

# Jerdacuttup Primary School



## Homework Policy 2008



**Serving the community since 1964**

Jerdacuttup Primary School, in conjunction with the whole school community aims to provide an inclusive education for all students in a safe, caring and stimulating environment so that students can become adapting and participating members of their community.

**Respecting the Past; Challenging the Future**

*Homework is understood by the Jerdacuttup Primary School Community (staff, parents and students) to be beneficial in supporting higher levels of student achievement. Extending the time available to students outside of school hours to consolidate skills and concepts learned reinforces learning.*

### **Homework provides opportunities for:**

- parents to engage with their children to further positive relationships and reinforce values of the importance of school
- parents to be informed about their child's learning program and progress
- teachers to individualize students learning programs
- teachers to communicate with parents about student progress
- students to engage in meaningful learning activities with parents that are challenging and rewarding
- students to practice and reinforce learning, revise content or study for a test
- students to demonstrate their skills and knowledge
- students to develop independent study skills.

### **Homework must:**

- only be used to facilitate achievement of learning outcomes and not be used as a form of punishment or securing discipline
- form part of a development program commensurate with phases of child development
- meet individual needs, be clearly relevant and be supported by classroom practice
- support the development of the student's independence as a learner
- further the partnership between home and school
- allow for relative autonomy by the student and not rely heavily on parental assistance or difficult to source resources
- not impinge on reasonable family, recreational or cultural time
- be relevant to the student's age, development and educational aspirations
- be balanced across learning areas
- be phased in gradually and consistently as students move through the upper primary years
- be consistently applied, monitored and assessed in a whole-school approach that is responsive to individual needs and learning area requirements.

### **Whole-School**

- Homework will be set for Monday to Thursday
- Homework will be checked daily where possible
- Will include reading of library books
- Homework will focus on consolidation of literacy and numeracy concepts

### ***Junior Class***

- Homework will consist of regular home reading using material at an appropriate level
- Homework will include learning of spelling, sight words and basic mathematics that relate directly with classroom teaching when and if appropriate and in consultation with parents
- Homework should take no more than 10-15 minutes

### ***Senior Class***

- Home reading daily, including library books
- Homework will include learning of spelling, sight words and mathematics that relate directly with classroom teaching when and if appropriate and in consultation with parents
- Homework should take no more than 30 minutes

It is important that parents do not see homework as a 'task for children to complete' but more as a means to become involved in their child's education. Homework done in a stressful climate achieves little and can lead to the development of negative attitudes. Any homework, whatever the nature, should be completed by the child in a warm and encouraging environment. Positive parent involvement can only enhance a child's attitude. Class teachers can provide more detailed information about homework requirements.

### ***Teacher's Role:***

- ❖ Provide interesting and challenging work appropriate for the varying abilities in the class
- ❖ Provide a balance of open-ended, creative and practice activities
- ❖ Give clear, explicit instructions and feedback
- ❖ Be consistent in their approach to homework (including informing parents of individual class routines)
- ❖ Teach the necessary research and other skills to enable students to complete homework tasks.

### ***Parents' Role:***

- ❖ Provide an environment for the child where supervision, encouragement and help are provided
- ❖ Respect the child's knowledge and skills
- ❖ Communicate with the teacher and sign the homework.

### ***Student's Role:***

- ❖ Accept responsibility for the completion of the homework, and complete tasks to the best of their ability
- ❖ Ask for help from teacher and family if necessary
- ❖ Ensure the work is handed in for marking.