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2023 Key Messages – Home Fire Safety

In the kitchen

Cooking in the kitchen is the single largest cause of fire in the home.

Never leave your cooking unattended.

Keep your cooking appliances and cooking area clean. Remove grease, dust and oil.

Things that can catch fire, like tea towels or paper towels must be kept away from cooking and heat sources.

Always supervise children in the kitchen. Keep them away from the stove top and oven.

Electrical

Check you're not overloading power-boards and keep cables tidy.

Ensure monitors, laptops, televisions and other equipment have a good air flow around them and are not in confined spaces or covered.

Don't leave electronic equipment like laptops and phones sitting or charging on beds or soft furnishings.

Heaters

Drying clothes and other items must be kept at least one metre away from all heating.

Keep children safe around heaters and open fires. Don't let them get too close and never leave them unsupervised.

Never leave portable heaters and fireplaces unattended; turn off heaters and make sure fireplace embers are extinguished before leaving the room.

Smoke Alarms

Check your smoke alarms are working to keep you and loved ones safe

If there is a fire, you may not wake up without a working smoke alarm in every living and sleeping area of your house.

Install smoke alarms in all bedrooms and living areas in your home.

Interconnected smoke alarms are recommended. When one sounds, they all sound so you have a better chance of getting your family to safety.

Test smoke alarms monthly by pushing the test button to make sure it beeps

Before Bed/Night Routine

Switch off all electrical appliances such as irons, stoves and hair straighteners

It's better not to charge mobile phones, tablets or laptops overnight.

Don't put washing machine or tumble dryer on overnight.

Turn off heaters and put wood fires out.

Make sure all candles and cigarettes are out properly.

Make sure you know what to do if a fire starts. Plan how you would escape a fire in your home and practice this with your whole family.

Check CFA's website for more tips on home fire safety at <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/fires-in-the-home>

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