

NEWTON INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY LUSAIL

<https://newtonschoools.sch.qa/campuses/newton-international-academy-lusail/>

An International community of learners striving for excellence and celebrating success



Newton International Academy Lusail

Admissions Policy

2025 - 2026



Last Review: August 2025

Next Review: June 2026

Reviewer: Policy Committee

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Vision

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

Mission

We aim to provide the highest quality of education possible for our pupils of all abilities. In doing so, we aim to positively encourage each pupil 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, pupils, parents, and the wider community to achieve our vision.

Aim

The aim of this Admissions Policy is to establish a clear and transparent process for student entry into Newton International Academy Lusail. We are committed to ensuring that every child, regardless of background, nationality, or individual needs, has access to high-quality education aligned with our school's mission and values. This policy supports an admissions process that is fair, inclusive, and reflective of our dedication to diversity and academic excellence.

Rationale

This policy outlines a structured and consistent approach to admissions that reinforces our goal of creating a supportive and inclusive learning environment for all pupils. It serves to:

- **Promote Inclusivity:** Ensure equitable access to learning opportunities for students of all nationalities, backgrounds, and abilities.
- **Support Academic Success:** Facilitate appropriate placement of pupils based on their academic profile and developmental needs to help them succeed within our curriculum.
- **Foster Parental Engagement:** Encourage positive and open communication with families throughout the admissions process, reinforcing our collaborative approach to education.
- **Ensure Regulatory Compliance:** Align our admissions procedures with UK best practice, Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MOEHE) expectations, and local regulations in Qatar.

Introduction

We thank you for considering Newton International Academy Lusail. Our curriculum offers a broad international education across the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), Primary, and Secondary phases. We invite families to visit our school website to learn more about our teaching programmes and to gain a sense of our dynamic learning community.

Anti-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity

At Newton International Academy Lusail, we are fully committed to upholding equality and preventing all forms of discrimination. We believe that every student, regardless of nationality, ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexual

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orientation, or any other characteristic, deserves equal access to high-quality education and full participation in the life of the school.

Our commitment is reflected through the following principles:

- **Eliminating Discrimination:** We do not tolerate discrimination, harassment, or victimisation of any kind. This includes ensuring compliance with the principles outlined in the UK Equality Act 2010 and promoting a safe and respectful school environment.
- **Advancing Equality of Opportunity:** We actively identify and remove barriers to learning and participation so that all pupils have the opportunity to achieve their full potential.
- **Fostering Good Relations:** We promote inclusion and mutual respect by encouraging meaningful interaction, understanding, and collaboration among pupils of all backgrounds.

Student Placement

All class placements at NIA Lusail are made based on a comprehensive evaluation of the student's age, previous academic and behavioural reports (covering at least two years), and their performance in the school's entrance assessment. Initial placements are provisional, and the school reserves the right to review and adjust the placement if needed.

In such cases, parents will be informed, and the pupil may undergo further classroom observation and/or additional diagnostic testing. This process ensures that each child is placed in an environment that best supports their academic, developmental, and cognitive needs.

Entrance Assessment and Admission Process

At Newton International Academy Lusail, each child is required to complete an entrance assessment as part of the admissions process. This assessment is designed to:

- Evaluate the pupil's current academic skill level and readiness to succeed within the Newton Group curriculum.
- Assess the pupil's potential for successful integration into the school's social and behavioural environment.

Early Years Assessment

Pre-school applicants (F1 and F2) are observed either individually or in small groups to assess developmental maturity and foundational English language skills. Parents will be contacted directly following the observation to inform them of the outcome. Priority is given to applicants who already have siblings enrolled at the school. If classes are full, qualified candidates will be placed on a waiting list.

Key Stage 1, 2, and 3 Admission

For admission into Years 1 to 9, the screening process includes:

- Age-appropriate reading comprehension and mathematics tasks
- Review of academic and behavioural records from the past two years
- Parent and/or student interviews where appropriate

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IGCSE Admission

Newton International Academy Lusail will open up to Year 10 in the academic year 2025–26, offering the first year of the IGCSE programme. Admission into Year 10 is based on the following criteria:

- Review of academic and behavioural reports from the past two academic years
- Satisfactory performance in the entrance assessment, particularly in English and Mathematics
- Evidence of the student's ability to cope with the academic demands of the IGCSE curriculum
- Interview with the student and/or parents, where required

Note:

Years 11–13 (IGCSE Year 2 and AS/A Level) are not yet available at NIA Lusail. These year groups will be added gradually in future academic years as the school grows.

Communication of Results and Seat Confirmation

Parents will be informed of assessment outcomes by telephone within one week of testing. Once a seat is offered, parents have three working days to confirm and secure their child's enrolment. After this period, the seat will be offered to the next eligible student on the waiting list.

Review of Suitability

If there is any concern regarding a pupil's suitability for admission, the final decision will be based on a holistic review, including:

- Academic and behavioural reports from the previous two academic years
- Continuity and stability of prior education
- Evidence of emotional maturity and readiness
- Feedback or references from former teachers or school administrators

This process ensures that each pupil is placed in a learning environment that supports their academic growth and personal wellbeing.

Admission Requirements

At Newton International Academy Lusail, we are committed to providing an inclusive and supportive environment where every student can thrive. Admission is open to pupils of all nationalities and backgrounds, provided the school can meet their physical, emotional, social, and academic needs.

All applicants must complete the full admissions process, which includes an entrance assessment. Only fully completed applications, with all required documentation attached, will be processed by the Admissions Office. Once submitted, parents will be contacted with further details, including the date and format of the entrance assessment.

Rolling Admissions

Although the academic year begins in September, NIA Lusail accepts new admissions throughout the school year, subject to seat availability.

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Required Documentation

Parents are required to submit the following documents to complete the application:

- Copy of the student's passport
- Copy of Qatar Residency Permit (RP) and Qatar ID (non-Qatari students)
- Four recent passport-sized photographs
- Copy of both parents' passports, RPs, and visas
- Academic and behavioural reports from the previous two academic years (originals or certified copies)
- Copy of the child's birth certificate
- Copy of the child's health record (including vaccinations)
- Completed medical form (available from the Admissions Office)

Important Note:

In accordance with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MOEHE) regulations in Qatar, students without a valid Residency Permit (RP) may not attend school. Admission is considered provisional until a valid RP is submitted.

Home-School Agreement

All enrolled students and their families are expected to support the school's ethos and participate fully in the academic and extracurricular life of the school. The British curriculum taught at NIA Lusail includes: English, Mathematics, Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics), History, Geography, Arabic, Islamic Studies, Qatari History, ICT, Music, Art, PE, Design & Technology, Business Studies, and Environmental Management. Participation in all areas of the curriculum is compulsory unless otherwise exempted due to SEND or religious grounds.

The school commits to:

- Contacting parents promptly regarding concerns about attendance, punctuality, uniform, or missing equipment.
- Communicating with parents regarding their child's behaviour, academic progress, or wellbeing.
- Issuing three formal written reports during the academic year.
- Assigning, marking, and reviewing homework in line with the school's Homework Policy.
- Holding regular parent meetings to discuss academic progress and providing curriculum overviews each term.
- Keeping families informed of events, policies, and key updates through newsletters and letters.
- Managing student conduct in accordance with the Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) Policy.
- Exercising the right to confiscate items that are deemed inappropriate or disruptive.
- Refraining from accepting responsibility for the loss or damage of personal items brought onto campus.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

At Newton International Academy Lusail, we recognise the vital role parents and guardians play in supporting a child's education. We value strong partnerships between home and school and ask all families to support our shared commitment to high standards and student wellbeing.

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As a parent or guardian, I agree to:

- Ensure my child attends school regularly and arrives on time each day.
- Notify the school promptly in writing (via email or note) of any absences and provide supporting documentation if required.
- Make sure my child is appropriately dressed in the correct school uniform and equipped for learning each day.
- Communicate with the school about any circumstances that may affect my child's behaviour, learning, or wellbeing.
- Support my child in completing homework tasks and home learning activities, and check and sign the homework diary or communication book weekly.
- Participate in my child's educational journey through regular engagement with the school, including Parents' Evenings, workshops, and teacher meetings.
- Show interest in my child's school life, achievements, and challenges.
- Collect my child from school on time and ensure safe transportation arrangements are in place.
- Read, understand, and adhere to all school policies, including those relating to behaviour, communication, attendance, and safeguarding.
- Use the appropriate communication channels when raising questions, concerns, or suggestions.
- Review all school communications sent home and respond promptly where required.
- Attend at least one scheduled meeting per term with my child's class teacher.
- Comply with all school health and safety regulations, including traffic procedures, illness protocols, and site access requirements.

All parents are also required to sign the Conditional Acceptance and Student Probation Agreement upon admission. This confirms their commitment to following all school rules and policies for the benefit of their child's progress, wellbeing, and continued enrolment at NIA Lusail.