



Padstow Park School Homework Policy

Effective Date: January 1, 2025

Approved by: Sharon Simpson

Review Date: January 1, 2026

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish a clear framework for all students at Padstow Park Public School. Our goal is to promote a balanced and enriching educational experience that prioritises student well-being, family engagement, and holistic development.

2. Rationale

Research suggests that excessive homework can contribute to stress and limit time for family interactions and recreational activities. Padstow Park Public School aims to:

- Foster a love of learning without the pressure of out-of-school tasks.
- Encourage students to engage in meaningful activities with family and peers.
- Provide opportunities for students to explore their interests and passions outside of the classroom.

3. Policy Statement

Effective immediately, Padstow Park Public School will no longer assign homework to primary students. K-6 teachers will communicate suggested activities and ways to support learning at home without the need for formal homework assignments at Meet The Teacher information sessions held in Term 1 each year.

4. Guidelines

Classroom Activities: Teachers will ensure that all essential learning outcomes are met within school hours. Instructional time will focus on engaging, hands-on activities that promote explicit teaching, collaboration and critical thinking.

Family Engagement: Families are encouraged to engage in meaningful activities at home, such as reading together, exploring nature, or participating in community events, rather than completing homework assignments.

5. Conclusion

Padstow Park Public School is committed to providing a supportive learning environment that fosters academic success and personal growth. We believe that we are creating a more balanced approach to education that prioritises student well-being and family involvement.

As part of our commitment to enhancing learning at home, see the suggested homework tasks below that your child may choose to complete. Please note that these tasks do not need to be submitted for marking. Instead, we invite you to review the work together at home to reinforce the concepts covered in class.

K-2 suggestions:

- **Reading Together:** Encourage daily reading by reading your provided decodable texts or stories, that interest your child. Discuss the story and ask questions to enhance comprehension. In addition, practise identifying sight words and word blending.
- **Incorporating Technology:** Utilise educational apps and websites to supplement learning. Make sure to monitor screen time and balance it with other activities. *Suggested apps: Reading Eggs and Maths Seeds – school will provide these logins*
- **Maths Practice:** Incorporate maths into everyday activities, such as cooking (measuring ingredients), shopping (calculating prices), or playing games that involve strategy. Practise foundational number skills; including counting, numeral identification.
- **Writing Practice:** Encourage your child to keep a journal, write stories, or create letters to family members to improve their writing skills. Provide dictation sentences and opportunities to practise handwriting and letter formation.

- **Motor Development:** Incorporate activities that enhance fine and gross motor skills alongside their homework; including cutting with scissors and playing a sport.
- **Encouraging Responsibility:** Assign age-appropriate chores and responsibilities to help develop a sense of accountability and time management.
- **Discussion and Reflection:** Regularly discuss what your child is learning at school and review learning goals set in consultation with your child and their teacher. Encourage them to reflect on their experiences and share their thoughts.

3-6 Suggestions

- **Reading Fluency & Comprehension:** Encourage students to read a variety of genres (fiction, non-fiction, poetry, etc.). Discuss and summarise the story and ask comprehension questions. Online Behind The News report video and accompanying questions.
- **Writing:** Provide prompts for students to write short stories, poems, information reports, persuasive letters or diary entries. They can illustrate their stories or create a digital version using storytelling apps. Provide spelling dictation opportunities
- **Maths Practice:** Incorporate maths into everyday activities, such as cooking (measuring ingredients), shopping (calculating prices), or playing games that involve strategy. Revise multiplication and division facts up to 12x12. Access external resources including Mathematics textbooks (Maths Plus, Excel) and Online Subscriptions (Mathletics, iMaths, Study Ladder)
- **Encouraging Responsibility:** Assign age-appropriate chores and responsibilities to help develop a sense of accountability and time management.
- **Mindfulness Activities:** Suggest mindfulness practices such as meditation, yoga, or journaling about their feelings. Students can share their experiences and techniques they found helpful.
- **STEM Challenges:** Provide optional STEM challenges that require creativity and problem-solving, such as building a bridge with household items or designing a simple machine.
- **Discussion and Reflection:** Regularly discuss what your child is learning at school and review learning goals set in consultation with your child and their teacher. Encourage them to reflect on their experiences and share their thoughts.