

## POLICY AIM

---

To reduce stress on working parents and tired children by providing a service to families that aids in their child's learning and development. We do this by providing routine time for homework.

## RATIONALE

---

Sweetpeas OOSH believes that children become tired by the late afternoon and no longer have the focus, motivation and other cognitive functions required for meaningful learning. We also believe that time with family is just as important for growth and development, and reducing the time spent on school tasks each night allows for more relaxed interactions in the family home.

Article 31 of the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child* enshrined children's right to play and rest, which is reflected in the *Sweetpeas Philosophy* along with our belief that children learn best through play. This is why Sweetpeas OOSH will offer routine 'homework time' and assistance to children to complete learning tasks set by their school, however we will never force children to complete homework tasks against their will, or set homework tasks ourselves.

## SCOPE - WHO IS AFFECTED BY THIS POLICY?

---

- Children
- Families
- Educators
- School community

## NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD

---

### QUALITY AREA 1 - EDUCATION PROGRAM AND PRACTICE

- Standard 1.1 (Program) - *The educational program enhances each child's learning and development.*
- Standard 1.2 (Practice) - *Educators facilitate and extend each child's learning and development.*

### QUALITY AREA 6 - COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS WITH FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

- Standard 6.1 (Supportive relationships with families) - *Respectful relationships with families are developed and maintained and families are supported in their parenting role.*

## RELATED POLICIES & LEGISLATION

---

### RELATED SWEETPEAS POLICIES:

- Development and Education Policy
- Enrolment and Orientation Policy
- Handling Grievances and Complaints Policy

### RELATED LEGISLATION:

- NSW Curriculum policy standards

## GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS

---

- OOSH - Outside Of School Hours

## IMPLEMENTATION AND STRATEGIES

---

- Children, in negotiation with parents, are aided in completing set tasks provided by their school.
- The children are informed each day when homework time will begin.
- A time limit is set to ensure a balance of leisure.
- Children always have the option to do other activities and complete homework tasks later.
- Children who are not required to do homework are provided with other programmed activities.

- Distractions are minimised. Children with homework are given a quiet space to complete tasks.
- The homework space has visual aids to assist children to work independently.
- Additional materials and resources are provided to children, where possible, to aid learning and development.
- Games are made to assist children with homework tasks such as 'Blends Bingo' and 'Silly Sentences'.
- Children with no homework tasks are welcome to stencils provided or to try spelling words and are encouraged to join educational age-appropriate games.
- All educators can help children with homework or school related projects.
- The service provides internet for supervised research of projects.
- All children are encouraged to display projects or to include projects tasks into the OOSH program.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

---

### EDUCATORS WILL:

- Provide a quiet space for children to complete their homework tasks.
- Provide homework assistance to children when requested.
- Recommend that children do the required homework that needs to be completed that day.
- Respect children's choices in regard to completing their homework at the OOSH service.
- Not force any child to complete homework tasks against their will.
- Not set additional homework tasks for children.

### FAMILIES WILL:

- Read and be familiar with the Homework Policy.
- Read the policy with their child/ren if their school provides them with homework.
- Discuss with your child completing homework tasks at Sweetpeas OOSH and agree whether or not this will form part of their routine at Sweetpeas.
- Complete the *Homework Contract* and sign it along with your child/ren (if your child does want to participate in homework time).
- Raise any concerns about this policy or homework time via the procedures in the *Handling Grievances and Complaints Policy*.

### CHILDREN WILL:

- Read the Homework Policy with their family.
- Complete the Homework Contract with their parent/carer (if they are going to participate in homework time).
- Complete homework tasks set by their school with the assistance of their educators during after school care.
- Raise any concerns with their families and/or Sweetpeas educators.

## REFERENCES

---

- Curriculum planning and programming, assessing and reporting to parents K-12 - <https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/pd-2005-0290>
- ECA Code of Ethics 2016
- My Time, Our Place - Framework for School Age Care in Australia
- NSW Curriculum policy standards - <https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/pd-2005-0290-01>
- Sweetpeas Philosophy
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child - <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-rights-child>

## REVIEW AND AMENDMENTS

---

This policy will be updated regularly to ensure compliance with all relevant legal requirements. Appropriate consultation of all stakeholders (including staff and families) will be conducted on a timely basis. In

# Homework Policy (OOSH)

accordance with *Regulation 172* of the National Regulations, families of children enrolled will be notified at least 14 days and their input considered prior to any amendment of policies and procedures that have any impact on their children or family.

Version	Amendment(s)	Review Date	Updated By
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Policy created for new OOSH service</li></ul>	March 2025	Cassandra Way (Assistant Manager) Janine Evans (Managing Director)