Rationale
Toorak Primary School recognises that students have many learning experiences outside of school hours. However, it is also considered important that time should be set aside at home for school initiated homework. Homework helps students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning, fostering good lifelong learning and study habits, and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

Purpose
The purpose of this policy is to:
- enhance development of the student's self-discipline and time-management skills
- encourage responsibility for student's own learning
- provide opportunities for reinforcement and extension of the classroom programme
- challenge and expand student’s thinking and encourage them to use a range of resources and strategies
- provide opportunities for parents to share in their child’s learning

Guidelines
1. General
   - Homework is a shared responsibility between the parents, the teacher and TPS.
   - Homework expectations will be outlined at the initial parent information evening.
   - The Homework Policy will be available for viewing on the TPS website.
   - Homework should be varied, challenging and meaningful with tasks appropriate to students' learning needs.
   - Teachers should assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback and support.
   - Failure by students to complete homework on a regular basis should be followed up with parents.

2. In Prep to Year 4 homework will:
   - enable the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering extra information or materials in an enjoyable way
   - mainly consist of daily reading to, with, and by parents/caregivers or older siblings
   - will not be set on weekends or during school holiday periods

3. In Years 5 and 6 homework:
   - should include daily independent reading
   - may include extension of class work, projects and assignments, essays and research
   - will not be set on weekends or during school holiday periods

Year 5 and 6 students will use homework diaries to provide a means of communication between parents and the school.

Evaluation
This policy will be reviewed as part of the TPS policy review cycle.
This policy was last ratified by School Council in July 2016.