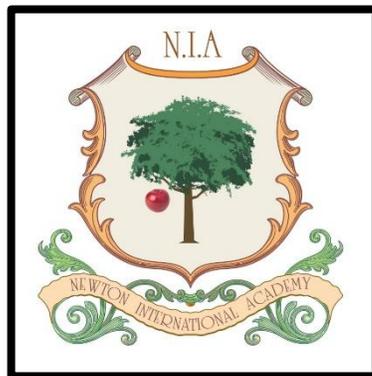


# NEWTON INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY LUSAIL PRIMARY PARENTS HANDBOOK



ACADEMIC  
YEAR  
2025 - 2026

*"An international community of learners  
striving for excellence and celebrating  
success"*



# NEWTON INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY LUSAIL

[www.newtoninternationalschool.sch.qa](http://www.newtoninternationalschool.sch.qa)

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Dear Parents,

We are truly delighted to welcome you and your child to Newton International Academy Lusail, a proud member of the Newton Group of Schools. Whether you are joining us for the first time or continuing your child's educational journey with us, we thank you for placing your trust in our care and community.

At NIA Lusail, our mission is to create a learning environment where every child is seen, supported, and stretched to reach their fullest potential. We aim to provide a well-rounded education that not only challenges students academically but also nurtures their personal growth, wellbeing, and sense of belonging.

NIA Lusail delivers the British National Curriculum through a lens that celebrates the values and traditions of Qatar. In doing so, we strive to prepare students to thrive as compassionate, confident, and capable young people in a rapidly changing global society. We are committed to developing independent learners who are proud of their heritage, respectful of others, and equipped with the knowledge and skills needed for the future.

This Parent Handbook has been carefully designed to provide you with a clear overview of our policies, expectations, routines, and values. It is intended to support you in understanding the day-to-day life of the school, and to highlight how we work in partnership with you to ensure that every child experiences success.

Strong home-school collaboration lies at the heart of all we do. We believe that open communication and mutual respect between staff, students, and families are the foundations for a thriving learning community.

We are excited to work alongside you this year as we continue to build an international school that stands for excellence, integrity, and care.

Yours sincerely,

Mr M Wilson

Principal



## Vision, Mission, and Values

### Our Vision:

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

### Our Mission:

We aim to provide the highest quality of education possible for all our students. In doing so, we aim to positively encourage each student to achieve academic excellence, celebrate 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 positive discipline and self-motivation. We will provide and maintain a trusting and caring atmosphere where teaching and learning is meaningful and developed. We will work in partnership with our staff, students, parents and wider community to achieve our vision.

VALUES	ATTRIBUTES
RESPECT	Self- respect, respect for students/staff/parents and cultures. Respect for personal and community property.
ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS	Respect for our environment
SUPPORT	Support the development of each individual to his/her full potential
EMPATHY	Understanding and appreciation of the feelings of others
ACCOUNTABILITY	Highest personal commitment to taking responsibility for our actions
RESPONSIBILITY	Development of responsible citizens through community service
COMMUNICATION	Open and effective communication among students, staff and parents
HONESTY	Honesty in all our actions
DIVERSITY	Appreciation of all languages, traditions, religions and cultures



## The School Day

The school day for Primary pupils begins promptly at 7:00 AM and ends at 1:30 PM. Pupils should arrive between 6:40 AM and 6:55 AM to ensure they are settled and ready to begin the day on time.

Registration	07:00 to 07:10
Lesson 1	07:10 to 08:00
Lesson 2	08:00 to 08:50
Break	08:50 to 09:10
Lesson 3	09:10 to 10:00
Lesson 4	10:00 to 10:50
Break	10:50 to 11:10
Lesson 5	11:10 to 12:00
Lesson 6	12:00 to 12:45
Lesson 7	12:45 to 13:30

Timely arrival supports a calm and organised start, which is vital for pupils' focus and learning.

- Pupils arriving after 7:10 AM will be marked as late and must report to the main reception to be signed in.
- Repeated lateness will be recorded and monitored by class teachers and the pastoral team. If a pattern of lateness emerges, parents will be contacted to address the concern.

We encourage parents to establish a consistent morning routine at home to support punctuality. This sets positive expectations and models responsibility for children.

During the school day, lessons are structured to maximise learning, with regular breaks to support wellbeing. Snack and lunch times are supervised, and pupils are encouraged to practise independence and courtesy during meals.

## Curriculum Overview

NIA Lusail follows the English National Curriculum, which is adapted to suit the needs of our diverse international community and to meet the local educational requirements set by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MOEHE).

Our curriculum offers a broad and balanced range of subjects to support pupils in developing knowledge, skills, and understanding across a variety of disciplines.



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Key Stage 1		Key Stage 2	
Subject	No. of Lessons	Subject	No. of Lessons
English	10	English	9
Mathematics	7	Mathematics	7
Arabic	5	Arabic	5
Science	3	Science	3
ICT	1	ICT	1
Humanities	2	Humanities	2
Islamic/Citizenship	2	Islamic/Citizenship	2
Qatar History	1	Qatar History	1
PE	1	PE	1
Art/DT	1	French	1
Music	1	Art/DT	1
P4C	1	Music	1
		P4C	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>

Each term, teachers provide a Curriculum Overview Letter to parents that outlines the key learning objectives, major themes, and special projects or events. These overviews allow parents to remain actively involved in their child's education and provide support from home.

## Assessment and Reporting

At NIA Lusail, we believe that effective assessment is essential for understanding each pupil's individual learning journey. Our assessment strategy provides a well-rounded view of academic achievement and areas for growth, ensuring that teaching is responsive and targeted.

Assessment methods include:

- Formative Assessment: Ongoing daily checks for understanding through questioning, quizzes, peer and self-assessments, and teacher observation.
- Summative Assessment: End-of-unit and end-of-term assessments.
- Standardised International Assessments: Used to benchmark pupil performance against global standards.
- Assessing Pupil Progress (APP): Structured writing assessment tools to track progress.
- Guided Reading Assessment: Tools such as Oxford Reading Tree to monitor fluency, decoding, and comprehension.

Parents are provided with termly reports, including detailed subject feedback and next steps. Formal Parent-Teacher Conferences take place once per term to review progress. Teachers are available for additional meetings by appointment to discuss concerns or support needs.



## Homework

Homework plays an important role in reinforcing classroom learning, encouraging independent study habits, and involving parents in their child's education. Our approach is purposeful, age-appropriate, and manageable.

### **Aims of Homework:**

- Reinforce skills taught in class
- Provide opportunities for parent involvement
- Build independent learning habits
- Prepare pupils for secondary expectations

### **Structure:**

- Homework is set weekly in core areas such as English and Mathematics.
- Pupils have access to Active Learn/Bug Club for reading and phonics and Times Tables Rockstars for maths fluency.
- Tasks may also include spelling, writing, or project-based learning depending on the year group.

Teachers provide feedback on homework and communicate with parents if there are concerns about completion. We encourage parents to support their child's homework routine and communicate openly with teachers.

## Behaviour and Conduct

At NIA Lusail, we believe that positive behaviour creates the foundation for a productive and respectful learning environment. We foster a culture of kindness, integrity, and personal responsibility. Our expectations are clear, consistent, and fair.

### **Classroom Conduct:**

- Pupils must arrive prepared, on time, and ready to learn.
- Instructions must be followed respectfully and promptly.
- Listening to others and taking turns is expected in all discussions.
- Pupils should raise their hand to contribute and avoid shouting out.
- Work must be completed to the best of their ability and submitted on time.
- Pupils must keep their classroom tidy and treat resources respectfully.
- Permission must be requested before leaving the room; a hall pass must be carried.

We celebrate positive behaviour through praise, reward systems, and recognition in class and assemblies. However, unacceptable behaviour such as disrespect, disruption, or bullying is addressed swiftly.

Consequences follow a clear escalation process and may include:

- Reflection time
- Behaviour charts or monitoring



- Parent contact and meetings
- Loss of privileges
- Internal isolation or fixed-term suspension (for serious incidents)

We work closely with parents to reinforce shared behavioural expectations and support pupils in making positive choices.

## Uniform and Appearance

At NIA Lusail, wearing the school uniform correctly and with pride is an essential part of our identity. It fosters a sense of unity, promotes equality, and removes distractions, allowing pupils to focus on their learning.

### Uniform Requirements:

- Pupils must wear the official school uniform each day. This includes the designated shirt, trousers or skirt, and school shoes.
- On PE days, pupils must arrive in their complete PE kit, which includes the school-issued sportswear and appropriate footwear.
- Black school shoes or fully black trainers are permitted for daily use. Trainers with coloured logos or soles are not allowed.

### Winter Clothing:

- During the colder months, pupils are permitted to wear the official NIA fleece, jumper, or hooded top. Non-uniform jackets or sweaters are not permitted and may be confiscated.

### Hair and Accessories:

- Hair must be neat, clean, and styled conservatively. Dyed hair or extreme hairstyles are not allowed.
- Hair accessories for girls should be in school colours (navy, white, or black).
- Hijabs must be either navy blue or black.

### Jewellery and Cosmetics:

- Girls may wear one pair of small stud earrings and a wristwatch.
- Boys may wear a wristwatch but no earrings or jewellery.
- No necklaces, rings, makeup, nail polish, or visible tattoos are permitted.

### Hats:

- Pupils may wear a standard NIA hat outdoors during break or PE. Hats are not allowed inside the school building.

### Non-compliance Procedures:

 Failure to adhere to the uniform policy may result in:

- Verbal reminders and warnings
- Parent notification via ClassDojo or phone
- Request for the pupil to return home to change
- Temporary exclusion from class or trips

Parents are urged to label all uniform items and ensure their children are dressed according to school policy each day.



## Attendance and Punctuality

Regular school attendance is vital for a pupil's academic progress, social development, and sense of belonging. Absenteeism and lateness disrupt learning and can have long-term effects on achievement.

### Minimum Attendance Requirement:

- The school's minimum attendance target is 90%. Pupils missing more than 18 days per academic year may be at risk of losing their placement for the following year.

### Absence Procedures:

- Parents must inform the school on the first day of absence by contacting the main reception or class teacher via ClassDojo.
- Absences of more than two consecutive days require a medical certificate.
- Religious or planned absences must be requested in writing at least one week in advance.

### Lateness:

- Registration is at 7:00 AM sharp. Pupils arriving after 7:10 AM will be marked late.
- Three late arrivals equal one full day of absence.
- Repeated lateness may result in a parent meeting and formal warning.

### Early Collection:

- Parents must notify the school in advance and provide medical evidence for early collection.
- Pupils leaving school early without valid documentation may be marked as having an unauthorised absence.

### Truancy:

- Unauthorised absence from school will lead to immediate parent contact and disciplinary action. Repeated offences may result in suspension or further review by leadership.

## Health and Safety

Ensuring a safe and healthy environment for our pupils is a shared responsibility. We ask parents to partner with us in maintaining the high standards of care and safety that our school upholds.

### Medical Conditions and Emergencies:

- All known medical conditions must be declared to the school nurse.
- If a child becomes unwell at school, they will be assessed by the school nurse. Parents will be contacted if necessary.
- Pupils must not contact parents directly; all communication must be through school staff.
- Medication may only be administered by the school nurse with written parental consent.

### Infectious Illnesses:

- Pupils must not attend school if they have symptoms of fever, vomiting, diarrhoea, or contagious illness.
- If a pupil tests positive for a contagious disease, the school must be informed immediately.
- A medical clearance certificate is required before returning to school after certain illnesses.



## **Nutrition:**

- Pupils must bring a healthy snack and water bottle each day.
- The following are not allowed: fizzy drinks, sweets, chewing gum, chocolate, chips, fast food, or products containing nuts.

## **Communication with Parents**

Effective communication is key to fostering a supportive partnership between home and school. We strive to ensure that parents are kept well-informed about school news, events, and their child's progress.

### **Main Communication Channels:**

- **ClassDojo:** Used daily by teachers to share class updates, reminders, homework, and messages.
- **Email:** For formal communication or scheduling appointments.
- **Parent-Teacher Conferences:** Held once per term to discuss pupil progress and goals.
- **Newsletters and Circulars:** Sent periodically to update families on whole-school matters.

### **Appointments and Enquiries:**

- If you wish to speak with a class teacher or a member of the leadership team, please make an appointment through the school office.
- Teachers are unable to meet with parents during lesson time. Scheduled meetings ensure adequate time and focus.

## **Mobile Phones and Technology**

In order to maintain focus and minimise distractions, mobile phones are not allowed in the Primary School unless explicitly approved for transport purposes.

### **Policy Details:**

- Written permission must be submitted to the Head of Primary.
- Approved phones must be handed in to the class teacher at the start of the day and collected at home time.
- Unauthorized phones will be confiscated and returned only to a parent.
- The school is not responsible for loss or damage to mobile devices.

Additionally, we ask parents to monitor their child's use of technology and social media at home. Any form of online bullying or inappropriate content shared among pupils will be treated as a serious breach of school behaviour policy.



## Pastoral Care and Wellbeing

NIA Lusail is committed to nurturing not just academic achievement, but the emotional and social wellbeing of every pupil.

### Support Systems in Place:

- **Class Teachers:** The first point of contact for day-to-day pastoral care. They monitor mood, friendships, and wellbeing.
- **School Counsellor:** Available to meet with pupils who require additional emotional support. Sessions are held confidentially, and parental consent is obtained for regular meetings.
- **Pastoral Team:** Oversees the development of character, values, and a respectful school environment. They respond to concerns promptly and involve parents when necessary.

We believe every pupil deserves to feel safe, respected, and empowered to express themselves. Our pastoral systems aim to support each individual on their journey.

## Parent Involvement and the PTA

Parental involvement enriches the school experience for all pupils. We value the contributions and perspectives of our parent community.

### Opportunities for Involvement:

- Volunteering at events or during activity weeks
- Supporting classroom projects or reading sessions
- Sharing cultural celebrations or professional expertise

### Parent Teacher Association (PTA):

- The PTA works closely with school leadership to organise events, raise funds, and support school improvement initiatives.
- All parents are welcome to attend PTA meetings and participate in projects.

Research consistently shows that pupils whose parents are actively involved in school life demonstrate higher levels of motivation, self-esteem, and academic success.

## Pupil Leadership and Voice

We believe in empowering our pupils to develop leadership skills and a sense of ownership in their school.

### House System:

- Pupils are assigned to one of four houses: Bell (Yellow), Curie (Red), Edison (Blue), and Wright (Green).



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- Points are awarded for good behaviour, academic effort, and teamwork. House competitions promote unity and healthy rivalry.

## **Pupil Council:**

- Each class from Year 1 to Year 6 elects two representatives.
- The council meets regularly to discuss pupil concerns, suggest improvements, and assist in planning activities.

## **Leadership Roles:**

- In Years 5 and 6, pupils may apply to become prefects or mentors.
- Leadership positions are awarded based on merit, character, and commitment.

## **Code of Conduct for Parents and Visitors**

To ensure a respectful and safe environment for all, we ask that parents and visitors adhere to our school's Code of Conduct:

### **We ask all parents and carers to:**

- Treat all staff with courtesy and respect
- Communicate concerns appropriately, avoiding aggression or confrontation
- Refrain from using social media to voice complaints about the school or individual staff members
- Schedule meetings via the school office when necessary

### **Inappropriate behaviours include:**

- Disruptive behaviour or verbal abuse on school premises
- Use of threatening language or gestures
- Sending offensive messages or defaming staff online
- Confronting pupils or staff directly over perceived issues

In cases of serious breaches, the school reserves the right to ban individuals from campus and involve relevant authorities if necessary.

## **Core Policies available on our Website**

Behaviour Policy  
Attendance Policy  
Assessment policy  
Curriculum Policy

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.