



Newton International Academy, Barwa

Secondary Homework Policy

*An International Community of Learners,
Striving for Excellence and Celebrating
Success*



NEWTON
INTERNATIONAL
ACADEMY | **BARWA**

Approved by: Senoir Management Team
Date Approved: September 2026
Next Review Date: September 2027
Review Cycle: Annual

SECONDARY HOMEWORK POLICY

1. VISION

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

2. MISSION

We aim to provide the highest quality of education possible for 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. To achieve this, we will provide a diverse education in a safe, supportive environment that promotes self-discipline and motivation. We will provide and maintain a calm, trusting, and caring atmosphere where teaching and learning are meaningful and developed. We will work in partnership with our staff, students, parents, and the wider community to achieve our vision.

3. AIM:

The aim of this policy is to establish clear expectations for homework at NIA Barwa, ensuring it serves as an effective tool for reinforcing learning, fostering independence, and engaging parents in their child's education.

4. RATIONALE

Homework is recognised as a vital component of the learning process, contributing to the development of sound study habits and fostering independence and self-discipline. Our parents overwhelmingly support the importance of homework, understanding that it plays a crucial role in academic success and lifelong learning.

5. PURPOSE

The purposes of homework at NIA Barwa are to:

- Encourage students to develop the skills, confidence, and motivation needed to study effectively on their own.
- Raise academic standards and consolidate understanding of skills learned in school.
- Sustain parental involvement in the management of students' learning and keep them informed about the work their children are doing.
- Manage specific demands, such as IGCSE coursework.

6. HOMEWORK AND ASSESSMENT

To benefit from homework, students must receive prompt and appropriate feedback. Parents and carers play a role in encouraging and praising their children's efforts, but students primarily look to teachers for quality feedback. Departmental assessment policies will provide guidance on various assessment methods, including discussion, questioning, self and peer assessment, and written comments or grades.

- Homework assignments should incorporate assessment criteria and include a written element, with research, reading, and information gathering as essential components.
- Students should synthesise information rather than simply downloading it from the internet.
- Weekend homework expectations may differ but should not burden students with unfinished work from the week.

7. CONSISTENCY AND EXPECTATIONS

All staff will maintain consistent expectations regarding the standard of presentation and punctuality of homework submissions. Homework will be recorded in students' homework planners, which will be checked regularly by form tutors and subject heads.



8. THE PROCESS

The duration of homework is expected to be approximately:

Year Group	Time Per Subject	Details
Year 7	30 minutes	3 subjects per night
Year 8	30 minutes	3 subjects per night
Year 9	30 minutes	3-4 subjects per night
Year 10-11	30-40 minutes	3-4 subjects per night
Year 12-13	Continuous tasks	Homework set for all option subjects

- These times are guidelines; manageable pieces of homework will be set for Year 7 students initially, gradually increasing in length and complexity.
- Homework will be recorded on Google Classrooms and RENWEB, with students also noting assignments in their planners.
- At Key Stages 4 and 5, the demands of the external syllabus will govern the type and frequency of homework.

9. ROLE OF PARENTS

Parents will be informed about their role in supporting homework through key meetings. They are encouraged to:

- Check that homework details are recorded clearly in the planner.
- Use the planner as a communication tool.
- Help their child organise their time effectively.
- Ensure suitable working conditions at home.
- Take an active interest in their child's work and communicate any issues with the school.

10. USE OF AI IN HOMEWORK

At NIA Barwa, we recognise the potential of artificial intelligence (AI) tools in enhancing student learning and engagement. However, the use of AI in homework must be guided by ethical considerations to ensure responsible usage.

- **Encouragement of AI Tools:** Students are encouraged to use AI tools to support their learning, such as for research, language translation, and study aids. These tools can provide immediate feedback and assist in understanding complex concepts.
- **Ethical Use:** Students must use AI responsibly, ensuring that:
 - They do not rely solely on AI for completing assignments, but rather use it as a supplementary resource.
 - They maintain academic integrity by avoiding plagiarism and properly citing any AI-generated content or ideas.
 - They critically evaluate the information provided by AI tools, understanding that not all outputs may be accurate or appropriate.
- **Teacher Guidance:** Teachers will provide guidance on how to effectively and ethically integrate AI into homework tasks, ensuring that students understand the importance of critical thinking and personal input in their work.



11. Failure to Submit Homework

Students are expected to submit homework on time. If homework is not submitted:

- The class teacher will discuss the issue with the student to understand the reasons and impose appropriate sanctions.
- Persistent issues will be escalated to the Head of Department, who may contact parents.
- If homework is unsatisfactory, students will be required to redo it and submit it the following day.
- Absentees must submit homework upon their return, and any valid reasons for non-submission should be communicated in writing.

12. Monitoring and Evaluation

The Head Teacher and Senior Management will conduct random checks of homework diaries and books during Tutor Periods to ensure compliance with the policy. Each Head of Department is responsible for ensuring that homework is set and marked regularly, with suggested activities incorporated into the subject's scheme of work.

13. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Leadership Team and the Teaching and Learning Committee to ensure its effectiveness and alignment with best practises in education, as well as compliance with CIS and DfE guidelines.