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. Homework provides the parents with the opportunity to become involved in their child’s education and gain greater insight into what the students learn at school. At Portland South PS we value children being involved in after school sport, clubs, active play, family activities, etc and encourage parents to limit screen time - watching TV or DVDs or playing electronic games. (No more than 2 hours per day of screen time for children aged 5-12 years).

Aims:

- To support and extend classroom learning.
- To develop positive study habits.
- To develop a responsibility for self learning.
- To develop a stronger relationship between home and school and to increase opportunity for communication between the two.

Implementation:

- The school’s homework policy will be distributed to parents at the commencement of each school year.
- All students will be allocated homework diaries or reading logs.
- Classroom teachers may set daily or weekly homework appropriate to each child’s skill level and age.
- Each set task must be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the current classroom curriculum. Drill and practice activities are to be included if necessary.
- All homework activities must be assessed with feedback and support provided by teachers.
- Class teachers will communicate their expectations for homework to parents/carers at the beginning of each school year.

Prep – Year 2 (up to 90 minutes per week)

Homework will consist mainly of:
- reading to, with and by parents.
- learning some reading/spelling words.
- talking with parents about school.
- finishing work not completed in class.
- using Mathletics (online maths learning program) – each student has his/her own password

Years 3 – 6 (up to 120 minutes per week)

Homework will consist mainly of:
- reading on a daily basis to parents or independently.
- tasks such as continuation of classroom work including projects, multiplication tables drill, learning spelling words, etc..
- talking with parents about school.
- finishing work not completed in class.
- keeping up with current affairs – watching the news or reading newspapers.
- using Mathletics (online maths learning program) – each student has his/her own password

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....  February 2013