

# GENERAL SCHOOL INFORMATION



## The Newton Vision

An international community of learners striving for excellence and celebrating success.

## The Newton Mission

“We aim to provide the highest quality of education possible for our students of all abilities. In doing so, we aim to positively encourage each student to achieve academic excellence, enjoy creative diversity, develop critical thinking skills and become lifelong learners and responsible citizens.”

## Newton British School Objectives (School Handbook)

1. To work in partnership with students, parents and the wider community to achieve our vision.
2. Provide a safe, enjoyable and challenging learning environment where everyone is encouraged to reach their full potential and is equipped to have a positive influence in the world around them.
3. Provide a curriculum that is broad, balanced and academically sound in an environment that promotes self-discipline and motivation while addressing the need for ongoing curriculum development by continuous evaluation of present and future needs.
4. Addressing the need for ongoing ‘staff professional development’ by continuous evaluation of present and future needs.
5. Promoting positive attitudes towards the host country, Qatar, through study of its history, its main language, Arabic, and the country’s physical and cultural diversity.
6. Promoting a sense of community in the school so that students, staff and parents develop a sense of belonging by providing a stable secure and celebratory atmosphere for all individuals.
7. Developing self-esteem and a sense of respect for others by encouraging communication in both social and academic environments between all members of the school community.

## The Newton Values

RESPECT	Self- respect, respect for students/ staff/ parents and respect of personal and community property
HONESTY	Honesty in all our actions
TRANSPARENT COMMUNICATION	Open and effective communication among students, staff and parents
EMPATHY	Understanding and appreciation of the feelings of others
SUPPORT	Support the development of each individual to his/her fullest potential
DIVERSITY	Appreciation of all languages, traditions, religions and cultures
SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY	Development of responsible citizens through community service
PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY	Highest personal commitment to taking responsibility for our actions

## Introduction

Newton International Schools announced the opening of Newton British School (Al Waab) in 2008. This school was the third to be opened under the name of Newton Schools and is situated on Aspire Zone Street in AlWaab. These schools are the vision of Mrs Afaf Al Moadhadi (CEO) and Dr Jabr Al Noaimi (Chairperson).

Newton British School offers tuition from Pre-School to Year 6 following the National Curriculum of England and Wales. All planning follows the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority. We are accredited with the QNSA (Qatar National Schools Accreditation) and BSO (British Schools Overseas) accreditation. We offer an emphasis on English, Mathematics, Science as well as lessons in ICT, French/Arabic, Music, Humanities, Design Technology, Art and PE/Swimming. Islamic Studies are also offered in either Arabic or English. School facilities include a Library, a large Gymnasium, a sports field, a large play area, a Music room, an ICT and a science lab, as well as a swimming pool (swimming is included as part of the PE curriculum).

Newton British School offers a secure, caring and stimulating learning environment with appropriately qualified teachers familiar with the National Curriculum and experienced in an international educational setting.

Admission is considered based on previous school reports and an entrance test. Whilst we expect a high achievement level on the entrance test in both English and Mathematics, consideration will be given to those children for whom English is not their first language.

We offer a variety of extra-curricular activities (ECAs) in the afternoons which change from term to term, dependent upon our teachers' areas of expertise. Activities run by private coaches currently include, Karate and Taekwondo.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the school.

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Fax: 44517413  
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Website: [www.newtonschools.sch.qa](http://www.newtonschools.sch.qa)

## School Week

The school week is Sunday to Thursday and timings are as follows:

Early Years Foundation Stage (Pre School and Reception)	7.00 am – 12.30 pm
Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)	7.00 am – 1.40 pm
Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6)	7.00 am – 1.40 pm

The school gates open at 6.30am. We ask that parents bring their children to school on time to avoid missing important Literacy or Numeracy lessons that take place first thing in the morning.

## **School Drop Off**

To ensure the safe arrival and departure of students at drop off and collection times, parents must adhere to a few simple rules. These may appear to be inconvenient to parents or drivers, but the safety of our students must take priority.

A “drop off zone” is located in an area demarked by traffic cones and the school’s boundary wall, between the two school gates. Traffic monitors are on hand to supervise traffic flow by directing drivers through this area and to assist students from their vehicle. Please do not park or stop and wait in the areas which are signposted specifically for the school buses.

- Vehicles can only access the drop off zone from the right of the school. Please ensure children exit the car from the right hand side of the vehicle – close to the school building – NOT on the road side.
- Do not perform a “U” turn in front of the gates as this causes congestion and is extremely unsafe for pedestrians. Rather continue past the school and then turn when it is safe to do so if necessary.
- If you wish to walk your child into school, please park in the parking areas. Always stay close to your children and do not permit them to cross the road on their own.
- Do not wait or stop your vehicle on the road or in front of the school gates. There are many spaces available further away.
- Be aware of other vehicles and pedestrians - drive slowly and with caution.
- Please ensure that your drivers are made aware of these new procedures and that they adhere to the direction of the traffic monitors.
- Please ensure that you or your driver do not park on the ramps leading up to the school gates as this is highly dangerous for children going in or out of school.

## **Collection Arrangements**

Prior notification is required to be given directly to a class teacher if a child is to be removed from school for an appointment. Where possible it is preferable if appointments are not made during school time.

All parents or drivers are required to collect their children from the school grounds. No student is permitted to leave the school grounds on their own. This includes stopping your vehicle in front of the school gates and motioning for children to come outside.

EYFS students finish at 12.30pm, and will remain in the classroom supervised by the teacher. Any remaining children will then be taken to the waiting room.

KS1&2 students finish at 1.40pm. At 1.50pm any students still at school will be taken to the waiting room.

Parents and drivers are required to collect their children as close to their finish times as possible. A record is kept of students who are consistently late in being picked up and parents will be contacted accordingly.

## **Bus Transportation**

Newton British School retains the services of a private bus company. For further information and applications kindly contact them directly. Contact details are available in the Main Office.

## **Attendance**

The school has a strict Attendance Policy which every family is required adhere to. Please make sure that you obtain a copy of this Policy for your signature and records. This policy is available on the school website. The policy gives details relating to your child's attendance and punctuality.

- Parents are required to call the school office by 8am to report that their child's absence from school
- Should a child be sick for more than one day, a certified doctor's note is required to be submitted to the school
- Should it become necessary for a child to take extended leave during the school term, parents are required to complete a Notification of Absence form, which can be collected from the main office

## **School Uniform**

Newton British School is proud of its uniform and students are required to be neatly presented when attending school. Parents are required to purchase the correct uniform items. Please ensure that your child/children are correctly and neatly attired every day.

***Please note that items which are not part of Newton British School uniform are not permitted.***

All items of clothing, as well as lunch boxes and bottles, should be clearly marked with the student's name. While the school takes every precaution, we do not take responsibility for lost items. A "Lost Property" box is placed in the Principal's office, and parents are encouraged to check it when necessary. Please note that items of lost property which are not part of the school uniform are placed in the charity bin at the end of each term.

## **Lunch Breaks**

Students will receive two half hour breaks every day. In the summer, to take into account the hot weather, we offer an indoor "cooling down area" where children can sit down and cool off if they find it too hot outside.

Parents should provide a packed lunch and sufficient juice or water in unbreakable containers. Newton British School follows a healthy eating policy and therefore no junk food or fizzy drinks are allowed. Water fountains are provided in the school and students should bring a refillable water bottle each day.

## **Sun Protection**

Students will wear hats at all times on the playground and outdoor activities. At NBS we have a strict "no hat, no play" policy. Sunscreen lotion will be the responsibility of each parent and students will be reminded to wear sunscreen when outside.

## **Extra Curricular Activities**

After school activities are offered to Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 (Years 1 – 6). These activities are conducted from 1.40pm to 2.30pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Activities include various Sports, Drama, Arts and Crafts depending on the expertise available, and may be changed from time to time.

Private lessons are offered in Karate, Taekwondo, Ballet and Football. Application forms are available from the Main Office.

## **Assessments and Reports**

Assessments will be conducted at the end of each term for all students from Year 1 to Year 6. Parents will be advised appropriately.

Parents will receive a written report each term followed by a parent/teacher meeting. These meetings are an opportunity for parents and teachers to discuss the reports and the students' achievements and/or areas for improvement.

## **Curriculum**

Our timetables are designed to promote moral, social, cultural, mental and physical development. The following are compulsory National Curriculum subjects:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- ICT
- History
- Geography
- Art & Design
- Design & Technology
- Music
- PE (including Swimming)

Swimming classes are conducted by fully qualified PE/Swimming staff. Additional supervision may be provided in order to maintain safety regulations and children will be provided with appropriate flotation aids where necessary. Lessons will take place during the months when the weather is suitable and parents will be notified how these will be timetabled. For KS1&2 boys and girls swim separately. EYFS classes are mixed.

The following swim wear is required:

- Girls - 1 piece suit covering arms and upper legs (**no bikini or 2 piece suits**)
- Boys – 1 piece suit covering arms and upper legs
- Swimming cap
- Towel
- Plastic poolside sandals e.g. crocs or flip flops
- Waterproof bag or plastic packet (for wet items)
- Ear plugs and nose clips (if required)
- Goggles are not recommended. (See swimming policy)

Children may come to school with their swim suits under their school uniform or in a separate swimming bag to change into.

On application parents are required to indicate either:

- Citizenship (social awareness subjects) or Islamic Studies (for Muslim students)
- Arabic 1<sup>st</sup> Language (for students who speak Arabic at home)
- Arabic 2<sup>nd</sup> language (for beginners and intermediate speakers)
- French is compulsory from Year 3 to Year 6.

All classes are mixed.

**Should you feel that you require any additional information on any aspect of school life at Newton British School, please do not hesitate to contact our main office.**

Reviewed By: Mr. James Houston - Principal & Mr Conor Hayes – Deputy Principal June 2020

Next Review Date: June 2021

## Newton British School

### TERM DATES: ACADEMIC YEAR 2020 – 2021



#### TERM 1 - 2020

Tuesday	1 <sup>st</sup> September		Start of Term 1		
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> October</b>	-	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> October</b>	<b>Mid-term</b>
Thursday	17 <sup>th</sup> December		End of Term 1		

No. of teaching days: 76

#### TERM 2 - 2021

Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> January		Start of Term 2		
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> February</b>	-	<b>National Sports Day</b>		
Wednesday	10 <sup>th</sup> February	-	Thursday	11 <sup>th</sup> February	Mid-Term
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> March</b>		End of Term 2		

No. of teaching days: 57

#### TERM 3 - 2021

Sunday	11 <sup>th</sup> April		Start of Term 3		
<b>Monday</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> April</b>		<b>Start of Ramadan</b>		
Wednesday	12 <sup>th</sup> May	-	Thursday	20 <sup>th</sup> May	Eid Al Fitr
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup> June</b>		End of Term 3		

No. of teaching days: 48

Total no. of teaching days: 181

Dates are subject to change in line with declared official holidays in Qatar.

Term dates for the 2020 - 2021 academic calendar are subject to approval by the Ministry of Education.