

CBSE schools in Dubai: the fee bands, 2026-27

Approximate annual tuition in AED for the main classes, from the schools' published fee schedules and the KHDA directory; the premium schools charge more in Class 11 and 12, and every school adds bus, uniform, books and activities. KHDA approves each school's fee by grade and publishes it, with the inspection rating and the last report, in its school directory.

Band	Schools (CBSE unless marked)	Annual fee (AED)
Low fee: the older community schools	The Indian High School (Oud Metha, Al Garhoud); Our Own English High School (Dubai, Al Warqa); Gulf Indian High School; Crescent English High School; the Indian Academy Dubai; Buds Public School	5,000 to 12,000
Mid fee	Delhi Private School Dubai (Jebel Ali); the Millennium School (Al Qusais); GEMS New Millennium School (Al Khail); Credence High School; Springdales School Dubai; Global Indian International School; GEMS Legacy School; Ambassador School	10,000 to 20,000
Premium	JSS International School and JSS Private School; GEMS Modern Academy (ICSE); Amled School (ICSE); the newer campuses in Dubailand and Al Furjan	18,000 to 45,000

How KHDA controls the fee

[] Every fee and every increase needs KHDA approval; the permitted increase is tied to the Education Cost Index and to the school's inspection rating (a school that moves up a rating may raise by a multiple of the index; one below Acceptable not at all)

[] A low-fee school stays low-fee; a rating change is a fee signal for the following years

[] The fee advertised for KG is not the fee for Class 10: check the grade your child will join, and the one after

What the fee buys, and what it does not

The fee buys	The fee does not buy
Facilities, class size (small in KG, 40 or more by Class 8 at the low-fee schools), activities, the KHDA-rated teaching	Attention to a child who is quietly behind: no CBSE section stops for one child
Books and the NCERT order; the two CBSE board sittings for Class 10	The bus (4,000 to 7,000 a year), uniform, books and activity fees, which narrow the gap between the bands

The shortlist checklist

Five questions that are not the fee

- [] The KHDA rating, and what the last report said about maths and science by phase (a Good school with Very Good maths beats a Very Good school with Acceptable maths for a child who struggles in maths)
- [] How far ahead of NCERT the school runs (many Dubai schools finish the maths book by December)
- [] Section size in the class the child will join, not in KG
- [] Where the child will be in five years: CBSE to Class 12 for a return to India; ICSE or an IGCSE switch at Class 9 for a child staying abroad
- [] The total cost with bus and books, not the headline fee

Three schools, the same questions

Question	School 1	School 2	School 3
KHDA-approved fee for my child's grade			
Bus, books, uniform, activities			
KHDA rating; maths and science lines in the report			
Section size in that grade			
How far ahead of NCERT by December			
Class 10 and 12 results (share above 90%)			
Commute at 7 am (minutes)			
Class 11 streams; ICSE or IGCSE route			
Seat available from (month)			
Our ranking			

The part the fee never covers

The thing that moves a child who is behind in maths or science is one adult who knows exactly where the gap is and teaches to it, in the school's own order, every week. Dubai tuition centres charge AED 60 to 150 an hour for that in a small group and home tutors AED 100 to 250; a master's-qualified tutor in India teaching the same NCERT chapter 1-on-1 online charges about AED 37 to 48, with the recording of every class.

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