HOMEWORK POLICY

1. Rationale

Homework helps students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning, fostering good lifelong learning and study habits, and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

Homework will enable the extension of class work by practising skills and gathering extra information or materials. Students will benefit from completing homework regularly. Homework will help them develop organisational and time-management skills, self discipline, skills in using out-of-school resources and personal responsibility for learning. Homework provides an opportunity for revising and consolidating concepts covered within class sessions.

2. Guidelines

- Parents should be advised of the Homework Policy and the teacher’s expectations at the beginning of the school year, which will be included in the classes Term Newsletter.
- Students should be advised of the assessment and feedback process, the teacher’s expectations, and the consequence of not completing the homework.
- All students should be given a hardcopy of the homework and for senior students who wish to receive it by email, this can be arranged when relevant.
- Teachers should promptly assess student’s homework, and should provide students with appropriate written feedback before the next homework is given.
- Teachers should follow up any homework issues with remedial teaching if found necessary, and should provide extension work for those who would benefit from it.

Parents and caregivers can help their children by:

- encouraging them to take increasing responsibility for their learning and organisation
- observing and acknowledging their success and asking how their home and class work is progressing
- attending school events, displays or productions in which their children are involved
- encouraging them to set aside a regular daily session to read and complete homework
- setting an example by reading themselves
- contacting the relevant teacher to discuss any problems their children are having with homework
- helping them to complete homework by discussing key questions or directing them to resources. Usually it is better to encourage children to complete homework themselves
- helping them to balance the amount of time spent completing homework, watching television, playing computer games and engaging in other leisure or recreational activities
- checking whether homework for upper primary and secondary students has been set and ensuring they keep a homework diary
- reading texts set by teachers. Discussing their child’s response to the texts and asking to see work they complete in relation to these texts
- discussing homework in their first language, where English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to their previous experiences.
3. Implementation

**Prep to Year 3** - homework should not be seen as chore, and it should not exceed 30 minutes a day and not be set on weekends or during vacations. Homework will:
- Enable the extension of class work by practising skills and gathering extra information or materials.
- Mainly consist of daily reading *to, with and by* parents/caregivers or older siblings.

**Years 4 to 6** - homework which should range from 30-45 minutes a day:
- Should include daily independent reading.
- May include extension of class work, projects and assignments, essays and research.

Homework should be:
- appropriate to the student’s skill level and age.
- interesting, challenging and, where appropriate, open-ended.
- balanced with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities.
- purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum.
- assessed by teachers with prompt feedback and support provided to students.
- listed in diaries for Years 3-6 students.

4. Policy Evaluation

This policy should be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle.

**REVIEW DATE: 2014**
**APPROVED: 2011**