



**Newton British Academy
Barwa City**

Secondary Homework Policy

Policy Date: June 2021 – June 2024

Review Date: June 2022

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

HOMWORK POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Rationale

At Newton British Academy we believe that homework is part of a good education: it provides the opportunity to practice, consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding from work done in school; it provides opportunities to explore something new and/or independently; it allows time to prepare something for the next lesson; it helps students to learn to manage their time and to be able to work independently which will help throughout their time at school and in the future. It is important in raising student achievement.

Homework enhances pupil learning, improves achievement, and develops students' study skills and as such is an integral part of the curriculum. It requires careful planning and integration into the scheme of work of each curriculum area.

Aims

The purpose of homework is to:

- Increase the understanding of material covered in class
- Provide students with an additional opportunity to explore and work with new material
- Improve skills crucial to studying certain areas/subjects
- Promote independent learning
- Provide teachers insights into student learning, to provide feedback, intervention, and support.
- Reveals the effectiveness of lesson and allows teachers to reflect and improve the producing and delivery of their lessons
- Develop a work ethic within students
- Encourage parents/guardians to become involved in their child's education

Roles and Responsibility of the different stakeholders:

Responsibility of the School Management

- Fostering lifelong learning and connecting families with the learning of their children, as part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum within the Newton Schools.
- Ensuring that the homework policy is relevant to the needs of students.
- Advising parents of homework expectations and provide them with a copy of the homework policy.
- Reviewing the homework policy at the end of each Academic year to ensure that it is updated with the latest developments in education.

Responsibility of the subject teachers

- Setting varied, challenging and meaningful homework tasks, relating to class work to suit the students' learning needs.
- Encouraging real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity, and imagination through the homework tasks.
- Use homework as one tool to gauge how well students are understanding lessons.
- Providing students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities.
- Assessing homework and providing timely and constructive feedback and support. The marking and feedback policy should be followed when assessing the homework tasks.
- Ensuring that the students are aware of the school's homework policy.
- Offering a wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning.

Responsibility of the parents

- Developing a positive and productive approach to homework.
- Provide a suitable place for the students to complete their homework.
- Take on a supervisory role and provide partial assistance to students instead of doing the homework tasks for them.
- Ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities.
- Develop a close relationship with teachers to be able to identify concerns regarding the students' homework, and when needed, discuss teachers' feedback on homework.

Responsibility of the students

- Being aware of the school's homework policy.
- Accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames.
- Following up on comments and feedback provided by the teachers (reflection time).
- Seeking assistance from the relevant subject teachers when difficulties arise.
- Organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities without neglecting their schoolwork.

Examples of homework might include:

- Written tasks
- Reading tasks
- Research
- Project work
- Vocabulary attainment
- Revision of material covered in class

- Studying for a test
- Gathering resources for a project
- Drawing/sketching
- Practicing a particular skill
- Preparation for the next lesson

Quality of Homework

All homework should be

- well-designed to bring about the intended learning outcomes
- interesting and purposeful
- related to class teaching
- clearly defined so that students understand what is required of them
- within the students’ capabilities and developmental readiness
- using resources readily available to students
- differentiated to meet the different needs and abilities of students

Quantity of Homework

- The following week’s homework should be uploaded on the VLE Fusion / Google classroom on every Wednesday afternoon.
- During assessment / examination weeks there should not be any homework uploaded. Revision and exam preparation takes preference during these weeks.
- Homework should be marked in accordance with the Marking and Feedback Policy of Newton.
- The homework should not overload the students as it can have detrimental effects on learning and pursuit of a balanced life.

Homework allocation

Key Stage	Number of homework sessions per day	Homework hours per day	Homework hours per week
Key Stage 3 (Year 7 – 9)	3 Subjects per day 30 Minutes per subject	1½ hours	6 hours
Key Stage 4 (Year 10 and 11)	3 Subjects per day 45 Minutes per subject	2 hours and 15 minutes	9 hours
Key Stage 5 (Year 12)	2 Subjects per day and 1 Hour self-study 60 Minutes per subject	2 hours homework 1 hour self-study	12 hours

- Homework will be allocated in advance. The following week’s homework will be uploaded in the relevant shared online platforms of the school (VLE Fusion / Google Classroom).

- Homework will be uploaded on the Wednesday afternoon to be accessible for students on the Thursday. This will allow students to access the following week’s homework over the weekend already.
- The students have until the following Wednesday to complete the relevant homework activities. Subject teachers will inform the students of the method of homework submission per subject.
- Finishing off classwork at home must be avoided as a homework task as it is often the weaker students who need to ‘finish off’ work.

The following timetables act as a guide for all students and if students follow the timetable, they will complete all homework activities on time.

Key Stage 3 Homework Timetable (30 minutes per subject)			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Mathematics	English	Mathematics	English
Arabic	Science	Geography	History
Week 1: Art Week 2: DT (Alternate weeks)	ICT	Week 1: Islamic/Citizenship Week 2: Qatar History (Alternate weeks)	French
Key Stage 4 Homework Timetable (45 minutes per subject)			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Mathematics	English	Mathematics	English
Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
Block E	Block F	Block G	Self-study
Key Stage 5 Homework Timetable (60 minutes per subject)			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Block A	Block B	Block A	Block B
Block D	Block C	Block D	Block C
Self-Study	Self-Study	Self-Study	Self-Study