

CBSE curriculum 2026-27: the subjects by class

From CBSE's Secondary Curriculum 2026-27 (Part 1) and its examination notifications. Board = examined by CBSE; Annual = the school's exam on CBSE's scheme; IA = internal assessment by the school.

Class 9 (new scheme from April 2026) and Class 10 (existing scheme in 2026-27)

Subject	Class 9, 2026-27	Class 10, 2026-27
Language 1	Compulsory, R1 level; IA + Annual	Compulsory; IA + Board
Language 2	Compulsory, R2 level; IA + Annual	Compulsory; IA + Board
Mathematics	Standard paper for all (80, 3 h) + optional Advanced (25, 1 h)	Basic or Standard; IA + Board (last batch with Basic)
Science	Standard paper for all + optional Advanced	Compulsory; IA + Board
Social Science	Compulsory; IA + Annual	Compulsory; IA + Board
Language 3	Compulsory, R3 level (Class 6 book + one local text); school-assessed	Optional; school-assessed
Skill / other elective	Optional subject; IA + Annual	Optional; Board
Individuals in Society	Compulsory; school-assessed (Environmental Education in Class 10)	not offered
Computational Thinking and AI	Compulsory modules (a subject from 2027-28; Board from 2029)	Modules
Vocational Education	Compulsory; school-assessed (Board from the 2027-28 Class 10)	within the skill subject
Physical Education and Well-being; Art Education	Compulsory; school-assessed	HPE, Work Experience, Art; school-assessed

The marks

[] Each main subject: 80 marks external (Board in Class 10 and 12; Annual in Class 9 and 11) + 20 marks internal assessment; 33% needed in each part separately

[] Advanced papers: 25 marks, 1 hour, all higher-order questions; not added to the aggregate; 50% or more recorded on the mark sheet from the 2028 board exam

[] Board exam 2027: up to 7 subjects (5 compulsory + 2 optional); 2028: 7 with up to two Advanced papers; 2029: 8

Class 11 and 12

One language (usually English Core) + four electives + an optional fifth or a skill subject; 80 + 20 (or 70 + 30 with a practical). Science: Physics, Chemistry, Maths or Biology + one. Commerce: Accountancy, Business Studies, Economics + Maths or Applied Maths. Humanities: History, Political Science, Geography, Psychology, Sociology, Economics. Class 12 board exam once a year, February to April.

Two board exams, three languages, and what changes when

Class 10: two board exams from 2026

	Main exam	Second exam
When	February to March (2026: 17 Feb to 11 Mar); results April	May (2026: 15 to 21 May); results July
Who	Everyone; compulsory	Optional: improvement in up to 3 of Science, Maths, Social Science, languages; compartment candidates
Rule	Missing 3 or more subjects here bars the second exam (Essential Repeat next February)	Better of the two scores counts
2026 numbers		663,777 sat; 59.95% of improvement candidates raised a score; 52.40% of compartment candidates passed; overall pass 96.78%

Three languages: R1, R2, R3

- [] Two of the three must be languages native to India; schools abroad may offer one compulsory Indian language instead of two
- [] R3 compulsory from Class 6 and Class 9 in 2026-27: Class 9 uses the Class 6 book + one local literary text; 2 to 3 periods a week; school-assessed; no board exam, but a pass is required for the Class 10 certificate
- [] R1 and R2 may share a textbook; separate syllabus coverage and separate board papers from the 2028 exam

The timeline

Session	Class 9	Class 10 and the board exam
2026-27	New scheme begins: R3, Standard + Advanced in Maths and Science, Individuals in Society, CT and AI modules, Vocational Education	Existing scheme; Maths Basic for the last time; two board exams in 2027 (Feb main, May second)
2027-28	Full scheme; CT and AI a subject	New scheme reaches Class 10: R3 (Class 7 book), Advanced papers; Vocational board exam begins; 2028 exam up to 7 subjects
2028-29	Full scheme; R3 at full level	2029 exam up to 8 subjects; CT and AI examined by the board
2029 onward		R1 and R2 as separate board papers; full three-language scheme by 2031

My child

Class and session:

Language 1 / 2 / 3:

Advanced papers (Maths / Science / none):

Optional or skill subject:

Board exam dates this year:

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