



SCHOOLS BEWARE!

SCHOOLS ARE FOUR TIMES MORE LIKELY TO SUFFER AN ARSON ATTACK THAN COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS. ALL SCHOOLS CAN TAKE SOME SIMPLE, INEXPENSIVE STEPS TO IMPROVE FIRE SAFETY AND REDUCE THE LIKELIHOOD OF ARSON

1 KEEP RUBBISH BINS AND SKIPS WELL AWAY FROM OUTSIDE WALLS



- › We recommend you keep all fixed bins and wheelie bins at least two metres away from all buildings
- › Lock and secure bins so they can't be moved up against buildings.
- › Empty bins every night and weekend if school grounds are being used e.g. sports, fairs
- › Lock recycle bin lids after hours

FACT: MOST SCHOOL FIRES ARE STARTED USING RUBBISH & OTHER EASY-TO-BURN ITEMS

2 REMOVE MATERIALS THAT CAN BE USED TO SET FIRES



- › Remove loose combustible items from under buildings e.g. timber, desks, school crafts
- › Monitor school boundaries, as nearby rubbish can be easily carried to school grounds.

FACT: MOST SCHOOL FIRES LIT BY YOUNG PEOPLE ARE OPPORTUNISTIC

3 INSTALL/INCREASE SECURITY LIGHTS

- › Leave external lights on or increase timer periods for sensor lights
- › Cut back vegetation to make school buildings more visible & minimise places for arsonists to hide.

FACT: THE LARGEST FIRES ARE SET AT NIGHT, ADDITIONAL SECURITY LIGHTS HAVE REDUCED FIRES & VANDALISM IN BRITISH SCHOOLS

4 INVOLVE THE COMMUNITY

- › Ask neighbours and parents to keep an eye on the school and report any fires and serious vandalism to Police immediately.

5 CONFRONT ALL FIRE-SETTING BEHAVIOUR, NO MATTER HOW SMALL

- › Report minor fire lighting to Police as it has been shown it is likely to continue
- › Increase night security patrols
- › Fire and Emergency New Zealand offer a FREE programme to assist where young people are showing a fascination about fire. For further advice about the Fire Awareness Intervention Programme (FAIP) call **0800 FIREINFO** or visit our website **fireandemergency.nz/faip**. This programme is highly effective in ending fire-setting behaviour. The intervention can be directed at known fire-setters or to school groups when it is not known who is lighting the fires
- › Record all information about fire-setting incidents for possible use by Fire and Emergency.

FACT: SCHOOLS OFTEN HAVE A SPATE OF SMALL FIRES ON THEIR GROUNDS BEFORE A MAJOR ARSON ATTACK



**FIRE
EMERGENCY**

NEW ZEALAND

Order resources from our Get Firewise programme to teach children general fire safety. Go to www.getfirewise.org.nz to order these resources, and feel free to get in touch with us through this page if you have any queries.