**Homework Policy and Guidelines**

# Purpose:

* To develop parents/carers’/carers’ understanding of the time and processes involved in their child’s learning.
* To develop regular study habits.
* Practice and refine skills taught in the classroom.

# Rationale:

Homework is an important part of a child’s education. It allows the carryover of their learning into activities outside the school setting. Homework complements classroom work and may include a variety of tasks and formats such as e-learning (e.g. Reading Eggs, Mathletics), reading, mathematics, spelling, music or story writing, worksheets, projects, research and investigation, gathering information or resources, or completing unfinished classroom work.

Reading is an important activity, which should continue throughout a child’s life. Reading material may be sent home on a regular basis or the students may choose to utilise other quality reading materials.

Depending on the interests and competencies the children should be encouraged to widen their reading through newspapers, magazines, library books or reference materials. Homework is not compulsory but is encouraged.

# Process:

The age of the child and the other important demands on their after-school time should be considered when completing homework.

* Homework for Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 will mainly consist of reading activities on a daily basis (including reading to a family member, being read to, playing reading games), completing set Mathletics tasks (Years 1 and 2) and completing activities that complement classwork through formal and informal tasks.
* Homework for children in Years 3, 4, 5, 6 will include independent reading on a regular basis, spelling practice, completing set Mathletics tasks and completing activities that complement classwork through formal and informal tasks.

Homework may vary depending on the needs of the students and the routine of the teacher. The amount of homework set will depend on factors including the age, stage and abilities of the students.

As a general guide the following times are suggested for homework each day:

Kindergarten 15 minutes + reading

Years 1-2 20 minutes + reading

Years 3-4 30 minutes + reading

Years 5-6 45 minutes + reading

Homework provides parents/carers with an opportunity to observe and assist their child’s learning.

Parents/carers should encourage their child to be interested in school activities. The supervision of homework by parents/carers should not lead to stressful situations. If the parent/carer believes that the child has worked for a sufficient time on a task, then the homework time should stop.

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