GLADESVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL
HOMEWORK POLICY

UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES
It is the feeling of the staff, parents and students of Gladesville Public School that a reasonable amount of homework is seen as a worthwhile part of the school program.

BELIEFS
Purposeful homework can play an important part in a child's learning and in developing positive home study habits.

HOMEWORK GUIDELINES
- The purpose of homework, like schoolwork, is to promote and reinforce learning.
  Homework should consolidate, extend and enrich the class program.
- Homework is a partnership between the home and school and is a shared responsibility.
- Homework should cater for the needs of students.
- Homework done well will assist in developing the study skills necessary to allow children to improve learning outcomes in keeping with their ability.
- Homework provides an opportunity for parents to become involved in their child's learning and to gain some knowledge of what is taking place within the class. It enhances the communication between school and home.
- Homework is not to be viewed as a device for securing classroom or home discipline.
- Homework completion is to be encouraged. The school recognises there are times when this cannot be achieved. This should be discussed with the class teacher.
- Homework is a valuable experience when viewed positively by both school and home.
- Homework should be included in the normal routine of the family.

TIME SPENT ON HOMEWORK
It is difficult to determine exactly what amount of time should be spent on homework. We must remember what takes one child thirty minutes to do well may take another much longer. Teachers need to consider the work habits and ability of children when setting homework tasks. Additionally, parents should alert the teacher to any domestic circumstances or extra-curricular activities which may need to be taken into consideration when homework is set or marked.

RECOMMENDED TIMES
These are estimated times guided by the example of activities suggested in the Department of Education and Communities document ‘Information about Homework’.
- K-2 10 -15 minutes (Usually Home Reading or Foundation Handwriting practice)
- Years 3 and 4 15 - 20 minutes
- Years 5 and 6 20 - 40 minutes

THE NATURE OF HOMEWORK
Homework can be of a formal nature i.e. Work set by the class teacher that is task specific. Homework can be of an informal nature and could include reading, learning tables, learning spelling, conducting research, preparing a speech or revision for class tests. Many class teachers may prefer to offer their students a Homework Grid where students choose the tasks they would like to complete for homework. Other students enjoy submitting their homework in creative ways such as multimedia projects and digital presentations.