



Paddington Public School Homework Policy

Title	Homework
Next review	Term 4, 2025
Relevant DET Policy and link	https://education.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/main-education/policy-library/public/implementation-documents/Hwk_Pol_guide.pdf

Rationale:

At Paddington Public School we work together with the community to design homework that is educationally beneficial and will meet realistic expectations of students, teachers, parents and caregivers.

General Principles:

Whilst there is little conclusive evidence of the learning benefits of homework in K-6 settings, we believe quality homework in these years may help students to develop effective study habits and broaden their understandings and skills across the curriculum.

The following basic principles underpin the school Homework Policy:

Homework is a valuable part of schooling. It allows for practising, extending and consolidating work done in class. Homework provides training for students in planning and organising time and develops a range of skills in identifying and using information resources. Additionally, it establishes habits of focus, concentration, persistence and self-discipline.

Homework is an opportunity to provide students with problem solving tasks. An essential component of homework tasks at Paddington is for it to contain real-life connections at least three or more times per term.

Responsibilities:

Principal:

- Communicate the Homework Policy to staff students, parents/caregivers.
- Monitor and support teachers in the implementation of the Homework Policy.
- Ensure that homework is consistent with the school's learning goals.
- Support the need for balance between homework and the many other commitments in students' lives.
- Provide mechanisms for teachers and parents/caregivers to communicate about homework.
- Recognise that some parents/caregivers may not agree with the school policy on homework.

This may necessitate the development of reasonable alternative strategies.

Any alternate strategies must consider factors such as, impact on in-class teaching and planning time and any special school events appearing on the weekly calendar.

Class teachers:

- Implement the school's Homework Policy.
- Communicate the purpose, benefits and expectations of homework to students and parents/caregivers.
- Acknowledge student effort in completing homework and provide timely and relevant feedback on achievement.
- Ensure resources and materials are easily accessible for students.
- Support students having difficulties with homework.
- Discuss with students and parents/caregivers any developing issues regarding a student' homework.
- Discuss homework practices with colleagues.

Homework Considerations:

When developing a homework program, teachers need to take into consideration:

- Age-appropriate content.
- Students' outside of school hours commitments, such as sport, cultural activities, tuition, and home responsibilities.
- Students' access to resources and technology beyond school.
- Communication methods. Are instructions clear and explicit.
- Flexibility, by providing options to allow for different student circumstances.

Homework for Kindergarten-Year 2

In general, students are not expected to complete formal homework in Kindergarten. Students may be given books to read at home, as appropriate.

In Years 1 and 2 some formal homework may be set. For example, students might be asked to read and write, learn words for spelling and complete some mathematical activities.

Homework for Years 3-6

Homework in Years 3-6 may be varied. Students will be expected to work more independently. Students could be encouraged to read and practise mathematical concepts learnt at school. Other homework may also be set across different areas of the curriculum.

Types of homework include:

- Practice Exercises, to help students remember and practise newly acquired skills. Activities for this purpose may include, memorising mathematical tables, practising spelling words, writing essays and reading for pleasure.
- Preparatory Homework, which encourages students to source and read background information to prepare them for future lessons on a specific subject. An example of an activity for this purpose may be, reading an article on the Gold Rush in preparation for a lesson in Australian history.
- Extension Assignments, encouraging students to pursue knowledge individually and imaginatively. Assignments may include writing a book review, researching local news, retrieving items / information from the Internet and mathematical problem-solving challenges.