



Primary Curriculum

Aims and Principles

The main values and purposes of the curriculum are aligned to the type of education in which The Newton Group believes and which we seek to provide. This includes a holistic environment in which young people are safe, secure, cared for and happy; and are nurtured to develop into articulate, confident and well-qualified citizens of the world. At Newton we aim to provide a curriculum which promotes children becoming curious thinkers with a love of learning and who can demonstrate independent thought. The curriculum and its implementation should foster an environment in which questioning, academic risk-taking, divergent thinking and the freedom to learn from mistakes are all encouraged.

This Curriculum Policy should be considered within the overall Aims and Ethos of the School, which are at the core of its objectives.

Our curriculum is designed to allow each student to:

- achieve the best possible academic qualifications and standards; whatever their ability.
- ensure high levels of engagement, enjoyment and personal development.

We aim to achieve an appropriate balance between the provision of familiar experiences and activities and the presentation of new challenges. Through our curriculum, we strive to develop students who:

- are introduced to the essential knowledge, skills of subject disciplines and who are able to develop specialisms according to their aptitude.
- acquire an understanding of the social, economic, environmental and political aspects of the world and the interdependence of individuals, groups and nations.
- are able to link areas of knowledge and transfer skills from one area to another.
- are resourceful and able to solve problems using the knowledge and skills they have gained.
- build up the necessary knowledge and understanding to develop for themselves an active and healthy lifestyle.
- are reflective learners who understand their strengths and how they can be used; who can identify areas for development and recognise what to do in order to make progress.
- can show resilience in their learning, persevering even when tasks are challenging and knowing how to access help when needed.



- can work effectively in a team but also concentrate for long periods of time alone and manage distractions effectively.
- are increasingly independent, able to demonstrate initiative and self-organisation.

Delivery

The curriculum should be seen in its widest sense as the entire planned learning experience. This includes formal lessons and events, routines, and learning that take place outside the classroom. Although the majority of the students' formal learning experiences will be through subject-based lessons, the curriculum is also planned and delivered to address a number of cross-curricular dimensions.

The Primary Curriculum

Key Stage 1 consists of Years 1 and 2. Key Stage 2 consists of Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6. The courses for KS1 and KS2 are designed to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum for England and all teaching and learning here at NIA is based on this curriculum. The students are assessed through a variety of formative and summative assessments, which includes ongoing assessments, weekly, end of unit and termly tests as well as diagnostic testing. All assessments used are up to date with current research and trends and in line with the expectations of the National Curriculum. Teachers also make use of peer and self-assessment techniques.

Subjects	
English	Mathematics
Science	Geography
History	Art & Design & Technology
French (KS2)	ICT
Arabic	Music
Islamic Studies Citizenship	P.E.
Philosophy for children	History of Qatar
Character Education	

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In addition to the National Curriculum criteria, students receive instruction in Arabic; and Muslim students receive instruction in Islamic Studies. The history of Qatar is taught in both Arabic and English. All instruction is delivered in compliance with Ministry of Education (MOE) regulations.

Standardised Timetable Structure – Primary

Key Stage 1			Key Stage 2		
SUBJECT	TIME	LESSONS	SUBJECT	TIME	LESSONS
English	8h20	10	English	7h30m	9
Mathematics	5h50	7	Mathematics	5h00m	6
Science	2h30	3	Science	2h30m	3
Geography & History	50m	1	Geography	50m	1
History of Qatar	50m	1	History	50m	1
Art	50m	1	History of Qatar	50m	1
Philosophy for Children	50m	1	Art & DT	50m	1
Assembly	1		Philosophy for Children	50m	1
SPECIALIST SUBJECTS			Assembly	50m	1
ICT	50m	1	SPECIALIST SUBJECTS		
P.E.	50m	1	ICT	50m	1
Music	50m	1	P.E.	50m	1
Islamic Studies/Citizenship	1h40m	2	Music	50m	1
Arabic	4 hours 10 mins	5	French	50m	1
Total	29h10m	35	Islamic Studies/ Citizenship	1h40m	2
			Arabic	4h10m	5
			Total	29h10m	35

English across the Curriculum

We aim for all of our students to become literate and articulate communicators. We do recognise the importance of speaking and listening within the context of the number of children who are non-mother tongue English speakers. In all subjects, pupils should be taught to express themselves correctly and appropriately on paper and orally, and to read accurately and with understanding.

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In writing, pupils should be taught to use correct spelling and punctuation and follow grammatical conventions. They should also be taught to organise their writing in logical and coherent forms.

In speaking, pupils should be taught to use language precisely and cogently. Pupils should be taught to listen to others, and to respond and build on their ideas and views constructively.

In reading, pupils should be taught strategies to help them read with understanding, to locate and use information, to follow a process or argument; to be able to summarise, synthesise and adapt what they learn from their reading.

Mathematics

At NIA we follow the National Numeracy Strategy which we use to plan and implement our Mathematics programme. We use a variety of practical resources to support the teaching and learning across the school and find the White Rose scheme extremely effective to cater for our students. White Rose Maths – underpinned by the mantra ‘Everyone Can’, develops a deep understanding of topics by following the CPA (concrete, pictorial, abstract) approach to teach Mathematics Mastery.

Mathematics lessons are carried out daily in every class across the primary school. The main mathematical topics covered within each year group include: numbers and the number system, number sequences, place value and ordering estimating and rounding calculations, understanding addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, solving problems, reasoning about numbers or shapes, problems involving "real life", money and measures, handling data, shape and space measures related to length, mass, capacity, calendars, position and patterns.

Science

In Science, we offer a balance between obtaining knowledge, developing scientific skills and the application of both of these strands through investigation. Within the curriculum, certain topics and areas are repeated across year groups, meaning that children may revisit a particular topic in each year of primary school but with increasing difficulty and with a different focus each time. Children are expected to master certain skills like being able to carry out investigations, record simple data, plan and carry out a fair test and be able to draw conclusions from their results and record them using a range of graphs and charts.



Specialist Subjects in Key Stage One and Key Stage Two

ICT

Here at NIA we are fortunate to have a purpose built computer suite available for Primary classes to use. Each class will visit the computer suite once a week. We feel that it is very important for our students to be confident in using a computer and its applications. Children's homework is also available online for them to access at home. This enables them to reinforce the skills that they have learned in school. Students complete a practical and theory assessment at the end of the year.

Physical Education

In P.E children acquire and develop skills in dance, games, gymnastics and swimming. All children are required to take part in PE lessons as part of our encouragement of them to live a healthy lifestyle.

Art & Design and Design & Technology

In Art and D&T children have the opportunity to study the work of artists and copy their artistic style. Children will use different methods to nurture creativity and innovation through designing and making. D&T will also help them to develop an understanding of technological processes, products, and their manufacture, and their contribution to our society.

Music

Children attend one music lesson each week. Not only do students learn to sing new songs, but they also have the opportunity to learn to play instruments, and play these in time to different rhythms.

French

All children from Year 3 through to Year 6 will take part in one French lesson a week. During this lesson the students will learn the French language, ranging from numbers and the alphabet to being able to introduce yourself and discuss your hobbies and favourite foods in French. Students complete an oral and theory assessment at the end of the year.

Arabic

The Arabic curriculum consists of 3 levels. Each level aims to help students to acquire good speaking, listening and reading skills. This series helps beginners build gradual interest in developing practical linguistic skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing.



Islamic Studies & Citizenship

All children of Muslim faith attend one lesson of Islamic studies per week where they learn about Islamic faith and culture from specialist teachers. All non-Muslim children remain with their class teachers during this time to study citizenship, this gives them the opportunity to develop, understand and discuss world issues.

Philosophy for Children (P4C)

P4C is an approach to teaching and learning that explores the big ideas that arise in all areas of education and life experience. P4C uses philosophical dialogue and enquiry to help learners to think, to speak, to listen, to learn and to live together more effectively.

Character Education

Character Education is the wider personal development of a child beyond the academic education they receive in school. It aims to instil in students a number of key characteristics and values such as resilience, honesty, motivation and humility, all of which will help them in their adult lives. Character education is about helping pupils grasp what is ethically important in situations and how to act for the right reasons, so that they become more autonomous and reflective in the practice of virtue. Students attend one Character Education lesson per week.

Planning the Curriculum

Long Term Planning (LTP)

SMT produces and disseminates a Long Term Plan before the start of the academic year. This details the content that will be covered over the course of the year, with detail for each subject in each term. They may be used in subsequent years with only minor alterations for consolidation, refinement and development.



Medium Term Planning (MTP)

SMT/Team Leaders produce a termly plan before the start of each new term, in accordance with the Long Term Plan. This gives more detail regarding the activities and learning that the students will take part in and maps progression in teaching and learning across the term. This information is then shared with parents and published on the school website in the form of a curriculum letter.

Short Term Planning (STP)

All teachers produce weekly plans for Mathematics, English, Science, Geography, History, Art, Citizenship and Qatar History. These plans detail whole class teaching and independent and group activities, as well as opportunities for teachers and support staff to reflect and note down comments on student's progress. The differentiation required to meet the individual needs of the students are included in the Short Term Plans. Teachers are required to plan using a standard format and have AFL strategies included. These plans are working documents and must be reflected on by the teacher's and include annotations.

Homework

Newton International Academy offers weekly homework in all core subject areas. The homework links to the teaching and learning that has taken place in class during the week and is used to reinforce prior learning only. The homework is available on Google Classroom and ATOM for completion.

Communicating the Curriculum to Parents

NIA communicates the curriculum to parents by sending out an overview of what is to be taught in all subjects at the beginning of each term. A weekly newsletter is also uploaded onto Google Classroom which details the week ahead.

Relationship to other policies

The school policy on the curriculum should be read in conjunction with the following school policies and procedures:

Teaching and Learning

Admissions

Assessment

Homework

SEN

EAL

Extra-Curricular Activities

More Able and talented