks and lunch in a sealed container for each session for their child. We ask you to consider the environment by not including any packaging. We also ask you to be mindful of food allergy precautions when selecting items to include.

Sunscreen

On high UV days, please ensure that your child has applied sunscreen prior to the session commencing. Sunscreen will be available for re-application during sessions.

CLOTHING

Parents are required to determine appropriate clothing based on the weather forecast appropriate to their session time. Variable weather conditions in Autumn and Spring can mean waterproof clothing is required throughout the year.

It is important that Bush Kinder participants wear appropriate and protective clothing and footwear which:

- Allows children to move freely and undertake activities such as climbing, balancing and running.
- Keeps children warm and dry in cold/wet weather.
- Protects children from the effects of the sun, UV rays in warm weather and high UV conditions.
- Covers body and length of limbs to prevent sunburn, bites, scratches and stings. Such clothing is likely to lessen the severity of a snake bite. Even in warm weather, long sleeve tops, long socks and long pants are recommended - this clothing should be loose fitting and light.
- Keeps feet and toes covered and has a flexible sole to allow children to climb and balance on uneven surfaces.
- Maximises visibility of children to staff.

Waterproofs

Your child will require a set of waterproofs - a light rainproof suit worn over clothing and can include a jacket with a hood and pants or overalls. This will ensure that your child stays as dry as possible on wet days. Please consider ease of toileting and your child's growth when purchasing waterproofs. Gumboots are also recommended for wet days.





The following table provides examples of clothing that is **recommended**, clothing which is **not recommended** and **unacceptable** clothing:

	Warm Weather	**Cold Weather /Rain**
Recommended clothing and footwear	Light, loose-fitting long-sleeved tops, long socks and long pants, broad brimmed hat or legionnaires hat, closed toe shoes suitable for climbing	Waterproofs (tops & bottoms), long pants, long sleeved top, beanie, gum boots, waterproof gloves, thermals in very cold weather
Not recommended	Short-sleeved tops, long skirts or dresses, shorts, gumboots	Skirts, dresses, bulky jumpers (incompatible with Waterproofs)
Unacceptable clothing and footwear	Open toe shoes, sandals, thongs, crocs, singlet tops and dangly jewellery	Non-waterproof outer clothing (Waterproofs on top of non-waterproof clothing is recommended) Highly flammable polyester dangly clothing, such as costumes.

All children participating in Bush Kinder must bring a change of clothes and footwear as clothing may become wet and muddy. It is recommended that the spare clothing include:

- Spare top and bottoms of appropriate thickness/weight for the weather on the day
- Spare underpants (and singlet in winter)
- 2 pairs of socks
- 1 pair of gumboots. It is **not recommended** that gumboots are worn at all times due to the restriction of movement they impose. Please keep gumboots for wet/muddy days only.

Identification and visibility

Children should wear high-visibility clothing, such as a red hat or red clothing, at Bush Kinder so staff can easily see them. Clothing should also be appropriate for the weather and allow children to move freely.

Additional Items

Parents and children are asked **not** to bring toys along to Bush Kinder to better enable children to engage in the natural surrounds.

ATTENDANCE

When shouldn't my child attend?

We ask that parents/carers are diligent and exercise their own judgement in assessing whether it is appropriate for their children to attend Bush Kinder.

Children should not attend Bush Kinder if they are ill, excessively tired or if parents are concerned about their individual health and wellbeing due to forecast weather conditions, for example if weather conditions may trigger asthma or hay fever.

Parents/Carers and Volunteers

We welcome parents and carers to join us at Bush Kinder. It's a great way to be involved in our kinder community. If you do wish to come along please let us know.

Children will remain under the direct supervision of the Lead Teacher (Responsible Person) at all times throughout the session. Thornbury Kindergarten is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and we are a Child Safe organisation.

It is essential that volunteers other than parents and carers hold a Working With Children Check https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/

Volunteers are required to complete a multi-step screening, compliance, and induction process designed to meet the Child Safe Standards and fulfill mandatory requirements dictated by the Education and Care Services National Regulations and the Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority (ACECQA).

SESSION OVERVIEW – Darebin Creek Reserve Blue Group

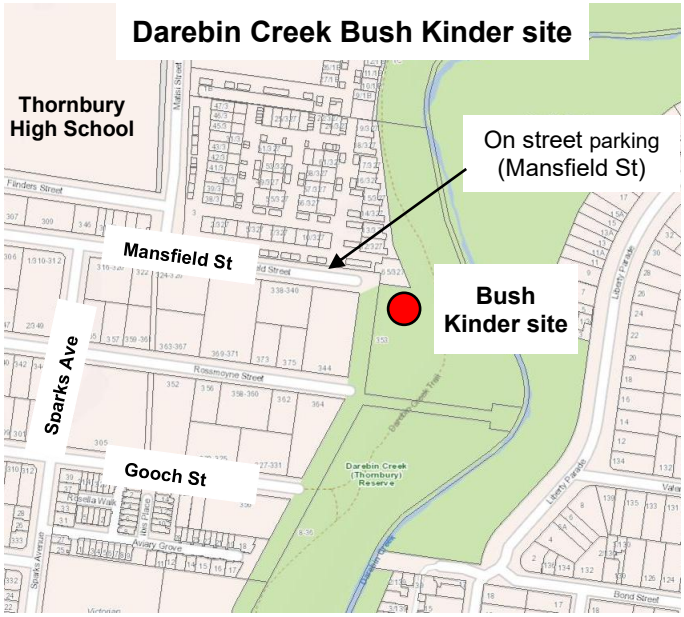
Session times

The Bush Kinder sessions will run during kindergarten terms.

Blue Group (1 session) – Monday	8:30 – 4.00

Location

The Bush Kinder home base site is in the Darebin Creek Reserve, located at the end of Mansfield Street (adjacent Artiga Café 327 Mansfield Street Thornbury).



This site has been chosen as it provides clear lines of sight with natural boundaries easily identified by staff, children and volunteers. It also provides the children with the benefit of a predictable and familiar environment to enhance their sense of safety and increase their confidence to explore the limits of their abilities.

Drop off & Pick Up

Parents will drop off and collect their children at the home base site indicated in the diagram above.

Please refer to main *Delivery and Collection of Children (Bush Kinder)* Policy for full procedures relating to collection by authorised person, late collection and late collection fees.

Parking Area

Parking is available on Mansfield Street. Additionally, there is parking on Clarendon Street adjacent the John Cain Memorial Park playground (5-minute walk along Darebin Creek Trail).

Toilets

A camping toilet, housed in an appropriate tent, will be provided for children and staff to use when necessary. Staff will attend to any children requiring assistance. The children's use of the toilet will be supervised by staff, and children will only be allowed to use the toilet and change room individually. We ask that the broader kinder community (parents, siblings, volunteers, etc.) do not use the bush kinder toilet.

SESSION OVERVIEW – Darebin Parklands Yellow Group and Red Group

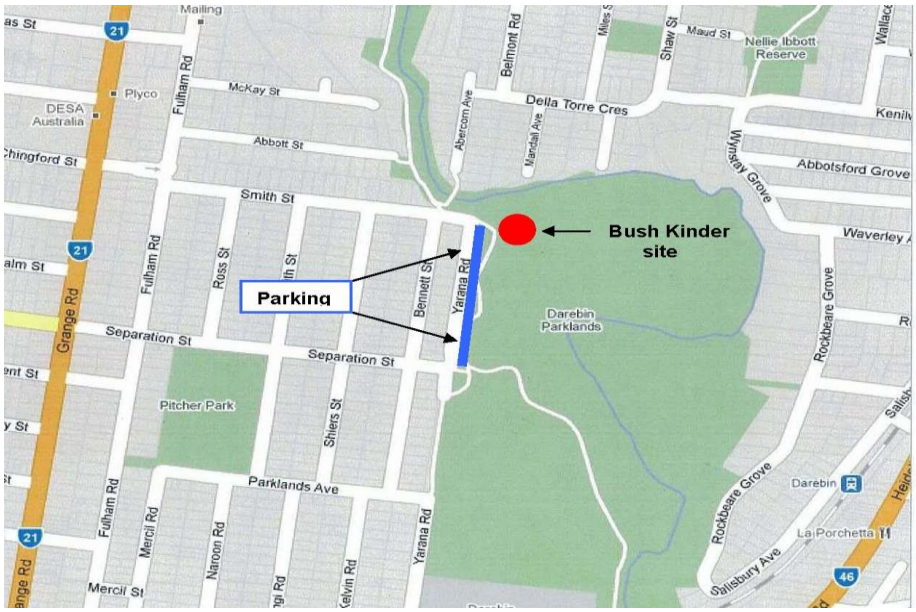
Session times

The Bush Kinder sessions will run during kindergarten terms.

Yellow Group (1 session) – Thursday Red Group (1 session) – Friday	8.30 - 4.00 8.30 - 4.00

Location

The Bush Kinder home base site is in Darebin Parklands, just off Yarana Rd, between Separation and Smith Streets (closer to Smith Street).



This site has been chosen as it provides clear lines of sight with natural boundaries easily identified by staff, children and volunteers. It also provides the children with the benefit of a predictable and familiar environment to enhance their sense of safety and increase their confidence to explore the limits of their abilities.

Drop off & Pick Up

Parents will drop off and collect their children at the home base site indicated in the diagram above.

Please refer to main *Delivery and Collection of Children (Bush Kinder)* Policy for full procedures relating to collection by authorised person, late collection and late collection fees.

Parking Area
Parking is available on Yarana Road between Separation and Smith Streets.

Toilets
A camping toilet, housed in an appropriate tent, will be provided for children and staff to use when necessary. Staff will attend to any children requiring assistance. The children's use of the toilet will be supervised by staff, and children will only be allowed to use the toilet and change room individually. We ask that the broader kinder community (parents, carers, siblings, volunteers, etc.) use the public facilities located at the end of Separation Street.

SESSION RELOCATION OR CANCELLATION – All Bush Kinder groups

Session Relocation
Thornbury Kindergarten's Bush Kinder programs are intended to operate across a broad spectrum of weather conditions, allowing the children to experience nature and its elements in all seasons. We will always ensure it is safe to attend Bush Kinder. However, extreme weather conditions or situations may arise periodically which can put the wellbeing and safety of the children and staff at risk. Outlined below are the parameters within which the Kindergarten can make determinations to re-locate or cancel Bush Kinder sessions. We are guided by information from the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) website when making these decisions.

In the event of forecast extreme weather (determination PRIOR to session)
Any of the below conditions will require Thornbury Kindergarten staff to make a determination of the location of the Bush Kinder session between 24 hours and up to 1 hour prior to the commencement of the session. The availability of alternative locations and weather conditions will influence the location of the session. A relocated Bush Kinder session could run at the Darebin Parklands BBQ shelter (with permission of Darebin Parklands Ranger), Penders Grove Primary School, or Thornbury Kindergarten. Parents and carers will be notified of the alternative site via email or SMS. It is very important to ensure your contact details remain up to date, and you notify your child's teacher of any changes.

Weather Condition	Extreme weather determinant causing relocation
Forecast temperature	36 degrees Celsius or greater **OR** Lead Teacher decides that it would be appropriate to cancel or relocate the bush kinder session Note there is no pre-set minimum temperature. Thermals and clothing layers should be worn on very cold days. Refer to *Protective Clothing (Bush Kinder) Policy.*
Forecast wind speed	> 45km per hour **OR** Lead Teacher decides that it would be appropriate to cancel or relocate the bush kinder session
Forecast of electrical storm activity	Thunderstorm/electrical storm forecast
Flooded at or near the Bush Kinder site	On flooding advice from the Park Ranger or Council Team Leader.

BOM weather warnings of extreme storm conditions and excessive rainfall	On warning issued by the Bureau of Meteorology

In addition to the above, the Thornbury Kindergarten Committee and Bush Kinder staff have the discretion to relocate a session if they view the weather to be poor for Bush Kinder purposes, even if the extreme weather determinants in the above table are not reached.

The Darebin Parklands Ranger and Darebin Council Ranger has the authority to override the Thornbury Kindergarten determination on safety and request relocation of a session should the Ranger feel the Bush Kinder site is unsafe.

In the event of an emergency or weather becoming extreme during a session (determination DURING session)

There are times that have been identified that require the Bush Kinder participants to evacuate to a safer location to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the group. In this event, Bush Kinder staff will notify parents via an SMS. Parents are asked to familiarise themselves with the designated safe areas and assembly points as detailed in the emergency evacuation maps. *Emergency Evacuation (Bush Kinder) Policy*

The reasons for relocating during a session include, but are not limited to:

- fire or bushfire
- missing child
- uncontrolled and aggressive dogs off lead
- other animal intruders
- uninvited person/stranger (threatening, causing a nuisance or unease for staff and participants)
- natural events, such as extreme weather, floods, severe winds or thunderstorm
- medical emergency or accident.

Session Cancellation

In the following circumstances it may be necessary to **cancel** during the session, in which case you will need to collect your child. The session will not resume at home kinder or Penders Grove Primary School or Virtual School Victoria.

Reasons for cancellation	**Notification**	**Contact Person**
Accident	SMS	Early Childhood Teacher
Sudden extreme weather	SMS	Early Childhood Teacher
Emergency Evacuation	SMS	Early Childhood Teacher
Park Ranger Advice	SMS	Early Childhood Teacher

Note: If on arrival, Bush Kinder is not set up on site, this means that the session has been **relocated or cancelled**. Please contact your child's teacher on the Bush Kinder mobile.

Thornbury Kindergarten holds the safety of children as paramount and decisions to re-locate or cancel or not to re-locate or cancel are always given the most serious consideration.

Information regarding weather will be obtained from the Bureau of Meteorology website: http://www.bom.gov.au/vic/forecasts/melbourne.shtml

FURTHER POLICY AND REGULATIONS

Bush Kinder is conducted as part of the Thornbury Kindergarten program and therefore is governed by the regulations and procedures of the Kindergarten. Due to location and environmental factors, variations to policy have been identified and different procedures created which are specific to our offsite programs to ensure the safety and well-being of all children, staff and volunteers involved.

We ask parents/carers to view the policies on our website regarding our offsite programs to gain a full understanding of the responsibilities of the Thornbury Kindergarten Committee, staff, volunteers and parents/carers.
Full Policy documents are available on the Thornbury Kindergarten website and in the Amethyst foyer at Home Kinder.

Please contact your child's teacher or the Committee of Management if you would like to discuss any concerns or queries.

Bush Kinder Committee representative: offsite@thornburykinder.com