THE LAKES SOUTH MORANG P-9 SCHOOL
EARLY YEARS PROGRAM POLICY

Rationale:

- The establishment of sound and well developed literacy and numeracy skills at an early age have been demonstrated as essential to future student learning. Students who leave the Early Years of schooling unable to read or write effectively, make little gain in the Later Years.

Aims:

- To provide a program that ensures all students are numerate and can read and write effectively by the time they graduate from Year Four.

Implementation:

- Our school has identified the Early Years literacy and numeracy programs as a whole school priority and is committed to being involved in the DEECD Early Years program from Foundation to Year Four.
- The school has appointed trained Early Years coordinator/s who are required to oversee and coordinate all aspects of the programs, provide support and direction to others when needed, and organise professional development as required.
- The school will follow the Early Years model, and when possible, provide for 2 uninterrupted literacy sessions and 1 numeracy session.
- Literacy and numeracy support will be provided for all students who require assistance through Individual Learning Improvement Plans. This may result in the forming of targeted and flexible focus groups.
- A literacy aide will be maintained to assist students requiring other literacy support, and all teaching aides will be provided with Early Years literacy training.
- Appropriate professional development will be made available for all participating staff.
- Classroom Helpers professional development programs will be offered to parents, parent helpers and all teaching and integration aides.
- An assessment schedule, consistent with Early Years requirements, will be developed and implemented, with minimum achievement standards and targets being set for all students in reading. Running records will be a feature of classroom programs as a means to monitoring student achievement in reading.
- Ongoing assessment data will be collected and analysed, with the results being used to monitor performance, as well as to drive program development and delivery.
- Where possible Oral Language support programs will be implemented using Education Support staff.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed annually as part of the Annual Implementation Plan, and as part of the school’s three-year review cycle.

This policy was ratified at School Council 20/5/2014