



Newton International Academy, Barwa

Secondary Mobile Phone Policy

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

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



NEWTON
INTERNATIONAL
ACADEMY | **BARWA**

NIA SECONDARY MOBILE PHONE POLICY

(In Line with MOE Circular No. (4) of 2025)

VISION

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

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.

AIM

The aim of this policy is to establish clear guidelines for the use of mobile phones at Newton International Academy Barwa, ensuring that the educational environment remains focused on learning while safeguarding the well-being of all students.

RATIONALE

The integration of mobile phones into the educational environment presents both opportunities and challenges. This policy is designed to:

- **Protect Student Well-being:** By regulating mobile phone usage, we aim to minimise distractions and potential negative impacts on students' mental and emotional health.
- **Enhance Learning:** By allowing mobile phone use only under specific conditions, we ensure that technology serves as a tool for learning rather than a distraction.
- **Promote Responsibility:** This policy encourages students to take responsibility for their devices and understand the importance of appropriate usage within an educational context.
- **Ensure Compliance:** Aligning with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MOEHE) regulations, we uphold standards that promote a safe and conducive learning environment.

1. INTRODUCTION

In accordance with Circular No. (4) of 2025 issued by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MOEHE), and in the interest of safeguarding student well-being, Newton International Academy Barwa (NIA) has updated its Mobile Phone Policy. The use of mobile phones by students is generally prohibited during school hours to protect students from potential negative effects related to device misuse. However, as per the MOEHE regulation, mobile phone use may be permitted only for students in Year 10 and above (equivalent to Grade 9 and above), with official prior approval obtained from the Ministry through the designated school administrative specialist. This policy outlines the expectations, allowances, and sanctions regarding mobile phone use at NIA Secondary.

2. MOBILE PHONE RULES FOR STUDENTS

- **Students in Years 7 to 9:** Not permitted to bring mobile phones to school at all during school hours.
- **Students in Year 10 and above:** May bring mobile phones only under the following conditions:
 - The school has obtained prior approval from the Ministry for this allowance.
 - Students must adhere to strict usage rules outlined below.

Usage Regulations:

- Phones must be switched off or kept on silent and secured in bags during all lessons, registration, assemblies, and transitions between lessons.
- Phones may not be used during break or lunchtime inside or outside of school buildings, and never for taking photos or videos of others without permission



- Use of phones during lessons is permitted only under explicit direction of a staff member for educational purposes.
- Headphones and AirPods are not permitted during lessons or transitions unless authorised.

Emergencies:

- In an emergency, students must use the school reception phone.
- Parents needing to urgently contact students must do so via the school office.

3. SANCTIONS FOR BREACHES

- **First incident:** Verbal warning and reminder of expectations.
- **Second incident:** Demerit issued; phone must be turned off and kept in the school bag.
- **Persistent breaches or refusal to hand over the phone:**
 - Immediate referral to HOY or Senior Management Team (SMT), phone gets confiscated and parents contacted.
 - Internal suspension or further disciplinary action as per the Behaviour Policy.

The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged phones. Students bring devices at their own risk.

4. STAFF, VISITORS, AND PARENTS

- **Staff:** May use personal devices only during non-contact times and in designated staff areas. Staff must ensure devices are used safely and securely.
- **Visitors and Parents:** Prohibited from taking photos, recordings, or making calls in student areas during school hours unless explicitly permitted. Social media posts related to school activities require prior school approval.

5. COMPLIANCE WITH MINISTRY REGULATIONS

NIA Barwa remains committed to fully complying with MOEHE guidelines by:

- Prohibiting mobile phone use for students in Years 7 to 9.
- Enabling restricted and responsible use for students in Year 10 and above under Ministry-approved conditions.
- Monitoring student use and enforcing sanctions consistently to protect student welfare and the integrity of the learning environment.

6. REVIEW OF THE POLICY

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its relevance and effectiveness in promoting a safe and conducive learning environment. Feedback from students, parents, and staff will be considered during the review process, and any necessary amendments will be made in accordance with evolving educational practises and regulatory requirements.

SUMMARY STATEMENT

At Newton International Academy Barwa, mobile phones must be used responsibly, safely, and only within the framework approved by the Ministry. Our policy ensures that learning remains our core focus while safeguarding students' physical, mental, and digital well-being.

