Doncaster Gardens Primary School
Home Reading Policy

Philosophical Basis:

Home reading is an intrinsic part of our English program and will extend the school literacy environment. It is also an example of the importance of the partnership between school and home in a student’s education. Students will be encouraged to develop a lifelong habit of reading for enjoyment and to keep learning.

Guidelines:

The Home Reading Program aims to:

- Develop an awareness of print as a source of communication.
- Develop sound reading habits and foster a true appreciation of reading.
- Allow the students to practise reading strategies taught in classroom reading sessions and in whole class teaching.

Implementation:

- Parent information sessions will be conducted to provide worthwhile advice on setting up a routine and practice for regular shared reading of books and listening to stories at home.
- Parents will be invited to attend a training program so they can correctly assist students at home and when hearing reading at school.
- Information and guidance for new parents will be available throughout the year.
- Home reading commences in the Foundation year and, with fostering from all involved parties, could continue to be of benefit through to secondary years.
- The program involves all parents and all students sharing reading every day. The time involved varies through the grade levels.
- Students will take home books at an easier level to enable them to practise reading strategies taught at school, therefore parents are encouraged to disregard the coloured labels on the take home books.
- The students will read more independently as they reach the higher year levels. Sharing reading with parents may then involve discussion of the texts.
- Students are encouraged to read books at home from a variety of sources including the school and local libraries.

Evaluation:

- All students will be required to keep a record of home/shared reading. This may be in the form of a Reading Log Diary or Home Reading sheet.
- This policy will be reviewed every three years as part of the policy review cycle.