

Newton International School Lagoon Campus



“An international community of learners striving for excellence and celebrating success”

Newton International School Lagoon. Homework Policy and Procedures

Last Reviewed Date: June 25

Reviewed by: Deputy Head of Academic - Secondary Upper and Middle School

Next Review Date: June 26

Rationale

At Newton International School's we believe that homework is part of a good education: it provides the opportunity to practise, consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding from work done in school; it provides opportunities to explore something new and/or independently; it allows time to prepare something for the next lesson; it helps students to learn to manage their time and to be able to work independently which will help throughout their time at school and in the future. It is important in raising student achievement.

Homework enhances pupil learning, improves achievement, and develops students' study skills and as such is an integral part of the curriculum. It requires careful planning and integration into the scheme of work of each curriculum area.

Aims

The purpose of homework is to:

- Increase the understanding of material covered in class
- Provide students with an additional opportunity to explore and work with new material
- Improve skills crucial to studying certain areas/subjects
- Promote independent learning
- Provide teachers insights into student learning, to provide feedback, intervention, and support.
- Reveals the effectiveness of lesson and allows teachers to reflect and improve the producing and delivery of their lessons
- Develop a work ethic within students
- Encourage parents/guardians to become involved in their child's education

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Roles and Responsibility of the different stakeholders:

Responsibility of the School Management

- Fostering lifelong learning and connecting families with the learning of their children, as part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum within the Newton Schools.
- Ensuring that the homework policy is relevant to the needs of students.
- Reviewing the homework policy at the end of each Academic year to ensure that it is updated with the latest developments in education.

Responsibility of the subject teachers

- Setting varied, challenging and meaningful homework tasks, relating to class work to suit the students' learning needs.
- Encouraging real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity, and imagination through the homework tasks.
- Use homework as one tool to gauge how well students are understanding lessons.
- Providing students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities.
- Assessing homework and providing timely and constructive feedback and support. The marking and feedback policy should be followed when assessing the homework tasks.
- Ensuring that the students are aware of the school's homework policy.
- Offering a wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning.

Responsibility of the parents

- Developing a positive and productive approach to homework.
- Provide a suitable place for the students to complete their homework.
- Take on a supervisory role and provide partial assistance to students instead of doing the homework tasks for them.
- Ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities.
- Develop a close relationship with teachers to be able to identify concerns regarding the students' homework, and when needed, discuss teachers' feedback on homework.

Responsibility of the students

- Being aware of the school's homework policy.
- Accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames.
- Following up on comments and feedback provided by the teachers (reflection time).
- Seeking assistance from the relevant subject teachers when difficulties arise.

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Examples of homework might include:

- Written tasks
- Reading tasks
- Project work
- Vocabulary attainment
- Revision of material covered in class
- Studying for a test
- Drawing/sketching
- Practicing a particular skill
- Preparation for the next lesson (Flip learning)

Quality of Homework

All homework should be:

- well-designed to bring about the intended learning outcomes
- interesting and purposeful
- related to class teaching
- clearly defined so that students understand what is required of them
- within the students' capabilities and developmental readiness
- using resources readily available to students
- differentiated to meet the different needs and abilities of students

Quantity of Homework

- During assessment / examination weeks there should not be any homework uploaded. Revision and exam preparation takes preference during these weeks.
- Homework should be marked in accordance with the Marking and Feedback Policy of Newton.
- The homework should not overload the students as it can have detrimental effects on learning and pursuit of a balanced life.

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Homework allocation

Key Stage	Number of homework sessions	Homework hours per week
Key Stage 3 (Year 7 – 9)	Weekly homework of 30 minutes across all subjects	6 hours
Key Stage 4 (Year 10 and 11)	Weekly homework of 1 hour across all subjects	9 hours
Key Stage 5 (Year 12)	Weekly homework of 2/2.5 hours across all subjects	9 hours approx.

- Homework will be allocated in advance. The following week's homework will be uploaded in the relevant shared online platforms of the school (Class Dojo/Google Classroom).