

## HOMWORK POLICY

### **RATIONALE:**

Homework comprises of activities that enrich learning through reading, talking and living life. The **best homework** includes things such as playing and sharing interests with relatives and friends. This may be lots of family conversation, bedtime stories, independent reading before lights out, family games, activities and hobbies, visits to the local library, outings to all kinds of places of historic or natural interest and imaginative play that comes naturally to children of all ages.

There is also a place for more formal, structured homework that enriches and enhances student learning. This type of homework complements classroom learning, helps to foster positive study habits and provides an opportunity for students to take responsibility for their own learning.

### **AIMS:**

- To create a time for positive interaction between family members
- To provide an opportunity for families to share in learning
- To enrich and enhance classroom learning
- To provide parents and caregivers with the opportunity to remain connected to areas of study taking place in the learning environment, and strengthen home/school partnerships
- To develop positive study habits
- To foster students' understanding that they are active participants in their own learning

### **IMPLEMENTATION:**

- The school's Homework Policy will be made accessible to parents
- Homework tasks will be purposeful and complement the student's academic, social and emotional learning
- Tasks will be appropriate to student's skill level and age
- Parental involvement is encouraged
- In Foundation to Year 3, written instructions will be provided for tasks to be completed at home
- In Years 4 to 6 students will independently record homework requirements
- Homework will be viewed with feedback and support given when required

In Foundation to Year 3, homework will consist mainly of:

- Daily reading to, with, and by parents, caregivers or older siblings
- Extension tasks and open ended inquiry projects
- Unfinished work associated with classroom activities
- Gathering of information and/or materials to support learning
- Real life learning tasks and discussion

Homework will generally not exceed 30 minute per day (including reading).

In Year 4 to 6, homework will consist mainly of:

- Daily independent reading
- Tasks reinforcing and applying concepts taught in class
- Extension of class work, projects and assignments, writing and research
- Unfinished work associated with classroom activities
- Project work associated with class learning

Homework will generally not exceed 45 minutes per day (including reading)

Parents can assist their child by:

- encouraging a regular daily time to discuss and complete homework requirements
- discussing key questions or suggesting resources to help with homework
- helping to balance the amount of time spent between homework and recreational activities
- asking how homework and class work is progressing, and acknowledging success
- attending school events to celebrate their child's learning
- talking to teachers to discuss homework requirements
- checking whether homework has been set and ensuring that their child keeps up to date with their homework expectations
- discussing homework with their child in their first language and linking it to previous experiences

**EVALUATION:**

This policy shall be reviewed as part of the ongoing policy and process review.

**REFERENCES:**

Department of Education and Training - Homework Guidelines and Expectations

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/curriculum/Pages/guidelines.asp>

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<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/curriculum/Pages/expectations.aspx>