



PADBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY

POLICY:

The provision of homework at Padbury PS is consistent with, and guided by, the Department of Education's Homework Guidelines (Feb 2014). Teachers will provide homework for students within this framework.

RATIONALE:

Homework provides a link between home and school providing opportunities to consolidate and practise skills being taught in the classroom. It also provides opportunities for parents to become aware of what children are doing at school. It is expected that homework will relate directly to the learning and teaching programs appropriate to the needs of the students. Preparation of students for the time commitment of homework anticipated in years to come is not, in itself, a reasonable basis for setting homework.

GUIDELINES:

Homework should:

- support the development of the student's independence as a learner;
- further the partnership between school and home;
- avoid dependence on unreasonable levels of parental assistance or resources that are not readily available to the student;
- be set without impinging on reasonable time for family, recreational, cultural and employment pursuits relevant to the student's age, development and educational aspirations;
- be balanced across learning areas so as to avoid stress and overload;
- be phased in gradually and consistently as students move through the upper primary years and sustained through the secondary years;
- be consistently applied, monitored and assessed in a whole-school approach that is responsive to individual needs and learning area requirements;
- only be used to facilitate the achievement of learning outcomes;
- form part of a developmental learning program that is responsive to individual needs, clearly relevant, supported by classroom practice and, where appropriate, developed in collaboration with students; and
- be disassociated from any form of punishing students or means of securing discipline.

Approximate time allocations for homework (based on five nights per week) are as follows:

- Kindergarten and Pre-Primary – up to 10 minutes *dependent on student readiness*
- Year 1 – up to 15 minutes
- Years 2 and 3 – up to 30 minutes
- Years 4 and 5 – up to 30 minutes
- Years 6 – up to 60 minutes

The following is a guide to the types of homework likely to be provided at Padbury PS:

K-PP

- Home readers for reading with or by parents

Years 1-3

- Home reading of teacher provided books and/or
- Home reading of individual choice of books and shared reading with parents and others
- Learning of spelling words
- Mental maths activities reinforcing number combinations and processes

Years 4-6

- As for Years 1-3
- Research to support class work
- Finishing off class work not completed during the school day
- Music for students involved in the SIM program

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Teachers should ensure homework:

- has a direct link to the classroom learning program;
- facilitates the achievement of learning outcomes;
- forms part of a developmental learning program with a focus on literacy and numeracy;
- is responsive to individual needs;
- is developed in collaboration with students;
- is phased in gradually and consistently;
- is consistently monitored and assessed;
- provides appropriate feedback to students and parents;
- provides opportunities to raise parent awareness of students' current learning; and
- engages parents and raises awareness of student progress and attitude to learning experiences.

Parents should:

- support and encourage students to undertake homework in a relaxed environment;
- discuss and develop homework routines with students to develop time and resource management skills as well as a disciplined and responsible attitude towards learning;
- discuss homework with students, recognising effort and outcomes;
- develop and support preparation and organisational tasks for the next school day; and
- discuss individual concerns related to homework with the class teacher.

Students should*:

- complete homework independently and on time;
- request support from parents and/or teachers when needed;

* dependent upon students age and year level

Endorsed by School Council: 16th March 2016