Rationale:
Homework is a valuable part of schooling. Homework enhances and reinforces the learning and development of students and encourages and supports parental involvement in student learning, and the home/school partnership.

Date: July 2013

Homework Aims:

- Allows for practising, extending and consolidating work done in class establishes habits of study, concentration and self-discipline.
- Strengthens home-school links.
- Provides parents and caregivers with insights into what is being taught in the classroom and the progress of their children.

Homework is most beneficial when:

- It reinforces and extends classwork and consolidates basic skills and knowledge.
- It is challenging and purposeful, but not so demanding that it has adverse effects on the student’s motivation.
- Students take responsibility for their homework, supported by their parents or caregivers.
- It is well coordinated and teacher expectations are well communicated.
- Teachers set suitable amounts of homework which are varied and at an appropriate level considering the age, stage of schooling and capabilities of students.
- It is marked promptly and accurately.
- Feedback and follow-up are provided regularly to students.
- **NB**: HOMEWORK SHOULD NOT BE USED AS A DISCIPLINARY MEASURE.

Implementation:
Parents and caregivers can help by:

- Taking an active interest in homework and encouraging and supporting students to complete homework.
- Encouraging their children to read and take an interest in current events.
- Communicating with teachers any concerns about the nature of homework and their children’s approach to the homework.
Teachers will help by:

- Explaining to students and their parents or caregivers the purpose and benefits of homework.
- Ensuring students and parents or caregivers are aware of the school’s homework policy.
- Providing, quality homework activities related to class work.
- Setting a suitable amount of relevant homework which is appropriate to the ability of each student by referring to the guide below to determine the appropriate duration of daily homework assignments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Duration per day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Stage 1</td>
<td>up to 30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 1</td>
<td>up to 45 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Ensuring that students are aware of what is expected of them and how their work will be assessed.
- Marking homework promptly and appropriately, maintaining homework record and providing feedback to students and parents or caregivers.
- Alerting parents or caregivers of any developing problems concerning their children’s homework and suggesting strategies that they can use to assist their children with their homework.

Students can help by:

- Completing homework within the given time frame.
- Alerting parents or caregivers to homework expectations.
- Seeking assistance from teachers and parents or caregivers when difficulties arise.
- Showing their homework to their parents or caregivers.
- Ensuring homework is of a high standard.
- Organising their time to ensure that sufficient time is given to quality homework within set deadlines.

**Evaluation:**

In consultation with parents and students the homework policy will be reviewed to ensure that it is being used to enhance student learning and create improved home-school partnerships. (Date for Review July 2015)

**Reference** – Memorandum “Homework Policy” 7th August 2000