

Newton International Academy

أكاديمية نيوتن العالمية

"An international community of learners striving for excellence and Celebrating success"

<http://newtonschoools.sch.qa>



Secondary Curriculum Policy

The Secondary School

In the Secondary School from Year 7 – Year 11, we follow the English National Curriculum at NIA. As we are an international school following the English National Curriculum, we evaluate each subject and curriculum to ascertain its suitability for our student cohort. We evaluate all of our school plans regularly to ensure that we also offer the best curriculum for our student needs and develop our teaching strategies accordingly.

Through this approach curriculum we equip our students with the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to be able to make informed choices about the important things in their lives.

Key Stage 3:

Key Stage 3 is the collective name given to Years 7, 8 and 9. The Key Stage 3 curriculum builds on the experiences students have had in Primary School. Our aim is to maintain the strengths of the primary approach as we introduce teaching by subject specialists. In particular, we want our students to use their skills across the curriculum and not to confine them to the subject in which they happen to be learned. A combination of twelve subjects are taught as detailed.

School planning in line with the curriculum outlines 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 as 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

Key Stage 4:

The KS4 curriculum at NIA SMASH is essentially drawn from the specifications of the examination boards we use; Edexcel and Cambridge International Examinations are both respected British Examination boards. The IGCSE is internationally renowned as one of the best middle level examinations in the world. This Key Stage comprises Years 10 and Year 11. During these two years, students take on the task of attaining their IGCSE certificate which will open doors to Tertiary education, either in Qatar or in overseas institutions. Progress towards Key Stage 4 starts toward the end of Year 9 when students apply to study subjects which they enjoy and fulfil some of their needs for higher education. There are some limitations on the courses offered but we do try to place each child in their chosen areas of learning.

Year 10 constitutes one half of the IGCSE course. In Year 11 students complete the

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IGCSE course and take external examinations set by the examination boards. All subjects taken at IGCSE provide a sound foundation for progression to the subject in KS5. IGCSE P.E. is optional but P.E. is a compulsory subject. English, Mathematics and two Science subjects are compulsory. Students will study 9 IGCSE subjects in KS4 and PE and Islamic Studies/ Citizenship as a non- examination subject.

Subject	Number of lessons per week	Details
Mathematics	5	One lesson per day
English	5	One lesson per day
Science	4	Biology, Physics and Chemistry are taught throughout the year
Arabic	5	Easy Arabic/Hard Arabic
Islamic	2	Compulsory
ICT	3	Compulsory
Qatar History	1	Compulsory
History	2	Compulsory
Geography	2	Compulsory
French	2	Compulsory
P4C / Tutor time	1	Compulsory
Design Technology	1	Compulsory
Art	1	Compulsory
PE	1	Compulsory

Key Stage Four (Years 10 -11)

The Key Stage 4 curriculum comprising of Year 10 and Year 11 allows students to the opportunity to work towards their IGCSE (International General Certificate of Secondary Education) examinations. As the students begin to take responsibility for their own learning, they can make some subject choices of courses that may be of interest to them. They will take

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examinations in the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science as well as their chosen subjects as they begin to consider and pave their future educational paths and preferences for areas of study.

The curriculum at Key Stage 4 is designed to offer breadth and scope for students to follow their chosen paths. All students who have a passport of an Arabic speaking country must follow qualifications in 1st Language Arabic. Students are obliged to follow compulsory subjects in compliance with the British National Curriculum. Students will also study Islamic/Citizenship twice a week, PE once a week as well as a tutor period once a week.

The 35 period week is as follows:

English	5 lessons
Mathematics	5 lessons
Block A option	3 lessons
Block B option	3 lessons
Block C option	3 lessons
Block D option	3 lessons
Block E option	3 lessons
Block F option	3 lessons
Block G option	3 lessons
PE (compulsory)	1 lesson
Islamic Studies	2 lessons
Tutorial / P4C (compulsory)	1 lesson