1. **Rationale**
Homework helps students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning, fostering good lifelong learning and study habits, as well as providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning and for families to engage in their children’s learning.

Homework should also be balanced alongside family commitments and extra curricular activities undertaken by children such as sport, music, drama and dance.

2. **Aims**
2.1 To assist students to develop organisational and time-management skills, self-discipline skills in using out-of-school resources and personal responsibility for learning.
2.2 To provide opportunities for parents/guardians to participate in their child’s learning and to be exposed to a range of activities/aspects of the curriculum students are working on in their classroom.

3. **Implementation**

3.1 **Homework should be:** -
3.1.1 appropriate to the student’s skill level and age,
3.1.2 interesting, challenging and where appropriate, open-ended,
3.1.3 purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum,
3.1.4 assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided,
3.1.5 consistent across the year level.

3.2 **Types of homework may include:** -
3.2.1 spelling investigation,
3.2.2 practising reading skills,
3.2.3 reading texts for class discussion,
3.2.4 researching topics for class work,
3.2.5 collecting newspaper articles,
3.2.6 completing work required for publishing in class/newsletters,
3.2.7 completing projects.

3.3 **In the Early Years (Prep – Year 2),**
Homework: -
3.3.1 will enable the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering extra information or materials,
3.3.2 will include **daily Reading** to, with, and by parents/guardians,
3.3.3 other than daily Reading, additional homework will generally not exceed 20 minutes per week,
3.3.4 for a child on the Reading Recovery program or a child who has an Individual Learning Plan (ILP), the focus of the goals in the plan will be the priority for parents to concentrate on at home,
3.3.5 may include student's individual or class spelling investigation,
3.3.6 individual students will be allocated homework tasks depending on their needs,
3.3.7 students may be allocated differentiated homework tasks depending on their needs,
3.3.8 for a child on the Reading Recovery program or a child who has an Individual Learning Plan (ILP), the focus of the goals in the plan will be the priority for parents to concentrate on at home,
3.3.9 it is highly recommend that task assigned within the Early Years (Prep – Year 2) be completed as part of establishing a homework routine.

3.4 **In the Early Years (Years 3 & 4),**
**Homework:** -
3.4.1 will further the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering extra information or materials,
3.4.2 will include **daily Reading**, encouraging independent Reading,
3.4.3 other than daily Reading, additional homework will generally not exceed half an hour per week,
3.4.4 for a child with an Individual Learning Plan (ILP), the focus of the goals will be the priority for parents to concentrate on at home,
3.4.5 students may be allocated differentiated homework tasks depending on their needs,
3.4.6 the expectation is that homework tasks are compulsory.

3.5 **In the Middle Years, (Years 5 & 6),**
**Homework:** -
3.5.1 will further the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering extra information or materials,
3.5.2 will include **daily independent Reading**,
3.5.3 other than daily Reading, additional homework will generally not exceed one hour per week,
3.5.4 for children with an Individual Learning Plan (ILP), the focus of the goals will be the priority for parents to concentrate on at home
3.5.5 students may be allocated differentiated homework tasks depending on their needs.
3.5.6 the expectation is that homework tasks are compulsory.
3.6 **Expectations**

**Parents/Guardians should:**
- 3.6.1 encourage children to take increasing responsibility for their learning and organisation,
- 3.6.2 observe and acknowledge their success and ask how their homework and class work is progressing,
- 3.6.3 encourage their child/ren to set aside a regular daily session to read and complete homework,
- 3.6.4 set an example to their child/ren by reading themselves,
- 3.6.5 contact the relevant teacher to discuss any problems their child/ren are having with homework,
- 3.6.6 help their child/ren to independently complete homework by discussing key questions or directing them to resources,
- 3.6.7 help their child/ren balance the amount of time spent completing homework, watching television, playing computer games and engaging in other leisure or recreational activities,
- 3.6.8 consider visiting local libraries, museums, galleries and other places of cultural interest.

**Students should:**
- 3.6.9 complete designated homework tasks as set by their teacher,
- 3.6.10 explain to their parents/guardians what homework has been set,
- 3.6.11 return homework by the due date,
- 3.6.12 check with their teacher if they are unsure about homework tasks, or if they are having difficulty completing homework tasks.

**Teachers should:**
- 3.6.13 set regular homework to help students establish a home study routine,
- 3.6.14 give students enough time to complete homework, taking into account home obligations and extracurricular activities,
- 3.6.15 correct homework, provide timely and practical feedback and support to students, e.g. by communicating homework requirements and timelines at the start of each Term,
- 3.6.16 make effective use of homework diaries for upper school primary students,
- 3.6.17 ensure that parents/guardians are aware of the School’s Homework Policy,
- 3.6.18 effectively communicate homework requirements to parents/guardians and students,
- 3.6.19 monitor the completion of homework,
- 3.6.20 support student to complete homework task they may be experiencing difficulty with,
- 3.6.21 make contact with parents if weekly homework tasks are not submitted with some consistency.

3.7 A copy of the Homework Policy will be placed on the school Website and updated as required.
4. Evaluation and Review

4.1 This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s four-year review cycle.

Acknowledgements:

DEECD Homework Guidelines

This Policy has been ratified by School Council on Wednesday 10\textsuperscript{th} October 2012