HOMEWORK

This policy was last ratified by School Council in September 2014

Rationale:
Homework benefits students by complementing classroom learning, fostering good study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning with parent support.

Aims:
• To support and extend classroom learning.
• To develop positive study habits.
• To develop a responsibility for self-learning.
• To develop a home/school partnership to support student learning.

Implementation:
• The school’s homework policy will be distributed to parents at the commencement of each school year. It is based on departmental guidelines.
• Students will be allocated a homework diary/reading diary/homework book/folder.
• Classroom teachers will set regular homework appropriate to each child’s skill level and age.
• Homework activities should be interesting, challenging and where appropriate, open-ended.
• Each set task must be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the current classroom curriculum.
• Teachers will make their objectives and expectations clear to students and parents on the particular homework task.
• Parents are expected to support and assist their child to complete homework tasks.
• The school’s newsletter may include additional open-ended challenges that are appropriate to students of a variety of ages, which students may choose to embrace if they wish.

Early Years (Prep – Year 4)
Homework will generally not exceed 30 minutes per day and will not be set on weekends or during vacation periods. (Section 3.23 of the department’s Schools’ Reference Guide)
Homework will consist mainly of:
  o Reading activities to, with and by parents.
  o Simple extension tasks associated with classroom activities.
  o Gathering of additional information or materials.
  o Unfinished classroom work may also be set as a homework task.

Middle Years (Years 5 – 6)
Homework will generally not exceed 45 minutes per day, must be coordinated between teachers to avoid excessive workload, and may be set during weekends and school vacations. (Section 3.23 of the department’s Schools’ Reference Guide)
Homework will consist mainly of:
  o Independent reading on a daily basis
  o Tasks such as continuation of classroom work, projects and assignments, essays and research
  o Unfinished classroom work may also be set as homework tasks.

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