SUPPORTING TEACHING AND LEARNING

HOMEWORK POLICY

GENERAL STATEMENT
Concord School appreciates and values the partnership which exists between parents/carers and staff as we work together towards achieving excellence in education for all our students. The school community recognises the importance of:

- the benefit to student learning outcomes derived from the commitment of parents/carers in supporting learning and teaching
- the availability of time after school hours which can be used to extend and reinforce student learning
- it can be challenging for students to complete homework (particularly if travelling long distances to and from school) therefore homework is not compulsory.

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. Concord School believes that parental participation in their children’s learning at home assists in the development of:

- attitudes which promote life-long learning habits
- parental understanding of curriculum activities
- parental understanding of each student’s levels of ability
- closer interaction between parents/carers and the child and school.

BROAD GUIDELINES
Parents/carers will be advised, at the beginning of each school year, what to expect in relation to homework (variations occur between sub-schools). Parents/carers are encouraged to assist their child/ren in homework activities. Homework will be:

- appropriate to the student's skill level and age
- interesting, challenging and, where appropriate, open ended
- balanced with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities
- purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided.
- parents and carers may request additional homework.

IMPLEMENTATION
- Students will be encouraged to perform homework tasks on a regular basis where appropriate.
- Parents/carers will be encouraged to read to their child/ren or listen to their child/ren read.
- Parents/carers will be encouraged to spend time with their child/ren in review of the daily school activities.
- Homework may be formal (set work) or informal (for example, reading/talking).
- Homework may include gathering of additional information or materials relating to class curriculum activities.
- Homework will be based on revision or extension of daily activities. Learning of new activities is not to be set as homework.
- Parent/carer programs will be conducted at the school to assist parents/carers in working with their child/ren.
- Consideration of the parents/carers level of support and time will be acknowledged by the teacher.
- Daily communication books may be used as a means of recording homework activities.

EVALUATION
This policy will be reviewed as part of the three year policy review cycle.

REFERENCE
- Schools Policy and Advisory Guide
  - Homework Guidelines
  - Homework Expectations