

Secondary Curriculum

Introduction

This policy outlines the purpose, nature and aims of the curriculum at Newton International Academy; we believe that our curriculum should be broad, balanced and relevant. It should meet the needs of all students whatever their ability, culture or nationality and promote a love of learning and willingness to explore. We follow the National Curriculum (2014) to provide a wide and varied learning experience, enriched by our vision of “An international community of learners striving for excellence and celebrating success”.

Through our teaching we equip students with the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to be able to make informed choices about the important things in their lives.

Aims

- To promote the highest level of achievement/academic excellence for all students, across all subjects, in a fully inclusive manner regardless of age, gender, background or ability
- To provide a curriculum which is positive and includes meaningful learning experiences which give students a growing knowledge and awareness of the world in which they live, ensuring that they become responsible citizens; with the skills to succeed and a passion for learning
- To ensure that all learning is secured according to the principles of ‘mastery’ – i.e. a deep understanding of concepts and skills, and the ability to use and apply these principles to become critical thinkers
- To teach and promote social, moral, spiritual and cultural awareness so that students are well equipped to become active, respectful and responsible citizens
- To teach, promote and support healthy lifestyles and sustainable physical and emotional wellbeing.
- To regularly take learning beyond the classroom through utilising the outdoor environment, local area and opportunities further afield, ensuring creative diversity
- To regularly review our curriculum provision in order to ensure that this responds to the needs of our students and the circumstances of the world around us
- To promote memorable learning experiences and create lifelong learners.

Planning the Curriculum

Long Term Planning (LTP)

A Long Term Plan is shared before the start of the academic year. This details the content that will be covered over the course of the year, with details 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)

Each term a plan will be created 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 on Class Dojo 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, P4C, Character Education, 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 is 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 teachers and include annotations. The section for AESN must be annotated and include how the lessons are differentiated for the named pupils.

Homework

NIA Smash 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 the school's online platform (Microsoft Teams).

Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 Options

The option blocks are designed to offer a wide range of subjects to suit the different needs of the students. The subjects being offered at Key Stage 4:

- Mathematics (Foundation and Higher)
- English 1st Language
- English 2nd Language
- Arabic 1st Language
- Arabic 2nd Language (dependent on MOE approval)
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Human Biology
- ICT
- Computer Science
- Btec IT

- Business
- Enterprise
- Geography
- History
- Environmental Management
- Global Citizenship
- Global Perspectives
- Travel and Tourism
- IGCSE PE
- Art
- Design Technology
- French

Our Key Stage 5 options include:

- Mathematics
- Arabic 1st Language
- General English
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Btec IT
- Global Perspectives
- Travel and Tourism
- Business