

# A Message to Foundation Families from Your Local Fire Rescue Victoria Firefighters

Dear Families,

The Foundation classes at your child's school will be visited by Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV) firefighters soon.

The two visits are part of FRV's commitment to making our community more fire safe. The firefighters will be working with the teachers to deliver the <u>Fire Ed for Foundation</u> program. This program provides students with important home fire safety information.

## What can you do?

#### Children and Fire

Some children have had experience with a house fire or have been injured in a fire. If this is the case with your child, please discuss this with their teacher. This information will be passed on to firefighters, to be taken into account during visits.

### **Safe Meeting Place Worksheet**

After the firefighters' first visit Foundation students will be doing some homework! Your child will need your help. They have been asked to identify a Safe Meeting Place for your whole family and to complete a worksheet, provided by the teachers, to show the firefighters during their second visit.

Every household should have a home fire escape plan that includes a Safe Meeting Place. Everyone's home is different. We ask you to discuss how your family will escape if there is a fire in your home and where you will meet.

### **Family Survey**

Fire Rescue Victoria would appreciate feedback on your child's experience of the <u>Fire Ed for Foundation</u> program. Your feedback will greatly assist FRV to improve our education programs. When your child's class has completed the program please take a few minutes to complete this brief online <u>family survey</u>.

Thank you,

Your Local FRV Firefighters





Please read the following information and follow the links to access home and bush/grass fire safety information for your family.

## **Check your Smoke Alarms**

Home fire safety starts with working smoke alarms.

- Home smoke alarms are compulsory.
- They provide early warning of a fire and give you time to escape.
- You should have at least one on every level of your home.



- FRV recommends long life lithium battery smoke alarms be installed in all living rooms, hallways and bedrooms.
- Test them every month by pressing the test button.
- If you have a smoke alarm with a 9-volt battery, replace the battery every year.
- Replace all smoke alarms every 10 years.

Visit the <u>smoke alarms</u> page on the FRV website. Information is available to download in 24 languages.

# Create and Practice a Home Fire Escape Plan Know what to do if you experience a home fire.

- Know the quickest, safest way to escape from every room, including the upper floors.
- Agree on a safe place to meet outside.
- Make sure your street number is visible so emergency services can find you quickly.
- Practice your home fire escape plan with all the people you live with.
- Keep your exits clear.
- Always leave keys in locked doors and security screens when you are inside.
- If you live in a high-rise building, know where the fire exits are and always take the stairs.



### If a fire starts:

 Crawl down low and stay out of the smoke



Alert other people on your way out If safe to do so, close doors as you exit

OUT!

Meet at your Safe Meeting Place Call Triple Zero (000). Ask for FIRE

Visit home fire safety on the FRV website.

### **Children and Fire Safety**

There is a lot you can do to protect your family and your home from fire.

- The kitchen is the room where most home fires start - always supervise children in the kitchen
- Use a screen around fireplaces children should be supervised near heaters and open fires
- Keep lighters, matches, candles, incense and oil burners out of reach of children.
- Store chemical products safely away from ignition sources and out of reach of children.

Find out more about home fire prevention in the Home Fire Safety Booklet It is also available to download in 24 languages!



## **Other Emergencies**

Download the Vic Emergency App.



It provides information and warnings about a range of emergencies.
Visit the Vic Emergency website.

### **Summer Fire Safety**

Information is available on the **CFA** & **FRV** websites.