HOMEWORK POLICY
Clifton Hill Primary School
February 2008

PURPOSE
Current world-wide research, extensive consultation with parent members of this community and considered analysis by experienced staff at this school over many years supports the view that homework has limited or no value at most levels of the primary school. Homework in years 5 & 6 may help students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning and fostering good lifelong learning and study habits.

This policy provides a framework to support students, parents and teachers with the implementation and management of homework at these levels.

No formal homework will be provided for students in Years Prep to 4 inclusive. Homework will be provided for students in Years 5 & 6 in terms 2 & 3 of both years provided parents opt-in for their son & daughter to participate.

IMPLEMENTATION
Homework set in Years 5 & 6 will:
• be appropriate to the student’s skill level
• be interesting, challenging and, where appropriate, open-ended
• be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
• be assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided

Homework may include:
• Practice exercises, providing students with opportunities to apply new knowledge, or to review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills
• Preparatory homework, providing opportunities for students to gain background information so they are better prepared for future lessons
• Extension assignments, encouraging students to pursue knowledge individually and imaginatively

Homework will generally range from 30-60 minutes per day, 3 times per week throughout terms 2 & 3 excluding holidays.

READING
Daily reading is an expectation of every child in every year level and is not considered part of a formal homework program.

GUIDANCE FOR WORK AT HOME PREP – YEAR 6
Teachers at each year level will provide detailed advice to parents of shared home activities that will enhance student learning. This may include spelling, reading material, automatic (tables) response and a range of real-life situations where the concepts taught at school may be further embedded in the home situation.
PRINCIPLES & PRACTICES
The homework program at Clifton Hill Primary School requires the participation and support of students, parents and teachers. The following principles and practices outline the roles and responsibilities of all parties.

Students are expected to:
• Complete set homework tasks within given timeframes
• Submit homework of a standard deemed acceptable by the class teacher
• Discuss any problems with homework with the relevant teacher

Parents are expected to:
• Encourage their children to establish good homework patterns, setting aside regular weekly sessions to read and complete homework
• Encourage their children to take increasing responsibility for their learning and organisation
• Support their children by providing an appropriate space and the necessary equipment for homework tasks to be successfully attempted
• Display an interest in their children’s homework and the progress they are making
• Assist their children by discussing key questions, directing them to useful resources and checking homework diaries where appropriate
• Contact the relevant teacher to discuss any problems their children are having with homework
Parents must request in writing that their child be included in the Year 5 & 6 homework program

Teachers are expected to:
• Set weekly homework during terms 2 & 3 of each of Years 5 & 6 to assist students in establishing a home study routine
• Set varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work that are appropriate to students’ learning needs
• Give students sufficient time to complete homework
• Assess homework, providing timely and practical feedback and support
• Assist students to develop the organisational and time management skills required for them to be responsible for their own learning.
• Discuss concerns about homework with students and, when necessary, with parents.

Teachers may withdraw students from the homework program should expectations for timely completion and required standards consistently not be adhered to.

ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION
Evaluation of the Homework Policy will be undertaken every three years or earlier, if required.

REVIEW: November 2010