



Newton International Academy, Barwa

Study Conduct of iGCSE and AS/A- Level Policy

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



NEWTON
INTERNATIONAL
ACADEMY | **BARWA**

Approved by: Senoir Management Team
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STUDY CONDUCT OF IGCSE AND AS/A-LEVEL 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 outline the structure of the iGCSE and A-Level programmes at NIA, detailing the academic requirements for progression and the responsibilities of students and staff in ensuring a successful learning experience.

4. RATIONALE

The iGCSE and A-Level programmes are designed to provide students with a strong academic foundation that prepares them for higher education and future careers while catering to individual student needs. This policy ensures clarity in expectations and supports students in achieving their academic goals.

5. IGCSE PROGRAMME (YEAR 10 AND 11)

The iGCSE programme at NIA begins in Year 10 and continues through Year 11. Besides compulsory subjects like English and Mathematics, students are required to select seven additional subjects from the current option blocks. The subject distribution is as follows:

- **Compulsory Subjects:**

- English (5 lessons per week): All students study English 1st language, except for severe EAL students who study English 2nd language. English Literature is optional for English 1st language students in sets 1 and 2. IGCSE English 1st language is a one-year course, completed at the end of Year 10. Students may register for English 2nd language or English Literature exams in Year 11 (October or May) if desired.
- Mathematics (5 lessons per week): GCSE Statistics is part of Year 10 Maths lessons in all sets, except the lowest set. Students work towards early entries (fast track) exams at the end of Year 10, although registration for GCSE Statistics is not compulsory. Students in the lowest set are prepared for iGCSE Maths (Higher) early entries at the end of Year 10. All students are allowed to register for English, Statistics, and Mathematics.

- **Elective Options:**

- Students select from Option 1-7 in Option Blocks (3 lessons per week per subject).
- Minimum requirements for some subjects include:
 - Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Human Biology: Minimum entry grade of 5 in Y9 Science (Term 3).
 - ICT: Minimum entry grade of 3 in Year 9 ICT (Term 3).
 - Computer Science: Minimum entry grade of 4 in Year 9 Science (Term 3).
 - GCSE PE: Students must perform 3 different sports at a school team level.
 - Business Studies: Minimum entry grade of 5 in Year 9 English (Term 3).
 - Economics: Minimum entry grades of 6 in Maths and English.
 - Arabic: All Arab nationals must attend Arabic 1st language and complete exams in Y10 and 11.

- **Additional Classes:**

- PE (1 lesson per week)
- Islamic Studies/Careers (2 lessons per week)
- Tutor Period (1 lesson per week)



6. MINIMUM SUBJECT REQUIREMENT

- Year 10: Students must pass a minimum of 4 iGCSE subjects to be promoted to Year 11. Students not in the Fast Track or Individual Support Programme should study a minimum of 8 iGCSE subjects. Students who fail Mock 1 and 2 exams in Year 10 may still register for a Modular exam in May/June.
- Year 11: Students must pass a minimum of 4 iGCSE subjects to progress to Year 12. Exams may be sat in October/November, but approval from HODs and Secondary SMT is required before registering for May exams. If a student fails a subject in Mock 2 (grade F/2 and below), they will not be allowed to register for that exam in May/June.

7. SUBJECT DROP POLICY

Students facing challenges with their academic workload may drop up to 3 subjects with written parental permission and approval from the Senior Management Team (SMT). This process can occur at any point after Mock 1 in Year 10. Students dropping a subject must still attend classes but may work independently on their other subjects during that time.

8. FAST TRACK PROGRAMME

An Individual Fast Track Plan is available for students wishing to complete 4 full iGCSE subjects in Year 10 (linear or modular) and an additional 3-4 subjects in Year 11. Students must register with the Head of Secondary, fill out a fast track form, and receive approval. Upon approval, students will be exempt from homework and exams in the subjects scheduled for Year 11, but Arabic, Islamic Studies, PE, and Tutor periods must still be studied.

9. SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS

- In Year 10 and 11, summative assessments occur at the end of each term, with progress reported three times a year: Mock 1 (October), Mock 2 (December/January), Mock 3 (March/April). Results are reported to parents after each Mock exam.

10. YEAR 10-13 STUDENT CONTRACTS

Year 10-13 students are placed on a contract outlining responsibilities and consequences for non-compliance, including:

- **Attendance:** Maintain an attendance rate of 80% or higher per subject.
- **Punctuality:** Three late arrivals count as one unauthorised absence.
- **Mock Exams:** Attendance at designated Mock exams is mandatory; failure to attend without a valid reason results in a U grade.
- **Study Conduct (Year 11-13):** Only students passing Mock 2 exams (A*-E or 9-3) will be registered for external exams in May/June, with exceptions for modular subjects.
- **Respect and Conduct:** Adhere to the school dress code, show respect for others, and maintain a positive work ethic.

11. EXAMINATION AND REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Students not meeting contract requirements may face deregistration from iGCSE or AS/A2 exams, with no reimbursement of registration fees. Appeals can be made through the "Year 11, 12 and 13 Contract Exemption Request" process, reviewed by the SMT and subject teachers.

12. PROGRESSION TO YEAR 12

To progress from Year 11 to Year 12, students must achieve at least 4 iGCSE subjects with A-E (9-3) grades. External students applying from other schools must complete 5 iGCSE subjects with A-C (9-4).

13. A-LEVEL PROGRAMME (YEAR 12 AND 13)

NIA offers a structured A-Level programme focused on preparing students for higher education:

- **Year 12 (AS Level):** Students study 4 subjects at AS Level, completed in the summer of Year 12. Each AS counts as half of a full A-Level. Students also undertake a Professional Development Programme covering careers guidance and leadership development.



- Year 13 (A2 Level): Students study 3 subjects at A2 Level, continuing from AS Level. Independent study is a key component, with designated self-study periods built into the timetable.

14. STUDY PLAN FLEXIBILITY

Year 12 and 13 students may follow individual study plans, combining iGCSE resits, AS, and A2 courses. Self-study of up to two subjects is permitted with parental permission and SMT consultation.

15. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT AND COMMUNICATION

Parents play a key role in their children's academic success. NIA requires parental permission for subject changes and fast track applications. Regular communication is maintained through academic reports, parent meetings, and school platforms such as RENWEB and school emails.

16. ANTI-DISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

NIA is committed to promoting equality and preventing discrimination in all aspects of school life. We ensure that:

- All students have equal access to learning opportunities, regardless of their background, ability, or needs.
- Group placements and subject selections are made based on objective data and professional judgement, ensuring that no student is disadvantaged due to discrimination.
- We foster an inclusive environment where diversity is celebrated, and all students feel valued and supported in their learning journey.

17. FINAL NOTE

This policy ensures that NIA maintains high academic standards while providing flexibility and support for students to excel in their iGCSE and A-Level examinations. Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their learning and adhere to the guidelines set forth in this policy to achieve academic success.

18. 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.

