

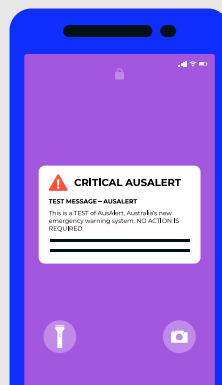
# Introducing AusAlert™

## A guide for parents, guardians, carers and teachers

AusAlert is Australia's new national warning system. It uses the latest technology to send emergency messages to compatible mobile devices during disasters such as bushfires, severe weather and public health emergencies.



**In an emergency, young people may receive an AusAlert during school hours on their phones, tablets, smart watches and children's safety watches.**



Parents, guardians, carers and teachers should read this information to help children and teens understand what AusAlert is and what they need to do if they receive an AusAlert at school.

### What is AusAlert for?

AusAlert is a fast and reliable way to help communities be informed and better prepared during local and national emergencies. It gives the Australian Government and state and territory emergency services organisations the ability to send national or local alerts. It's just one of the many ways we're helping to keep Australians safer in times of disaster.

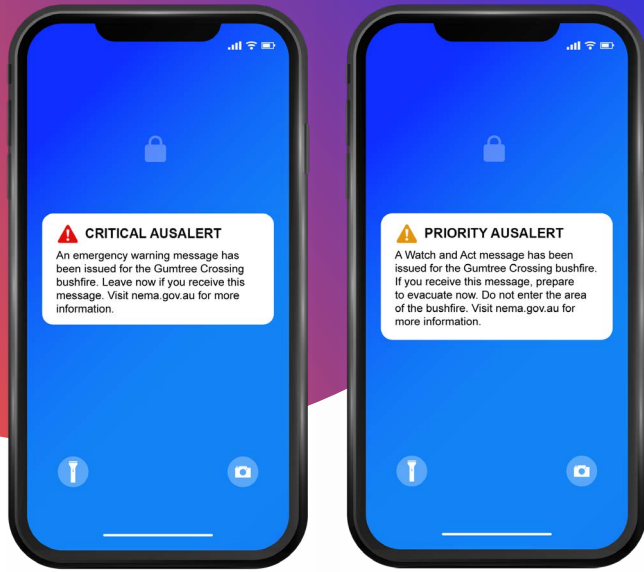
### What are the different types of AusAlert?

There are 2 main types of AusAlert:

- **Critical Alerts** are used for the most serious emergencies. They can't be opted out of.
- **Priority Alerts** are used for emergencies where there is a heightened level of threat because conditions are changing. They can be opted out of.

## What does an AusAlert look like?

Depending on your device type and operating system, an AusAlert message will look something like this:



The AusAlert messages shown on screen are examples only and not real AusAlerts.

## What does an AusAlert sound like?

A **Critical Alert** will cause your mobile device to vibrate and will be delivered with a loud siren-like warning sound that lasts about 10 seconds. It will make this noise even if you've set your device to 'silent' or 'do not disturb' mode.

A **Priority Alert** may vibrate and include a siren-like warning sound, but exactly how it is delivered will depend on your settings, device type and operating system.

## How can we support young people?

Some young people may feel worried or confused when they receive an emergency message and may need extra support from an adult.

This can include children and teens:

- with learning difficulties or sensory needs
- who are still learning to read and understand written information
- who are not with a parent or responsible adult when they receive a message.

Parents, guardians, carers and teachers can help by explaining what AusAlerts are and letting them know that alerts help keep people safe.

### Prepare your child for AusAlert by:

- visiting [ausalert.gov.au](https://ausalert.gov.au)
- listening to the AusAlert sound
- watching the AusAlert animated video
- reading more about how AusAlert works.

## How can young people prepare for an AusAlert at school?

If an AusAlert is sent during school hours, it may interrupt lessons or make some children feel worried or upset.

Reassure them that if they receive an alert, it doesn't always mean they are in immediate danger. Let them know their teachers understand AusAlert.

If they receive an AusAlert on their device at school, to stay safe they should:

- read the message carefully
- ask a teacher or adult for help
- close the notification
- follow the instructions of their teachers or school staff.

## Will schools receive information about AusAlert?

Schools across Australia have been provided with information and resources about AusAlert in the lead up to the AusAlert national test in July 2026.

## How else can young people stay informed in an emergency?

AusAlert is just one way to get information in an emergency.

Families and schools should use other trusted sources, such as:

- school or community evacuation plans
- local or national TV or radio
- emergency services apps and websites.

For more information, visit [ausalert.gov.au](https://ausalert.gov.au)