Williamstown Primary School
Homework Policy

Authorisation
The policy was re - adopted at Williamstown Primary School Council meeting on 15.06.2004

Review date
This policy shall be reviewed in 2005 or updated before if required.

Aims
- Homework tasks should reflect the needs of individual students or grades.
- Homework should be directly related to the normal work a child completes in the grade.
- Homework tasks should have a clearly defined purpose.
- Homework tasks should be within the capabilities of the child without assistance from parents and without reliance on substantial educational resources.
- Homework should be regular and predictable.
- Homework should not demand great time commitment and should be scheduled over a school week to allow for the various commitments that families and children have. eg sports training, music lessons, family functions.
- Homework should provide an opportunity to further involve parents in their child's education and enable parents to better understand the work their child does at school.

Guidelines
- Early each year, most likely at Information Nights, parents will be informed of the homework requirements for each child including an approximate time commitment.
- Homework tasks will be given regularly and generally cover the same type of activities to help establish routines and allow parents and children to organise their week.
- Homework tasks should be based on the work currently or previously undertaken in class. Priority should be given to literacy, particularly home reading, numeracy and research projects which allow for different learning styles.
- Homework tasks should be needs appropriate.
- Consequences for failure to complete homework should be clearly stated early in the year for parents and students.
- Children should become increasingly responsible for timetabling, organising and completing their homework.
- Homework tasks should be completed and kept as a record in an appropriate book or folder for further consideration by teacher, student and parents.

Implementation
- It is expected that all children complete homework tasks as a normal part of their weekly school work.
- Homework tasks will be directly related to weekly classroom programs.
- Homework tasks will be structured to meet the needs of the children.
- Homework tasks will be simple to complete at home and scheduled over a week allowing time for other home activities.
- Level departments should meet early in the year to plan general guidelines for homework in their level, based on the needs of the students and the school policy.
- Similar homework tasks should be developed across departments.
- Homework must be based on work taught in classrooms.
- As a guide only time commitments for homework should be
    - Prep/1/2 — 10 - 15 minutes each night, approximately one hour per week

    - 3/4 15 -20 minutes each night, approximately one to one and a half hours per week
    - 5/6 20 - 30 minutes each night, up to two hours each week
- Homework tasks should have time flexibility in-built to cater for the various time demands on families.
- Consequences for failure to complete homework will be implemented on an individual case basis, in line with the needs of the children and class management preference of the teacher(s). Consistent failure to complete homework will be reported to parents and consultation regarding appropriate action will be negotiated with the student, parents and teacher.