SOUTH LAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL
HOMEWORK POLICY

Extract from Department of Education and Training Homework Policy:

> ***Homework can support higher levels of student achievement by extending the time available for students to consolidate skills and concepts learned at school. As well as extending the time available for the exploration of new ideas and new situations homework can also be a means of furthering school-home relationships as it can assist in keeping parents informed about the student's learning program and progress***.

All policy and procedural statements contained within this document are lawful orders for the purposes of section 80(a) of the Public Sector Management Act 1994 (WA) and are therefore to be observed by all Department of Education and Training employees. Uncontrolled when printed 3 Effective: 30 April 2001.

South Lake Primary School approach to homework:

- is consistent with the Australian Curriculum and school plans;
- is developed in consultation with the school staff and parents /guardians and endorsed by the School Board;
- is regularly communicated to students and parents;
- includes general guidelines for parents, where appropriate, as to how they can support and assist their children;
- is supported and implemented by all staff;
- is to facilitate the achievement of learning outcomes;
- form part of a developmental learning program that is responsive to individual needs, clearly relevant, supported by classroom practice and, where appropriate, developed in collaboration with students; and
- should be disassociated from any form of punishing students or means of securing discipline.

General Guidelines

Homework should:

- support the development of the student's independence as a learner;
- further the partnership between school and home;
- avoid dependence on unreasonable levels of parental assistance or resources that are not readily available to the student;
- be set without impinging on reasonable time for family, recreational, cultural and employment pursuits relevant to the student's age, development and educational aspirations;
- be balanced across learning areas so as to avoid stress and overload;
- be phased in gradually and consistently as students move through the primary years; and

- be consistently applied, monitored and assessed in a whole-school approach that is responsive to individual needs and learning area requirements.

Specifically

Examples of homework could include:

- Home reading.
- Being read to (-by parents and older siblings).
- Times tables and common sight word practice.
- Gathering information and conducting surveys.
- Revision and consolidation of concepts covered in class.
- Exploring new ideas - art activities, listening to music, Science –Technology – Engineering – Maths (STEM).
- Physical activity - walking the dog, cycling, fishing.
- Playing board games (this fosters interaction with others).

Homework duration

- Junior Years (K - 2) minimum of 10 minutes daily and weekends free.
- Middle Years (3 - 6) minimum of 15 minutes daily and weekends free.