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
All students will be given the opportunity to complete homework tasks. At the start of each school year the homework policy will be outlined in the school newsletter and at “Meet the Teacher Night”. Parents/carers will be informed of the formalised homework tasks that will be set for the year in English and Mathematics. Parents/carers will be given the option if they would like their child to receive English and Mathematics homework tasks.

Homework will:
- link to student learning goals
- be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- extend and reinforce the skills and concepts learnt in the classroom
- be set by the classroom teacher
- be appropriate to the student's age
- be assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided
- be independent learning tasks for Secondary School students

IMPLEMENTATION
Parents/carers will be encouraged to spend time with their child/ren to reflect and build on the daily school activities. At the start of each school year classroom teachers will provide parents/carers with a list of recommended informal homework activities that can be adopted at any time. Classroom teachers will ask parents/carers if they would like their child to receive set (formalised) homework tasks. Parent/carers may choose for their child to receive all set homework tasks, none of the set homework tasks or some of the set homework tasks. Parents/carers may change their request throughout the year. Parents/carers will receive homework guidelines that will offer suggested strategies to use when supporting their child with their homework activities.
Students in the Primary year levels will be offered:

- **Take-Home Reading Program (daily)**
  - Students will take home a levelled reader in a ‘Take-Home Reader Folder’. Inside the folder there is a list of suggested activities and questions parents can use to support their child’s reading.
  - Parents/carers will be encouraged to read to their child/ren or listen to their child/ren read.

- **List of eLearning to support English and Mathematics (annually and on request)**
  - Parents will be provided with a document listing suggested English and Mathematics computer programs and iPad Apps that students may use at home.

Students in the Secondary year levels will be offered:

- **Mathletics (Mathematics) set tasks (weekly)**
  - Concord School will purchase a Mathletics licence for all secondary students.
  - The classroom teacher will set learning tasks related to the mathematics area of learning in the classroom.

- **Spellodrome (Spelling) set tasks (weekly)**
  - Concord School will purchase a Spellodrome licence for all secondary students.
  - The classroom teacher will set learning tasks related to the current wordlist each student is working on.

**EVALUATION**

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

**REFERENCE**

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