

Key Stage Three (Years seven, eight and nine). All students follow the British National Curriculum

The Key Stage Three curriculum builds on the experiences students have had at their primary school. Our aim is to transfer the skills and attributes from the primary phase and introduce teaching by subject specialists. In particular, we encourage students to use their skills across the curriculum and not to confine them to the subject in which they happen to be learned.

The subjects currently offered are: English, Mathematics, Science, ICT, History, Geography, French, Arabic, Islamic Studies, Qatar History, P.E., Art and **Design Technology**, with English, Science and Mathematics being taught each day of the academic week. **There is also an extensive extra-curricular activity programme which extends the breadth of opportunities both academically, artistically and practically.**

Within the structure of the National Strategies, the Programmes of Study set out what students should be taught, and the attainment target sets out the expected standards of students' performance. The aim of KS3 is to focus upon the practical development of the skills needed to develop the students to become successful learners who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve; confident individuals who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives and responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society.

External assessments are undertaken in maths and English years 7, 8 and 9 as well as cognitive ability tests in year 7 which provide benchmark figures for our students, relative to UK averages, which inform planning and progress.

English

A core subject in Key Stage Three, the National Curriculum of England and Wales will be followed, covering all essential areas of study.

Students will receive five English lessons per week, comprising written work; comprehension and language, speaking and listening and literature. Extra attention will be given to spelling and vocabulary in an effort to raise Literacy levels across the Key Stage. All students are encouraged to read privately on a daily basis and two English homework tasks will be set each week. **Specific reading time is afforded to students as is set library time to promote literacy. PIRA external assessments in reading are undertaken termly throughout Key Stage 3, the results of which inform planning to address gaps in preparation for Key Stage 4.**

Mathematics

Years Seven, Eight and Nine follow the National Curriculum for England and Wales. Every week the students receive five lessons in mathematics. Class work is then consolidated by homework which is an integral part of the course as it helps to highlight any problems the student may be experiencing and can be quickly rectified. A class test is given at the end of each topic.

By the end of Year Nine students should be able to accurately apply mathematics in the classroom, communicate mathematics effectively and use mathematics tools and methods preparing them for entry into Key Stage 4. **External PUMA assessments in numeracy are undertaken termly to provide benchmarks in preparation for Key Stage 4.**

Science

Key Stage Three Science offers opportunities for students to enjoy and experience a broad, well rounded introduction to Science. The course is split into discrete units of Biology, Chemistry and Physics spaced throughout the year. These are arranged specific topics which will then build into the content taught at GCSE.

Students will:

- build in their Scientific knowledge and understanding from Key Stage Two and make connections between different areas of Science
- use Scientific ideas and models to explain phenomena and events
- understand a range of familiar applications of Science
- think about the advantages and drawbacks of Scientific and technological developments for the environment and in other contexts, considering the reasons for different opinions
- carry out investigations of different types, on their own and in groups, making use of reference sources and evaluation their work.
- learn how Scientists work and the importance of experimental evidence in supporting Scientific ideas.

History

The teaching of History follows the National Curriculum of England and Wales. The development of society is studied via the role of explorers, writers, composers, artists, soldiers and politicians, amongst others.

Topics take a thematic approach, helping students to see links between topics, spot changes, and note continuity over time. Students are taught the importance and relevance of the more significant periods. Students will have three lessons per week and will be expected to complete one hour of homework as well.

Geography

The teaching of Geography follows the National Curriculum and it is a subject that stimulates an interest in and a sense of wonder about places. It helps young people make sense of a complex and changing world. Geographical issues are examined in the local, regional and global scales, and students have opportunities to investigate a variety of themes.

Topics such as physical landscapes and mapping are studied in Year Seven, population and weather in Year Eight, while earth forces and resources are taken in Year Nine.

In addition to classroom teaching students are encouraged to carry out individual research, and there will be fieldwork activities done outside of the classroom.

A whole school international week involves students in activities which celebrate global awareness and educate about diversity in fun and engaging ways.

Arabic

In Key Stage Three, all students are taught Arabic twice a week and homework is handed out on a regular basis. There are two classes of Arabic in this school: Easy Arabic and Hard Arabic. In Hard Arabic students are taught grammar rules, reading comprehension and composition. The books used for this subject are provided from the government. In Easy Arabic students are taught spelling, speaking and writing skills.

French

In Key Stage Three, all students are taught French twice a week and homework is usually set once a week to reinforce what has been taught in class previously. The lessons are mainly taught in the target language for the learners to adapt and get more familiar with the French sounds. **Students are assessed in four skills (listening, speaking, writing and reading) and are encouraged to work in groups to further develop communication skills. Resources are used which incorporate authentic material and lead directly into the corresponding Key Stage 4 resources.**

ICT

The course followed is based on the National Curriculum of England and Wales. Students will have the opportunity to learn about different devices; the effects of ICT in society; they will use the Internet & Web design packages, Microsoft Office, Network topology and computer graphics.

Art and Design

The programs of study in Art and Design; knowledge, skills and understanding set out what students should be taught and provide the basis for schemes of work.

Teaching should insure that investigating and making includes exploring and developing ideas and evaluating and developing work. Knowledge and understanding should inform this process

Art and Design covers such topics as: drawing, painting, 3-D construction, design, collage and printmaking. Students take two lessons of Art and Design a week and develop their creativity and imagination through skills and extend their knowledge and experience of materials, processes and practices.

P.E.

The P.E department follows the National Curriculum for England & Wales, therefore all students will take part in P.E. lessons every week. Practical lessons are split into three main parts. Each lesson begins with a warm up and stretch for all students, followed by the lesson objectives. The students then are led through practical demonstrations of specific skills relating to the sport and are then given a chance to put the practical demonstrations into play during a game situation.

All students in secondary have the opportunity to take part in sports within the ECA (Extra Curricular Activities) programme after school throughout all three terms. Students will also be chosen to represent Newton School in sporting competitions throughout Qatar involving a number of different schools.

Islamic Studies

Islamic Studies in Secondary is taught once a week for Muslim students. Homework is given once a week. Islamic Studies is provided only for Arabic students. The books used for this subject are provided by the government. Students learn skills such as: listening and understanding the Qu'ran and how to lead a good life as a Muslim.

Qatar History

These lessons are taught by the Arabic department staff for fluent Arabic speakers. Non-Arabic speakers will receive instruction from their class teachers in Citizenship when Islamic is being taught and the Qatar History programme will be delivered to them in English.

Design Technology

Design Technology at NBS Muraikh is scheduled on students timetables 1 lesson each week. In this subject students focus on product design and graphic products. Students will develop their creativity, imagination and practical skills and extend their knowledge and experience of materials, processes and practices. Students will follow the 7 step process involved in product design: ask, solve, plan/design, create, test, improve and reflect.