



*'An International community of learners striving for
excellence and celebrating success'*



PARENT HANDBOOK 2023-2024

Newton International Academy SMASH





WELCOME TO THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

Introduction to our Primary Senior Management Team

Mrs. Chani Meyer
Head of Primary and EY
hop.niasmash@newtonschools.sch.qa



Mrs. Eyesha Behan
Deputy Head of Primary – Academics
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Mrs. Stephanie Hardy
Deputy Head of Primary – Pastoral
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Primary Middle Management – Year Leaders:

- Year 1: Ms. Chloe O'Brien
- Year 2: Ms. Shauna O'Boyle
- Year 3: Ms. Abigail Floodgate
- Year 4: Mr. Kevin Behan
- Year 5: Ms. Bianca Lee
- Year 6: Ms. Nicole Jenkins

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NEWTON INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY – SMASH PRIMARY PARENT HANDBOOK 2023 - 2024



Welcome message from the Head of Primary

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the staff at Newton International Academy Smash, I am happy to welcome you to the 2023-24 school year.

As Head of Primary, I am very much looking forward to the year ahead. As the children start another academic year at NIA, I am confident they will enjoy a rich and creative curriculum supported by well educated professionals who will ensure emotional and academic successes for our children.

In Early Years and Primary we aim to provide an inclusive education. We encourage our children to ask questions, to be inquisitive learners and to learn through mistakes and challenges. Students are encouraged to strive for excellence in all five key areas of development.

We pride ourselves on being a warm, welcoming school where we believe that every child has the right to reach their potential. We understand that as the world is ever changing and moving forward, potential will blossom if children are prepared for life with the skills to advance, adapt and grow. Our duty as a school is to inspire, develop and nurture every child to have the confidence to learn. At NIA we know that children learn best when they feel valued, cared for and are given a variety of opportunities to express themselves creatively.

We believe that the education of our children is a shared responsibility between home and school. We endeavour to work in close partnership and collaboration with parents to ensure that our children have a positive and rewarding journey throughout their time at NIA. We actively encourage parental involvement in our school as this helps to create an environment where the children feel happy, confident and secure.

I am proud to be the Head of Primary at Newton International Academy and look forward to working with you. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with questions or concerns. Together we will 'strive for excellence and celebrate success.'

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Chani Meyer
Head of Primary and EYFS

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Our Vision, Mission Statement and Values

Our Vision

The school's vision is to create an international community of learners striving for excellence and celebrating success.

Our Mission

The school's mission to provide the highest quality of education possible for all our pupils serves as a reminder of the school's intentions. We aim to positively encourage each pupil to achieve academic excellence, enjoy creative diversity, develop critical thinking skills and become lifelong learners.

We have broken down the five aspects of our school's mission into 18 attitudes and attributes. These encapsulate the range of qualities we wish to engender in our pupils. They are threaded through our practice and inform all policies. They are at the heart of our identity as a school.

Our Values

Respect	Self-respect, respect for students/ staff /parents and cultures. Respect for personal and community property.
Honesty	Honesty in all our actions.
Transparent communication	Open and effective communication among students, staff, and parents.
Empathy	Understanding and appreciation of the feelings of others.
Support	Support the development of each individual to his/her full potential.
Diversity	Appreciation of all languages, traditions, religions and cultures.
Social responsibility	Development of responsible citizens through community service.
Personal accountability	Highest personal commitment to taking responsibility for our actions.
Environmental awareness	Respect for our environment.



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Contact Details

Please add to the information below; keeping a record of important numbers and email addresses that you will need while you are at Newton.

Name:	Position:	Email Address
Mr. Michael Wilson	Principal	mjwilsonprincipal@gmail.com
Mrs. Chani Meyer	Head of Primary	hop.niasmash@newtonschoools.sch.qa
Mrs. Eyesha Behan	Deputy Head of Primary - Academics	dhoa.niasmash@newtonschoools.sch.qa
Mrs. Stephanie Hardy	Deputy Head of Primary - Pastoral	dhopastoral_niasmash@newtonschoools.sch.qa
Mrs. Razan Abuomar	Registrar	registrar.niasmash@newtonschoools.sch.qa
Mrs. Manal ElWazzeH	Accounts	wazzeHm.niasmash@newtonschoools.sch.qa
Mrs. Lana Abu Hatab	Parent Liaison Officer	parentliaison_niasmash@newtonschoools.sch.qa

School Rules

The school rules and regulations are designed to clearly state the boundaries of acceptable conduct at school. School rules are intended to teach pupils to uphold expected standards of behaviour. Pupils should always observe the school rules and regulations. The Behaviour and Discipline Policy is available on Class Dojo and our online platforms, along with all additional relevant policies.

Conduct in the Classroom

- Pupils are expected to be attentive, cooperative and diligent in class.
- Pupils should adhere to the classroom rules as set out by their class teacher and specialist teacher.
- Pupils must ensure they sanitize their hands regularly and bring the equipment stated on the stationery list.
- Pupils must complete assigned work by the given deadlines.
- Pupils must keep the classroom neat, presentable and clean at all times.
- Pupils should ask for permission to leave the classroom e.g. going to the nurse or the toilet. Pupils must take a 'pass' with them. These will be provided by the Class Teacher.
- Pupils must raise their hands to answer, ask a question or contribute to the lesson. There should be no shouting out during lessons.

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- Pupils are expected to be responsible, respectful and well-mannered at all times in their classrooms and when walking around the school.

General guidelines and expectations for an individual pupil apply equally to all pupils. These guidelines encourage each individual to develop the self-discipline required for future success. Guidelines are not designed so that every situation will be covered; nor are they intended to be a complete guide to conduct. All guidelines reflect the responsibility that a pupil assumes when he or she agrees to become part of the school. The guidelines apply to all pupils during the time that they are under the jurisdiction of the school, including when they are away on school-related activities. Failure to comply with any of the guidelines may result in suspension or permanent withdrawal.

Code of Conduct for Parents and Carers

The purpose of this code of conduct is to provide guidelines to all parents, carers and visitors to NIA SMASH about expected conduct. This is to allow us to continue to progress and achieve an atmosphere of mutual respect and understanding. Visitors are only allowed into the school under specific circumstances.

We expect parent and carers to:

- Treat all members of the school community with respect and set a good example in their own speech and behaviour.
- Always clarify a child's version of events with a teacher, to bring about a peaceful solution to any issue.
- Correct their child's behaviour appropriately, where it could lead to conflict, aggressive or unsafe behaviour.
- Make an appointment in advance with the relevant staff member to discuss any issues or concerns you may have and not use social media for this purpose. Any concerns you have should in the first instance be communicated through your child's Class Teacher then MMT/SLT.



NIA - SMASH will not tolerate parents, carers and visitors exhibiting the following:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, staff work area or any other area of the school grounds.
- The use of loud or offensive language or displaying temper.
- Threatening to/or causing actual bodily harm to any member of our school community, that includes all staff, parents or pupils, regardless of the reason.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Sending abusive or threatening emails, texts, Class Dojo messages or letters.
- Writing defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school community on social network sites. If any parent/carer is found to be posting libelous or defamatory comments on social network sites, the school will impose sanctions which may include blocking your child's re-enrolment. The issue of cyber bullying via an inappropriate social network entry will be reported to the Police.
- Approaching a child to chastise them because of alleged actions of this child. Such an approach to a child may be considered an assault and may have legal consequences. Should any of the above behaviour occur on school premises, NIA may consider it necessary to contact the police and if necessary, ban the person from entering the school grounds.
- Finally, where you have a concern, please contact the school and allow time for any issue to be investigated internally, rather than escalating matters with the MOE.

We trust that parents and carers will assist NIA with the implementation of this code of conduct and we thank you for your continued support. Please make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this code of conduct. Should parents and carers fail to meet these expectations, a formal parent meeting will be requested where appropriate actions will be decided.

NIA SMASH Parent Charter

All NIA SMASH staff have a right to work in an environment free from verbal or physical harassment or intimidation of any kind and so we politely ask that you adhere to the following points:

- Please respect **all** staff at all times, regardless of their ethnicity, background or position.
- Treat **all** staff with the courtesy that you would like to receive yourself.
- Ensure the tone you adopt in talking to people is appropriate. Please be patient if waiting to be seen. If you wish to speak to someone in Arabic, please inform a member of staff.
- Conduct your business in a professional manner, obey the school rules and remember we are here to help you.



We must recognise that as adults, children are observing us and modelling their behaviour on our actions, so it is very important we set a good example in the way we communicate and interact.

The School Day

The school day begins for all primary children at 7:00am. The school ends each day at 1:30pm for all children.

Core subjects which will be taught at school:

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
QH	1	QH	1
PE	1	PE	1
Art/DT	1	French	1
Music	1	Art/DT	1
P4C	1	Music	1
Total	35	P4C	1
		Total	35

Key Procedures

Dropping off and Collection of Children

Parents and drivers are asked to be extremely vigilant and cautious when dropping off and collecting children. We encourage our pupils to practise Road Safety and would encourage you to ensure that your child always wears their seat belt in your vehicle.

Please ensure that the procedures are followed diligently to ensure the safety of pupils, staff, and families. There will be a designated pick up and drop off point for pupils. Parents will not be permitted to enter classrooms.



Accidents and Sickness

If a pupil is ill or injured during the day the school nurse will assess the child and will contact parents if necessary. Pupils may not contact home directly. If they are unwell; they must report to the nurse for an assessment. **Please assist the school by making sure that we have up to date medical information on your child.**

Do not send your child to school if he/she has a temperature or has been vomiting during the night. If a child is taking medication during school hours, please inform the school nurse. Notify the school nurse immediately if your child contracts a contagious illness. The child cannot return to school unless he/she brings a medical certificate, which indicates freedom from infection.

Each day make sure your child has a healthy breakfast and brings healthy food to school. Fizzy drinks are not permitted, nor are chewing gum, chips, chocolate or any products containing nuts. Healthy Eating weeks are held during the school year to educate pupils about the harmful effects of unhealthy food and drinks and to encourage a healthy lifestyle.

Uniform

Uniforms are on sale at NBA Barwa and NIS Lagoon or via the website:

[HTTPS://uniform.newtonschools.Qa](https://uniform.newtonschools.Qa)

Pupils must be dressed in full uniform each day. Pupils must come to school in their PE kit on PE days. No trainers or brightly coloured shoes are permitted.

It is an expectation that both parents and pupils adhere strictly to the required dress code and ensure that pupils are neatly and appropriately presented at all times. A review of NIA's Uniform Policy will give you further details.

Warm Clothing

As the temperature drops in the winter months, pupils need to wear warm clothing. The correct NIA fleece, jumper or hooded top is to be worn. Pupils will not be permitted to wear any other jackets as these do not form part of the school uniform. Any warm clothing, which does not form part of NIA SMASH's uniform will be confiscated by the Class Teacher and returned to pupil at the end of the day. Parents will be informed so that the correct uniform can be given to the pupil. Sanctions will be logged according to NIA SMASH's Behaviour and Discipline Policy.



Jewellery

Girls	Boys
One pair of small stud or sleeper earrings Watch Necklaces, rings, pendants, bracelets or any other type of jewellery is not allowed. No make-up or nail varnish is to be worn.	Watch No earrings, necklaces or jewellery.

Hair styles

Hair for both girls and boys should be conventional in style. Hair dye is not permitted. Hair accessories for girls should be in the school colours. Hijab/scarves should be navy or black.

Football boots

Football boots with studs are not permitted at school as they present a health and safety risk. Indoor shoes or football trainers can be worn on P.E days. Parents will be contacted and asked to bring in the correct shoes should a pupil be found wearing dangerous boots with studs.

Hats

Pupils may only wear their hats outside while they are on break, during P.E and on school or class trips. A standard NIA SMASH hat is available to purchase. Pupils are not to wear their hats inside the school building.

It is the responsibility of the parents to review the school's **Uniform Policy** to ensure their children are addressed correctly for school. Should pupils fail to wear the correct uniform the following procedure will be followed:

Consequences

Step 1: An oral warning is given by staff member.

Step 2: The Class Teacher informs the parent(s) on ClassDojo, in the Pupil Planner or by telephone. Incident logged in the Pastoral Folder.

Step 3: Parents will receive a telephone call and the child will be sent home to change. Incident logged in the Pastoral Folder.



Step 4: A meeting is called with SMT, Year Group Leader, Class Teacher, and parents. The child is not allowed to return to school until compulsory school uniform requirements are met.

Note: Pupils not dressed in their correct uniform will not be allowed to participate in school or class trips. Parents will be contacted to bring in the correct uniform. Should the correct uniform not arrive before the class has left for their school or class trip, the pupil will remain at school with appropriate supervision. Where payment has been made for the trip, parents will not be reimbursed for the trip.

Communication

Contact Information

Good communication is key to a child's development at school. Please assist by making sure that the teacher and registrar always have up to date contact and medical information regarding your child. We like to keep parents informed about the day-to-day occurrences at school. There will be no paper communication and therefore all notices or announcements will be sent online via Class Dojo. If you wish to speak to the teacher, you are required to make an appointment and the teacher will arrange a mutually convenient time to meet.

Information / Parent Meetings

All parents are expected to attend Parent/Teacher Interviews during the year. This is where teachers will be available to discuss each child's progress. Members of the school management team will be present at these meetings to answer any queries you may have. Please ensure that you attend these meetings.

If you do wish to meet with a teacher or a member of the school's leadership team at any other time, you are more than welcome to make an appointment via the school's reception. It is essential that you make an appointment in advance as teachers cannot be disturbed during teaching time.

Parental Involvement and the PTA

We encourage all parents to become involved in their child's learning. Educational research shows that children, whose parents are involved in any form or manner at their school, are more motivated and committed to their studies. It is also important to note that older children are just as reliant on their parents' support as younger children.

We welcome any assistance you might be able to provide. As our school grows and improves so does the breadth of opportunities we can provide for your child, and you can offer the school.

We have an active PTA that supports the school in many ways, particularly special events at the school. If you feel you would like to support the school or if you want to be a part of the



PTA group which helps focus parental participation in school life, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

How to Help Your Child Succeed at School:

Parents have expectations of the school, and the school also has expectations of parents; the goal being to develop the child into a successful member of society. We ask parents to support their children and the school so that together we can achieve this goal.

- Discuss what has happened at school and what they have learned.
- Congratulate (give praise) when the child has been complimented or rewarded.
- Meet your child's teachers whenever you can. If you have concerns talk to the class teacher, subject teacher or members of the SMT. Find out what your child thinks.
- Do not hesitate to contact the school to discuss issues. We are here to help in any way we can.
- Encourage your child to participate in extra-curricular activities if they are reintroduced as the year progresses.
- Ensure your child arrives at school on time with the necessary equipment ready for lessons.
- Ensure your child has the time and opportunity to do his/her homework.
- Read daily with your child.
- Ensure that your child has enough sleep and has a healthy balanced diet.

Pastoral

Throughout their time at Primary, every pupil has the right to develop as a person both in and out of the classroom. Teachers promote positive relationships within the school throughout the day and are the primary contact between the school and home. The class teacher is the first point of contact and as such, it is he or she with whom pupil should speak if they have any concerns or worries.

Pastoral Support Plan (PSP)

The Pastoral Support Plan (PSP) is designed to assist pupils who have consistently failed to follow the school rules and displayed persistent anti-social behaviour. Once all steps have been followed using the school's behaviour policy, a PSP will be initiated by the class teacher and team leader. A support group is formed to design a tailor-made plan to assist the pupil. The plan will involve the parents, class teacher and a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Parents will be asked to attend an initial meeting where targets and strategies will be discussed to ensure the pupil can make the best of his time at school and to develop a sense of harmony between the school, pupil involved and parents. Parents will be invited back to school for fortnightly review meetings and a member of the support team will meet with the pupil on a weekly basis.



The House System

All pupils are placed in one of four Houses in Primary (*Bell House - Yellow, Curie House - Red, Edison House - Blue and Wright House - Green*).

Pupils will be able to earn points for their house through displaying positive behaviour or by going above and beyond in their studies. This fosters the spirit of competition and cooperation within the House group, and the staff who are assigned to each House encourage this positive ethos during the school year.

Prefects / Ambassadors

Staff and pupils participate in the selection of prefects / ambassadors from Year 5 and 6 who will play an important part in the day to day running of the Primary School. The prefects / ambassadors have important leadership roles amongst the pupils, and they have several responsibilities. Prefects / ambassadors are expected to be good role models, motivated and work cooperatively with all pupils in the school.

Student Council

Pupils in each class (Years 1 to Year 6) elect two representatives to sit on the School Council. This elected body meets regularly with the Head of Pupil Council and occasionally with the principal to discuss important Primary School issues. At these meetings the representatives convey the views of the pupils to Management, and this provides pupils voice and pupil led initiatives helps to shape policies within the Primary School.

Zero Tolerance

NIA SMASH has a zero-tolerance policy of anti-social behaviour. Fighting and bullying are not allowed in school and will not be tolerated. If a child is caught fighting or bullying other pupils, parents will be contacted. Please read the school's Behaviour and Discipline Policy and Anti Bullying Policy for further information on sanctions. Please note that bullying also includes use of the internet, social media and online gaming. If a pupil displays violence or is involved in a physical altercation, the parents will be called into school for a meeting and the pupil will be suspended. The parents will need to sign a document recognising that their child has received a final warning and if there are any further displays of similar behaviour, it may result in failure to re-enrol their child for the following academic year. Failure to sign the form may also result in failure to re-enrol their child for the following academic year.



Mobile Phones

We ask that parents do not allow their children to bring mobile phones to school. However, should they do so and are seen using a phone during the school day, it will be confiscated and only returned to their parent. Teachers nor the school will be held responsible for the loss or theft of mobile phones. Please be aware of any social media your child is using and monitor what they are saying.

Pupil Attendance

We at Newton International Academy Smash believe that pupils make the greatest progress and achieve the best results when their attendance is regular and uninterrupted. Punctuality is a crucial personal characteristic valued by the school and employers alike. For a child to succeed in the school environment it is essential that a high level of attendance is maintained. It has been proved that there is a strong correlation between success and attendance.

A 90% attendance rate is the school's minimum attendance target for this academic year. Your children will attend school for 180 days out of 365. This leaves 185 days for holidays and weekends. Please book your holidays during these 185 days of school holidays. If you do take your child on holiday during term time without authorisation, this will have an impact on their academic progress and overall achievement. Please note that if your child is absent more 18 days in the school year, they may not be offered a place in the following academic year at the school. Please note that online attendance is also compulsory and will be monitored closely.

Absence and Late Procedure

It is vital that pupils attend school every day to ensure they are able to keep up with work. If a child is late to school, they must report to the main Reception desk to be registered as present in school. Records of lateness and absenteeism are recorded and will be followed up with letters or emails home. If there is persistent lateness and absenteeism, parents will be asked to attend a formal meeting.

Parents are responsible for ensuring that their child attends school regularly, punctually, properly dressed and equipped and in a fit condition to learn. If a child is prevented for any reason from attending, or is late, parents are requested to notify the school as soon as possible in writing. A pupil's absence from school must be considered unauthorised until a satisfactory explanation is forthcoming from the parent. Parents will be informed promptly of any concerns which may arise over a child's attendance. Parents whose child's attendance is a cause for concern will receive a letter from the school highlighting the need for an improved attendance. Parents should avoid, if at all possible, making medical/dental appointments for their child during school hours.



Registration

Registration will be called from 7:00 - 7.10am. Registers will close at 7.10am. If a pupil fails to arrive before the registers close, they will be marked as 'absent.' Pupils who arrive after the registers have closed should report to the reception and sign the School Late Book, giving time of arrival and reason for being late. When the child enters the class with a late slip, the register entry will be amended to read 'late'.

Registration time is where the students' class teacher is instrumental in developing a student's school life. As such, any issues a student has should be raised with their teacher and, likewise, the class teacher is the parent's primary link with the school. Day to day issues can be raised through Class Dojo; more detailed comments should be addressed in a letter. The class teacher is the person with the overall view of the student and can thus serve the student best when all issues are first addressed through them.

Latecomers

- Latecomers shall be noted in the late book at the reception and monitored by the class teacher and receptionist.
- If a pupil is late 3 times, it will equate to 1 day of absence. These 'late' days are included in the 18 days of absence.
- If arriving late for school becomes a regular occurrence, the parents/guardians will be invited to meeting with the Class teacher and a member of MMT/SLT.

Procedures for following up absences

- Parents will be requested to attend a meeting with the Class Teacher when the child has been absent for 6 days in a month.
- Parents will be informed in writing when a child has been absent for 12 days.
- Parents will be informed in writing (in the form of a meeting) when the child has reached 14 days of absence.
- A final telephone call will be made to parents when the child has reached 16 days of absence.
- When they have been absent for 18 days, the child will receive notification in writing that they may not be offered a place in the school in the following year.
- If a child is absent for more than 20 days, a warning of suspension will be issued.

Truancy

- If any pupil absences themselves from the school without permission, then the parents/guardians shall be contacted by telephone or email immediately and the pupil will be detained after appropriate notification. Parents will be requested to attend a meeting with the school.
- If truancy happens more than once, then the parents/guardians shall be invited to

attend a meeting with the Head of Primary or Principal to discuss the problem.



Absenteeism

If a child is absent for 1 or two days, all Class Teachers should receive a written explanation of the child's absence either by Class Dojo or a letter.

Authorised and unauthorised absences

All absences, whether authorised or unauthorised, are recorded in the register and on the school reports.

Illnesses

A parent may sign their child off school for the first day of absence. This should be in the form of a note being given to the child's class teacher on the child's return. If the child is absent for 2 days or more, a medical note should be provided. On the 3rd day of absence, the school will telephone the parents to enquire as to the child's wellbeing. If your child is genuinely ill, the case will be considered on an individual basis.

Religious absenteeism

If a child needs to have time off during the school year for religious reasons, this should be requested in writing by the parents at least 1 week before the absence is due to start. However, as much as possible, this should be confined to weekends.

Collecting children during the day for an emergency

All parents/guardians are to report to the reception and a school representative will collect your child at specific times so teaching and learning is not interrupted. At NO time is a parent, driver or carer allowed to the classroom during the day. Any early pick-ups will equate to an unauthorised absence. **Pupils will not be permitted to leave early during the school day unless evidence of a medical appointment has been provided a day in advance.**

Assessment and Curriculum

Each term, pupils will complete unseen standardised external international assessments. These assessments allow us to benchmark our academic performance against schools in both the UK and international setting. They will also give us insight into your child's strengths and areas for development which will then inform their targets and future learning.



Assessment

At Newton International Academy SMASH we assess in a variety of ways to ensure that we build a complete and comprehensive picture of your child academic ability. This is carried out throughout various points of each term.

Marking

When marking, teachers are identifying the strengths and noting areas for development. When marking, next steps in learning will be given as well as strengths. Our marking feedback is given in the following forms: written marking, verbal feedback from class teacher, pupil marking (peer and self-assessment).

Assessment for Learning

Assessment for Learning is an integral part of our approach to teaching and learning at Newton International Academy SMASH. Teachers use the success criteria marking, peer marking and self-assessment to involve pupils in their learning and inform them of their next steps. Children's work is marked against the Learning Objective/ WALT and Success Criteria/ WILF of the lesson. Effective questioning is also used as a form of assessment.

Assessing Pupil Progress (APP)

An APP assessment is used for Year 1-6 writing which is in line with national curriculum guidelines. Each unit of work that the children complete will end with an independent writing task. This will be levelled using the APP checklist and added to a writing portfolio for each child in every year group. The APP highlights areas of development and informs planning, enabling teachers to adapt the curriculum to meet the needs of the individual.

Guided Reading

Reading assessment is evidence based and comes from guided reading sessions using the Oxford Reading Tree (ORT). This allows teachers to monitor children's progress closely and plan accordingly.



Mathematics

Mathematics progress throughout each term will be assessed using a range of assessment methods which assess the topics taught during each term. This will be in collaboration with the international external assessment. Mastery for Mathematics is embedded in the teaching and learning of each topic taught using Mastery checkpoints. These assessments help identify strengths and areas of improvement for individual children as well as informing future planning by highlighting gaps in teaching.

Primary Homework

Homework is a valuable element of the learning process. At Newton International Academy, homework is given weekly and is available for download through our online homework page.

We believe that homework should be set:

- To involve parents in their children's learning where possible.
- To help parents understand what their child can and cannot do.
- To encourage children to talk about their work to their parents and explain what they are doing and how.
- To extend the time for learning, thus enabling children to practise and consolidate their skills, knowledge and strategies.
- To prepare children for secondary school experiences of homework.
- To view learning as a lifelong process and not just restricted to school hours.

Homework will generally follow on from work which has taken place in class but may take many different forms, including reading, learning multiplication facts and spellings. It should not entail new ideas that require explanation from a teacher. Occasionally, homework may consist of preparation for work yet to be done. Children should understand exactly what they are expected to do, how to do it, and how long it should take. Children who have made insufficient effort during class time may occasionally be asked to complete work at home.

Pupils in Year 1 – 4 will receive e-books weekly and all pupils from Year 1 – 6 will receive an eBook and a Mathematics game on our Active Learn/Bug Club platform. Pupils will also be assigned tasks on TT Rockstars.

The Key Stage 1 & 2 Curriculum Overview

Key Stage 1 consists of Years 1 and 2

Key Stage 2 consists of Years 3, 4, 5 and 6



The programme of studies for KS1 and KS2 are designed to meet the requirements of the English National Curriculum (ENC).

Subjects		
English	Mathematics	Science
History	Geography	Arabic
Computer Science	Art & Design	Music
P4C	P.E.	French (KS2)
Citizenship or Islamic Studies		PSHCE

Parents will receive a curriculum letter at the beginning of each term and a Foundation subject curriculum map from their specific year groups. These will be sent electronically.

English

At Newton International Academy we follow the English National Curriculum. We use the Talk 4 Writing scheme to further enhance written and oracy skills. The aim is to promote high standards of language and literacy by equipping pupils with a strong command of the spoken and written word, and to develop their love of literature through widespread reading for enjoyment.

In Primary, we encourage all pupils to read as much as possible to ensure age related standards in English are reached. We utilise methods such as Guided Reading sessions, discussion and structured library sessions. We also encourage parent participation by sending books home and using online programmes such as Bug Club for pupils to practise their reading and their comprehension

Speaking and Listening is integrated into every aspect of school life. The pupils are always encouraged to speak in English. They have opportunities to perform in class assemblies to a wide audience, which also encourages speaking and listening skills.

Key Stage 1 follow the Jolly Phonics program which includes learning letter sounds and blends to help with spelling, writing and reading.



Mathematics

At NIA we follow the English National Curriculum (ENC) when teaching Mathematics. Mathematics lessons are carried out daily in every class across the primary school. We use the White Rose scheme to enhance our learning.

The main mathematical strands covered within each year group are:

Number

Measurement

Geometry

Statistics

Problem

solving

Science

In Science we follow the ENC. The topics covered in each year group are as follows:

Year 1 Topics covered:

- Plants
- Animals including humans
- Everyday materials
- Seasonal Changes

Year 2 Topics Covered:

- Living things and their habitats
- Plants
- Animals including humans
- Use of everyday materials

Year 3 Topics Covered:

- Plants
- Animals including humans
- Rocks
- Light
- Forces and magnets

Year 4 Topics Covered:

- Animals including humans



- Living things and their habitats
- States of Matter
- Sound
- Electricity

Year 5 Topics Covered:

- Living things and their habitats
- Properties and changes of materials
- Earth and space
- Forces

Year 6 Topics Covered:

- Living things and their habitats
- Animals, including humans
- Change and inheritance
- Light
- Electricity

Pupils will be encouraged to work scientifically:

- asking relevant questions and using different types of scientific enquiries to answer them
- setting up simple practical enquiries, comparative and fair tests
- making systematic and careful observations and, where appropriate, taking accurate measurements using standard units, using a range of equipment, including thermometers and data loggers
- gathering, recording, classifying and presenting data in a variety of ways to help in answering questions
- recording findings using simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, keys, bar charts, and tables
- reporting on findings from enquiries, including oral and written explanations, displays or presentations of results and conclusions
- using results to draw simple conclusions, make predictions for new values, suggest improvements and raise further questions
- identifying differences, similarities or changes related to simple scientific ideas and processes

Pupils will have the opportunity to take part in a “Science Week,” in which they will have the opportunity to experience ‘hands on’ Science



Specialist Subjects in Key Stage One and Two

Computer Science

Each class will have the opportunity to work in the ICT suite developing their computer literacy skills. We feel that it is very important for our pupils to be confident in using a computer and its applications. This enables them to reinforce the skills that they have learned in school.

Physical Education

In P.E, children acquire and develop skills in games, gymnastics and swimming. All children are required to take part in PE lessons as part of our encouragement of them to live a healthy lifestyle.

Art & Design and Design & Technology

In Art and D&T, children have the opportunity to study the work of artists and copy their artistic style. Art topics include sculptures, nature, landscapes, self-portraits and investigating materials. Children will use different methods to nurture creativity and innovation through designing and making. D&T will also help them to develop an understanding of technological processes, products, and their manufacture, and their contribution to our society. Design & Technology include topics such as puppets, moving vehicles and food technology.

Music

Children attend one music lesson each week. Not only do pupils learn to sing new songs, but they also have the opportunity to learn to play instruments and play these in time to different rhythms. These skills are showcased throughout the year during assembly and performances.

French

All children from Year 3 through to Year 6 will take part in one French lesson a week. During this lesson children will learn the French language, ranging from numbers and the alphabet to being able to introduce yourself in French.

Arabic

The Arabic curriculum consists of two levels, First Language Arabic and Second Language Arabic. Each level aims to help pupils to acquire good speaking, listening and reading skills. This series helps beginners build gradual interest in developing practical linguistic skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing. At all levels work is differentiated.



Islamic Studies & Citizenship

All children of Muslim faith attend two lessons of Islamic studies per week where they learn about Islamic faith and culture from specialist teachers. All non-Muslim children remain with their class teachers during this time to study citizenship and world issues.

Qatar History

All children study one lesson of Qatar History each week. Qatar History is taught in Arabic to first language Arabic speakers and English to those children who speak Arabic as an additional language. Children have the opportunity to learn about the culture and traditions of Qatar during weekly lessons.

Philosophy for Children (P4C)

Philosophy for children is an opportunity to voice their opinion, be listened to as well as listen to their peers in a structured and nurturing environment. Each week the children come together as a whole class and each child is encouraged to speak freely and share their ideas and thoughts about questions they have chosen. The children are encouraged to become **critical, collaborative, creative** and **caring** thinkers.

How to raise a concern or make a complaint

A concern or complaint can be made in person, in writing or by telephone. They may also be made by a third party acting on behalf of a complainant, as long as they have appropriate consent to do so. Concerns should be raised to the school directly or to the 'management of Parent Communication' Department. This department is a central communication portal for Parents. The contact details are :

Landline : 4409-1037

Email: MPC@newtonschools.sch.qa

After School Hours : 7070-9714 and 7071-2145

The purpose of The Management of Parent Communication (MPC) Department is to create clear communication between the Parents and schools and to address and resolve concerns promptly. Once you contact the MPC Department, your communication will be shared with the Senior Management of your child's school who will address this with you directly.