

Why BASIS Do Things Differently

The “why” behind our approach

Independence • Homework • LET/SET • Long-Term Success

We aren't just preparing students to succeed this year.

Our End Goal: Independent Learners

We are not simply preparing students for the next test or grade.

We are preparing students to eventually manage learning without constant adult direction.
Independence is taught gradually—not assumed.

Support is designed to build capability, confidence, and ownership.

The goal: students know what to do, even when an adult is not standing beside them.

Student Independence

The goal is never “figure it out yourself.”

Organize materials and responsibilities – Cubbies/Lockers

Track assignments and deadlines – CJ

Use resources before giving up – Student Hour

Ask for help appropriately

Advocate for themselves

Learn from mistakes and try again

We support students without doing the work for them.

Meet the LET & SET Model

Two roles. One instructional team.

LET - Learning Enhancement Teacher

Provides targeted support and helps students access and engage with learning.

SET - Subject Expert Teacher

Brings subject-area expertise and leads students through rigorous content.

The model is intentional: strong content instruction + meaningful support.

Support Without Creating Dependence Flowchart

The goal of support is to make students more capable.

1. Student tries independently.
2. Student uses available resources.
3. Student asks a peer or teacher for help.
4. Adult provides targeted support.
5. Student tries again independently.

Remember, support should help students become MORE capable, not more dependent.

Homework: It's Not About “More Work”

Homework should have a purpose.

Practice a skill

Reinforce learning

Build fluency

Develop time-management habits

Prepare for upcoming learning

Whose Homework Is It?

Parents are important partners, but students should own the learning.

STUDENT	FAMILY	TEACHER
Know the assignment	Provide structure	Assign purposeful work
Start the work	Encourage effort	Teach
Use resources	Ask questions	Give feedback
Ask questions	Help establish routines	Monitor understanding
Complete the work		Adjust support

FAQ: Independence & Homework

Common questions, answered through the BASIS lens.

Parent Question	Key Message
How can I help my child become more independent?	Give them opportunities to take ownership, make decisions, and solve problems before stepping in.
How can I teach my child to use their words when they are frustrated or upset?	Encourage them to communicate how they feel, explain what happened, and use words to work through conflict instead of immediately relying on an adult.
How much should I step in when my child is having a problem with another student?	Give them the opportunity to use their words and try to resolve the situation first. Step in when they need additional support or when the situation involves safety.
How can I encourage my child to advocate for themselves at school?	Encourage them to speak up, ask questions, communicate their needs, and take responsibility for finding solutions.
How can I help my child feel comfortable asking for help at school?	Remind them that asking for help is a strength. Encourage them to identify the right adult, explain what they need, and use the resources available to them.

Preparing for Long-Term Success

The level of adult support should gradually decrease as student ownership increases.

Elementary → Middle School → High School → College/Career → Independent Adult

At every stage, students need more internal responsibility and less external prompting.

We want students to leave BASIS knowing how to manage time, solve problems, advocate, recover from mistakes, and keep going.

What Can Parents Do at Home?

Small shifts can build big independence.

Instead of “Did you do your homework?” → “What is your plan for tonight?”

Instead of solving the problem → “What have you tried?”

Instead of immediately contacting the teacher → “How could you ask your teacher about this?”

Instead of fixing every mistake → “What did you learn from this?”

Connecting It All to Our Core Values

The “why” behind the approach connects directly to what we value.

RESPECT - for people, learning, and shared expectations

RESPONSIBILITY - owning choices, work, and commitments

INTEGRITY - doing the right thing even when no one is watching

GRIT - staying with challenging work

SCHOLARSHIP - developing deep knowledge and strong habits

Thank You

We are preparing students for a future we cannot fully predict.

Knowledge + Independence + Responsibility + Grit = Long-Term Success