UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

تربية وتعليم

Curriculum Guide for The Academic Year 2026/2027

Cycle 3

SEPTEMBER 2026

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Introduction

This guide aims to provide clear guidance on implementing the approved academic plan for the academic year 2026\2027 in Cycle 3, covering both the General and Advanced streams. It serves as the primary reference for administrative and educational bodies, outlining the plan's implementation and detailing key aspects related to curricula, educational streams, elective subject options, and procedures for transferring between streams.

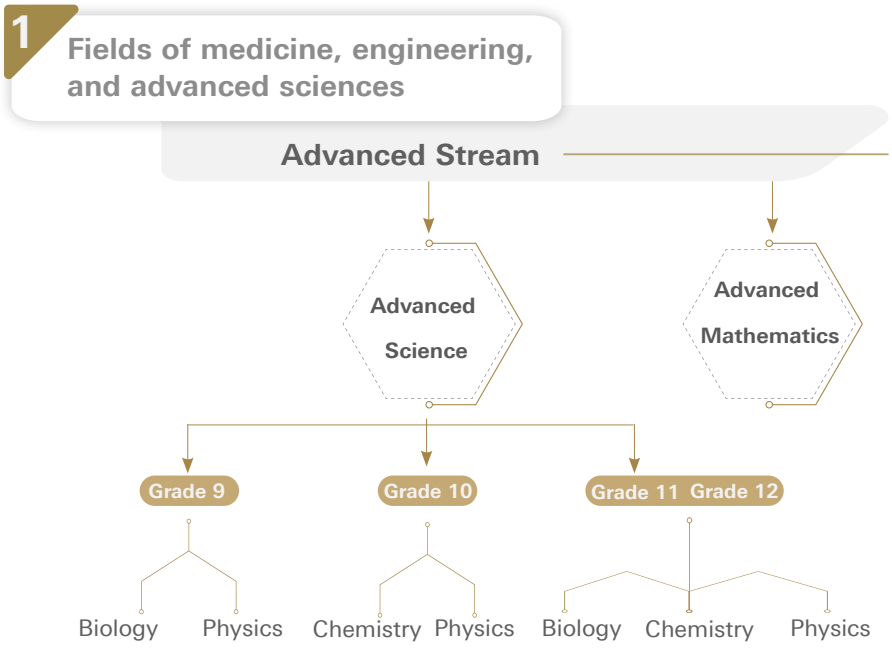
Educational Streams

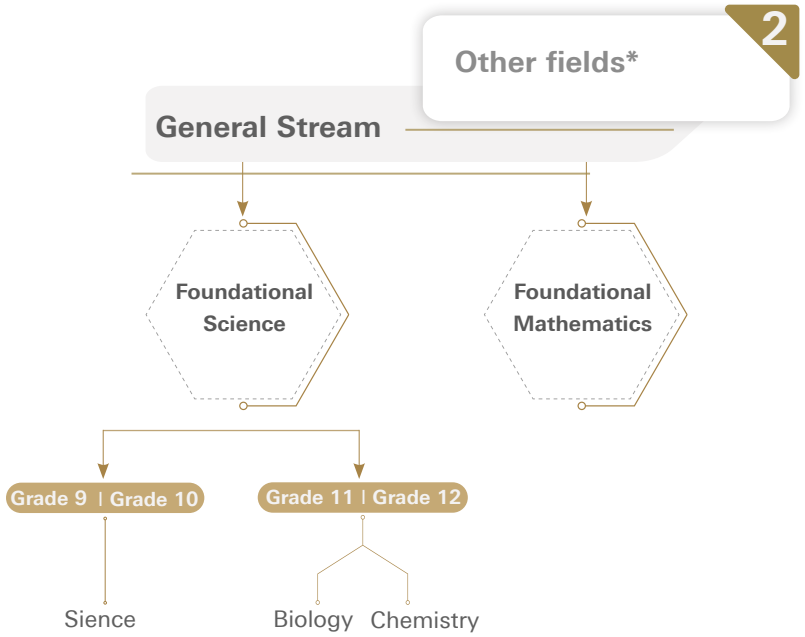
Cycle 3

Educational Streams - Cycle 3

The educational streams were restructured in the academic year 2025/2026 to better align with students' interests and career aspirations, enabling them to pursue higher education in either humanities and social sciences or in medicine, engineering, and advanced sciences.

The diagram below illustrates the expected stream structure by the academic year 2027/2028.





* Other fields include disciplines such as humanities, social sciences, economics, law, psychology, etc.

General Guidelines

- The plan maintains the approved school day structure, including student arrival and departure times.
- The plan provides an opportunity to implement remedial and enrichment plans through academic support periods.
- Academic guidance must be provided to students to ensure they choose the stream that best align with their intended higher education majors.
- The elective subject system will continue to be applied in Grade 12 in accordance with the approved transitional plan for the academic year 2025/2026.*
- Grade 12 students are required to study the elective scenario they selected in Grade 11.
- The elective system within the Science courses for Grade 11 has been discontinued. The science subjects are now fixed and predefined for both the General and Advanced streams in accordance with the approved unified scenario.
- The elective offerings are now limited to Artificial Intelligence and Technology, Arts, and Health Sciences, where students may choose one or two subjects from these options in accordance with the approved unified scenario.
- The number of periods allocated to elective subjects varies depending on the stream or whether the school offers a third language.

*Please refer to the transitional plan for the General and Advanced Streams on pages 10 and 14.

- Social Studies and Moral Education, while two separate subjects, are both taught by Social Studies teachers.
- The Arts subject encompasses visual arts, music, and drama (Theater). These subjects are taught based on teacher availability at each school, with a minimum of two subjects to be delivered.
- A block period system is applied for Arts and Physical Education, whereby the timetable is arranged to provide two consecutive periods per subject, ensuring sufficient time for developing the targeted skills.

The General Stream

Cycle 3

Science Subjects in the General Stream – Cycle 3

The Science and Mathematics curricula in the General Stream equip students with foundational scientific and mathematical concepts, enabling them to understand their real-world applications and everyday contexts. These curricula develop the core skills that support students in pursuing humanities and social sciences fields, while simultaneously building a solid knowledge base in the natural sciences.

General Stream

Academic Year 2026/2027

Mathematics

Grades 9 –12

Foundational Mathematics taught across four grade levels, focusing on fundamentals in of geometry, algebra, and probability. The calculus related topics.

Science

Grades 9 –10

Science

Grade 11

Chemistry and Biology

Grade 12

Scenario 1: Chemistry and Biology

Scenario 2: Physics and Biology

General Stream Transitional Plan

Academic Year 2026/2027

2026 - 2027

- **Grade 9** — Science
- **Grade 10** — Science
- **Grade 11** — Chemistry, Biology
- **Grade 12** — Students continue in the scenarios selected in the academic year 2025/2026, limited to two approved scenarios:

  Scenario 1: Chemistry and Biology, or
  Scenario 2: Physics and Biology

2027 - 2028

- **Grade 9** — Science
- **Grade 10** — Science
- **Grade 11** — Chemistry, Biology
- **Grade 12** — Chemistry, Biology

Updates to Science Subjects | Cycle 3 – General Stream

Grade 9

- The science curriculum has been updated to cover the domains of Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, while maintaining the existing period allocation.
- The subject is taught by Physics, Chemistry, or Biology teachers only.

Grade 10

- The science curriculum has been updated to cover the domains of Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, while maintaining the existing period allocation.
- The subject is taught by Physics, Chemistry, or Biology teachers only.

Grade 11

- The elective system within the Science subjects for Grade 11 has been discontinued. Science subjects are now fixed, and do not fall within the elective subject system. Students study Chemistry and Biology with two periods allocated per subject, with the expectation of completing both subjects in Grade 12 the following year.
- The Biology curriculum has been updated while maintaining the previous period allocation.

Grade 12

- In line with the transitional plan, Grade 12 students will continue studying the scenarios they selected in Grade 11 during the academic year 2025/2026, which have been reduced to two scenarios only.
- The Biology curriculum has been updated while maintaining the previous period allocation.

The Advanced Stream

Cycle Three

Science Subjects – Advanced Stream

The Science and Mathematics curricula in the Advanced Stream prepare students for higher education in medicine, engineering, and advanced sciences.

Advanceed Stream

Academic Year 2026/2027

Mathematics

Grades 9 –11

Covers algebra, geometry, probability, and pre-calculus topics

Grades 12

Covers calculus-based Mathematics, focusing on differentiation and integration

Science

Grades 9

Physics and Biology

Grade 10

Physics and Chemistry

Grade 11

Physics, Chemistry, and Biology

Grade 12

Scenario 1: Physics and Biology

Scenario 2: Physics, Chemistry, and Biology

Advanced Stream Transitional Plan – Cycle 3

Academic Year 2026/2027

2026 - 2027

Grade 9
Physics
Biology

Grade 10
Physics
Chemistry

Grade 11
Physics
Chemistry
Biology

Grade 12
Students continue with the scenarios selected in the academic year 2025/2026, limited to two approved scenarios only:
Scenario 1: Physics and Biology, or
Scenario 2: Physics, Chemistry, and Biology

2027 - 2028

Grade 9
Physics
Biology

Grade 10
Physics
Chemistry

Grade 11
Physics
Chemistry
Biology

Grade 12
Physics
Chemistry
Biology

Updates to Science Subjects | Cycle 3 – Advanced Stream

Grade 9

- No changes to the Grade 9 plan for the academic year 2026/2027.

Grade 10

- The Physics course has been updated while maintaining the previous period allocation.

Grade 11

- The elective system within the Science subjects for Grade 11 has been discontinued. Science subjects are now fixed and do not fall within the elective subject system. Students study all three science subjects — Physics, Chemistry, and Biology — with five periods allocated to Physics, two periods to Chemistry, and one period to Biology per week.
- The Physics course has been updated while maintaining the previous period allocation.

Grade 12

- In line with the transitional plan, Grade 12 students will continue studying the scenarios they selected in Grade 11 during the academic year 2025/2026.
- The Physics course has been updated while maintaining the previous period allocation.

Academic Plan for Cycle 3

Academic Year 2026 / 2027

For public and private schools that follow the MoE curriculum

Cycle Three: Grades 9–10 (General and Advanced Streams)

#	Subjects	General Stream		Advanced Stream	
		9	10	9	10
1	Islamic Education	2	2	2	2
2	Arabic Language	5	5	5	5
3	Social Studies / Moral Education	2	2	2	2
4	English Language	6	6	5	5
5	Mathematics	7	7	7	7
6	Science	6	6	—	—
7	Physical and Health Education	2	2	2	2
8	Business Studies	2	2	—	—
9	Physics	—	—	5	5
10	Chemistry	—	—	—	4
11	Biology	—	—	4	—
12	Artificial Intelligence and Technology	3	3	3	3
13	Arts (Visual Arts + Music + Drama)	1	1	1	1
	Total Periods	36	36	36	36

Cycle Three: Grades 9–10 (General and Advanced Streams)

Guidelines		
1	Social Studies / Moral Education	Social Studies and Moral Education, while two distinct subjects, shall both be taught by the Social Studies teacher.
2	Artificial Intelligence and Technology	Artificial Intelligence and Technology is the new title for the subject formerly known as Computing, Creative Design and Innovation, and Artificial Intelligence, and shall be taught by the same subject teacher.
3	Arts	Encompasses Visual Arts, Music, and Drama. Schools may teach each subject on a term basis, ensuring balanced distribution of instructional time across the targeted arts disciplines. Arts shall be taught based on teacher availability. Students are required to complete no fewer than two arts disciplines throughout the academic year.
4	Science	The subject shall be taught by Physics, Chemistry, or Biology teachers only.
5	Language of Instruction – Advanced Stream (Grade 9)	Mathematics and Science subjects in Grade 9 Advanced Stream shall be taught in English in private schools implementing the Ministry curriculum,starting from the Academic Year 2026/2027, in alignment with the current practice in public schools.

Cycle Three: Grades 11–12 (General Stream)

#	Subjects		11 GEN(0).11	12	
				GEN (0).25.P1 Scenario (1)	GEN (0).25.P2 Scenario (2)
1	Compulsory Subjects	**Islamic Education**	2	2	2
2		**Arabic Language**	5	5	5
3		**Social Studies / Moral Education**	2	2	2
4		**English Language**	6	6	6
5		**Mathematics**	7	7	7
6		**Physical and Health Education**	2	2	2
Compulsory Subjects - Total Number of Periods			**24**	**24**	**24**
7	Science Subjects	**Physics**	—	—	GEN.PHY.C.102 3
8		**Chemistry**	GEN.CHM.P1.101 2	GEN.CHM.P1.102 2	—
9		**Biology**	GEN.BIO.P1.101 2	GEN.BIO.P1.102 2	GEN.BIO.C.101 3
Science Subjects - Total Number of Periods			**4**	**4**	**6**
10	Elective Subjects	**Number of Required Subjects**	Two Subjects	Two Subjects	One Subject
Elective Subjects - Total Number of Periods			**6**	**6**	**3**
Academic Support Periods			2	2	3
Total (Compulsory Subjects + Science Subjects + Elective Subjects + Academic Support Periods)			**36**	**36**	**36**

Cycle Three: Grades 11–12 (General Stream)

Guidelines		
1	Social Studies / Moral Education	Social Studies and Moral Education, while two distinct subjects, shall both be taught by the Social Studies teacher.
2	Artificial Intelligence and Technology	Artificial Intelligence and Technology is the new title for the subject formerly known as Computing, Creative Design and Innovation, and Artificial Intelligence, and shall be taught by the same subject teacher.
3	Arts	Encompasses Visual Arts, Music, and Drama. A block-period system shall be applied for art subjects, whereby two consecutive periods are allocated (blocked) per session to provide sufficient time for effective skill development. Schools may teach each subject on a term basis, ensuring balanced distribution of instructional time across the targeted arts disciplines. Arts shall be taught based on teacher availability. Students are required to complete no fewer than two arts disciplines throughout the academic year.
4	Elective Subjects	Students may select one or two subjects from the Elective Subjects, which includes: Artificial Intelligence and Technology; Arts (Visual Arts, Music, and Drama); and Health Sciences. The number of periods shall be determined according to the total periods allocated in the selected scenario. Three weekly periods shall be allocated per subject, resulting in a total of three or six weekly periods depending on the number of subjects selected.
5	Elective Scenarios (Grade 11)	The elective system within the Science subjects for Grade 11 has been discontinued, with elective offerings now limited to Artificial Intelligence and Technology, Arts, and Health Sciences, in accordance with the approved unified plan.
6	Educational Scenarios (Grade 12)	Educational scenarios for Grade 12 are limited to two scenarios only. Grade 12 students shall continue with the scenarios previously selected in Grade 11.

Cycle Three: Grades 11–12 (Advanced Stream)

#	Subjects		Grade 11 ADV(0).11	Grade 12	
				ADV (0).25.P1 Scenario (1)	ADV (0).25.P2 Scenario (2)
1	Compulsory Subjects	**Islamic Education**	2	2	2
2		**Arabic Language**	5	5	5
3		**Social Studies / Moral Education**	2	2	2
4		**English Language**	6	6	6
5		**Mathematics**	7	7	7
6		**Physical and Health Education**	2	2	2
Compulsory Subjects - Total Number of Periods			**24**	**24**	**24**
7	Science Subjects	**Physics**	ADV.PHY.P.101 5	ADV.PHY.P.102 5	ADV.PHY.P.102 5
8		**Chemistry**	ADV.CHM.P2.101 2	--	ADV.CHM.P2.102 2
9		**Biology**	ADV.BIO.P2.101 1	ADV.BIO.C.101 3	ADV.BIO.P2.102 2
Science Subjects - Total Number of Periods			**8**	**8**	**9**
10	Elective Subjects	**Number of subjects required**	One subject	One subject	One subject
Elective Subjects - Total Number of Periods			**3**	**3**	**3**
Academic Support Classes			1	1	0
Total (Compulsory Subjects + Science Subjects + Elective Subjects + Academic Support Periods)			**36**	**36**	**36**

Cycle Three: Grades 11–12 (Advanced Stream)

Guidelines		
1	Social Studies / Moral Education	Social Studies and Moral Education, while two distinct subjects, shall both be taught by the Social Studies teacher.
2	Artificial Intelligence and Technology	Artificial Intelligence and Technology is the new title for the subject formerly known as Computing, Creative Design and Innovation, and Artificial Intelligence, and shall be taught by the same subject teacher.
3	Arts	Encompasses Visual Arts, Music, and Drama. Schools may teach each subject on a term basis, ensuring balanced distribution of instructional time across the targeted arts disciplines. A block-period system shall be applied for arts subjects, whereby two consecutive periods are allocated (blocked) per session to provide sufficient time for effective skills development. Arts shall be taught based on teacher availability. Students are required to complete no fewer than two arts disciplines throughout the academic year.
4	Elective Subjects	Students may choose one subject from the Elective Subjects, which includes Artificial Intelligence and Technology, Arts (Visual Arts, Music, and Drama), and Health Sciences. The number of periods shall be determined in accordance with the total periods allocated under the selected scenario. Three weekly periods shall be allocated per subject.
5	Elective Scenarios (Grade 11)	The elective system within the Science subjects for Grade 11 has been discontinued, with elective offerings now limited to Artificial Intelligence and Technology, Arts, and Health Sciences, in accordance with the approved unified plan.
6	Educational Scenarios (Grade 12)	Educational scenarios for Grade 12 are limited to two scenarios only. Students in Grade 12 shall continue with the scenario previously selected in Grade 11.

Third Language Schools: Grades 9–10 (General and Advanced Streams)

#	Subjects	Grades			
		General Stream Third Language		Advanced Stream Third Language	
		9	10	9	10
1	Islamic Education	2	2	2	2
2	Arabic Language	5	5	5	5
3	Social Studies / Moral Education	2	2	2	2
4	English Language	5	5	5	5
5	Mathematics	7	7	7	7
6	Science	6	6	—	—
7	Physical and Health Education	2	2	2	2
8	Third Language	2	2	2	2
9	Business Studies	2	2	—	—
10	Physics	—	—	5	5
11	Chemistry	—	—	—	4
12	Biology	—	—	4	—
13	Artificial Intelligence and Technology	2	2	2	2
14	Arts (Visual Arts + Music + Drama)	1	1	—	—
	Total Periods	36	36	36	36

Third Language Schools: Grades 9–10 (General and Advanced Streams)

Guidelines		
1	Social Studies / Moral Education	Social Studies and Moral Education, while two distinct subjects, shall both be taught by the Social Studies teacher.
2	Artificial Intelligence and Technology	Artificial Intelligence and Technology is the new title for the subject formerly known as Computing, Creative Design and Innovation, and Artificial Intelligence, and shall be taught by the same subject teacher.
3	Arts	Encompasses Visual Arts, Music, and Drama. Schools may teach each subject on a term basis, ensuring balanced distribution of instructional time across the targeted arts disciplines. Arts shall be taught based on teacher availability. Students are required to complete no fewer than two arts disciplines throughout the academic year.
4	Science	The subject shall be taught by Physics, Chemistry, or Biology teachers only.

Third Language Schools: Grades 11–12 (General Stream)

#	Subjects		11 GEN(1).11	12	
				GEN (0).25.P1 Scenario (1)	GEN (1).25.P2 Scenario (2)
1	Compulsory Subjects	**Islamic Education**	2	2	2
2		**Arabic Language**	5	5	5
3		**Social Studies / Moral Education**	2	2	2
4		**English Language**	6	6	6
5		**Mathematics**	7	7	7
6		**Third Language**	2	2	2
		Physical and Health Education	2	2	2
Compulsory Subjects - Total Number of Periods			**26**	**26**	**26**
7	Science Subjects	**Physics**	—	—	GEN.PHY.C.102 3
8		**Chemistry**	GEN.CHM.P1.101 2	GEN.CHM.P1.102 2	—
9		**Biology**	GEN.BIO.P1.101 2	GEN.BIO.P1.102 2	GEN.BIO.C.101 3
Science Subjects - Total Number of Periods			**4**	**4**	**6**
10	Elective Subjects	**Number of subjects required**	Two subjects	Two subjects	One subject
Elective Subjects - Total Number of Periods			**6**	**6**	**3**
Academic Support Classes			0	0	1
Total (Compulsory Subjects + Science Subjects + Elective Subjects + Academic Support Periods)			**36**	**36**	**36**

Third Language Schools: Grades 11–12 (General Stream)

Guidelines		
1	Social Studies / Moral Education	Social Studies and Moral Education, while two distinct subjects, shall both be taught by the Social Studies teacher.
2	Artificial Intelligence and Technology	Artificial Intelligence and Technology is the new title for the subject formerly known as Computing, Creative Design and Innovation, and Artificial Intelligence, and shall be taught by the same subject teacher.
3	Arts	Encompasses Visual Arts, Music, and Drama. Schools may teach each subject on a term basis, ensuring balanced distribution of instructional time across the targeted arts disciplines. A block-period system shall be applied for arts subjects, whereby two consecutive periods are allocated (blocked) per session to provide sufficient time for effective skills development. Arts shall be taught based on teacher availability. Students are required to complete no fewer than two arts disciplines throughout the academic year.
4	Elective Subjects	Students may choose one or two subjects from the Elective Subjects, which includes: Artificial Intelligence and Technology; Arts (Visual Arts, Music, and Drama); and Health Sciences. Three weekly periods shall be allocated per subject, resulting in a total of three or six weekly periods depending on the number of subjects selected under the approved scenario.
5	Elective Scenarios (Grade 11)	The elective system within the Science subjects for Grade 11 has been discontinued, with elective offerings now limited to Artificial Intelligence and Technology, Arts, and Health Sciences, in accordance with the approved unified plan.
6	Educational Scenarios (Grade 12)	Educational scenarios for Grade 12 are limited to two scenarios only. Students in Grade 12 shall continue with the scenario previously selected in Grade 11.

Third Language Schools: Grades 11–12 (Advanced Stream)

#	Subjects		Grade 11 ADV(1).11	Grade 12	
				ADV (1).25.P1 Scenario (1)	ADV (1).25.P2 Scenario (2)
1	Compulsory Subjects	**Islamic Education**	2	2	2
2		**Arabic Language**	5	5	5
3		**Social Studies / Moral Education**	2	2	2
4		**English Language**	6	6	6
5		**Mathematics**	7	7	7
6		**Third Language**	2	2	2
7		**Physical and Health Education**	2	2	1
Compulsory Subjects - Total Number of Periods			**26**	**26**	**25**
8	Science Subjects	**Physics**	ADV.PHY.P.101 5	ADV.PHY.P.102 5	ADV.PHY.P.102 5
9		**Chemistry**	ADV.CHM.P2.101 2	--	ADV.CHM.P2.102 2
10		**Biology**	ADV.BIO.P2.101 1	ADV.BIO.C.101 3	ADV.BIO.P2.102 2
Science Subjects - Total Number of Periods			**8**	**8**	**9**
11	Elective Subjects	**Number of subjects required**	One subject	One subject	One subject
Elective Subjects - Total Number of Periods			**2**	**2**	**2**
Academic Support Classes			0	0	0
Total (Compulsory Subjects + Science Subjects + Elective Subjects + Academic Support Periods)			**36**	**36**	**36**

Third Language Schools: Grades 11–12 (Advanced Stream)

Guidelines		
1	Social Studies / Moral Education	Social Studies and Moral Education, while two distinct subjects, shall both be taught by the Social Studies teacher.
2	Artificial Intelligence and Technology	Artificial Intelligence and Technology is the new title for the subject formerly known as Computing, Creative Design and Innovation, and Artificial Intelligence, and shall be taught by the same subject teacher.
3	Arts	Encompasses Visual Arts, Music, and Drama. Schools may teach each subject on a term basis, ensuring balanced distribution of instructional time across the targeted arts disciplines. A block-period system shall be applied for arts subjects, whereby two consecutive periods are allocated (blocked) per session to provide sufficient time for effective skills development. Arts shall be taught based on teacher availability. Students are required to complete no fewer than two arts disciplines throughout the academic year.
4	Elective Subjects	Students may choose one subject from the Elective Subjects, which includes: Artificial Intelligence and Technology; Arts (Visual Arts, Music, and Drama); and Health Sciences. Two weekly periods shall be allocated per subject, resulting in a total of two weekly periods under the approved scenario.
5	Elective Scenarios (Grade 11)	The elective system within the Science subjects for Grade 11 has been discontinued, with elective offerings now limited to Artificial Intelligence and Technology, Arts, and Health Sciences, in accordance with the approved unified plan.
6	Educational Scenarios (Grade 12)	Educational scenarios for Grade 12 are limited to two scenarios only. Students in Grade 12 shall continue with the scenario previously selected in Grade 11.

Applied Stream – Grade 12

#	Subjects	Applied Stream
		Grade 12
1	**Islamic Education**	2
2	**Arabic Language**	5
3	**Social Studies / Moral Education**	2
4	**English Language**	6
5	**Mathematics**	5
6	**Science**	4
7	**Biology**	—
8	**Chemistry**	—
9	**Physics**	—
10	**Physical and Health Education**	1
11	**Artificial Intelligence and Technology**	—
12	**Arts (Visual Arts + Music + Drama)**	1
13	**Specialized Skills**	10
	Total Periods	**36**

Guidelines		
1	Social Studies / Moral Education	Social Studies and Moral Education, while two distinct subjects, shall both be taught by the Social Studies teacher.
2	Arts	Encompasses Visual Arts, Music, and Drama. Schools may teach each subject on a term basis, ensuring balanced distribution of instructional time across the targeted arts disciplines. Arts shall be taught based on teacher availability. Students are required to complete no fewer than two arts disciplines throughout the academic year.

Subject Groups in Grades 11 and 12

(General and Advanced Streams)

Subject Groups in Grades 11 and 12 (General and Advanced Streams)

Compulsory Subjects Group:

- This group comprises the subjects that all students in both the General and Advanced streams are required to study, covering six subjects. The period allocation for these subjects is equal across both streams.

Science Subjects Group:

- This group comprises the science subjects — Physics, Chemistry, and Biology — which are fixed and defined for each stream in Grade 11 and do not fall within the elective system. The offered science subjects and their respective curricula vary depending on the grade and stream.

Elective Subjects Group:

- This group comprises the subjects from which students may select one or two, including: Artificial Intelligence and Technology, Arts, and Health Sciences. The number of periods allocated to these subjects varies depending on the stream and whether the school offers a third language.

Subject Groups for Grades 11 and 12 (General and Advanced Streams)

Period allocation	Subjects
5	Arabic Language
2	Islamic Education
2	Social Studies / Moral Education
6	English Language
7	Mathematics (General / Advanced)
2	Physical and Health Education

	Subjects
Compulsory Subjects	Arabic Language
	Islamic Education
	Social Studies / Moral Education
	English Language
	Physical and Health Education
	Mathematics (General / Advanced)
Science Subjects	Physics (General / Advanced)
	Chemistry (General / Advanced)
	Biology (General / Advanced)
Elective Subjects	Artificial Intelligence and Technology
	Arts
	Health Sciences

Transfer Between Educational Streams

Academic Year 2026/2027

Transfer Between Educational Streams

Definition

A stream transfer refers to a student's movement from one educational stream to another at the beginning of the academic year. Transfers are processed upon verification that all approved conditions have been met, and may only take place within the first two weeks of the academic year.

Transition Requirements

Timeline

- Stream allocation procedures for Grade 8 students into educational streams must be carried out based on their choice and in accordance with the approved criteria, ensuring completion by the end of the academic year 2025/2026.
- The transfer window between educational streams will close for eligible students at the end of the second week of the academic year 2026/2027.

Student Support

- Schools are required to provide academic guidance and individual counseling to students wishing to transfer between educational streams, ensuring that their academic and educational needs are effectively met.

Compliance with Admission Criteria

All students wishing to transfer to any educational stream must meet the specific admission criteria and defined in the approved guidelines.

Stream Transfer Procedure

1. **Identify eligible and interested students**
   Use available data to identify students who are eligible for or interested in transferring to a different educational stream.
2. **Notify students and parents of transfer conditions**
   Implement individual or group guidance and counseling plans, and communicate the transfer conditions clearly to students and parents.
3. **Submit transfer applications where applicable**
   Students must meet all admission criteria for their desired stream.
4. **Obtain signatures from all relevant parties**
   Transfer documentation must be approved and signed by school administration, parents, and students.
5. **Support and monitor student academic progress post-transfer**
   Maintain academic records throughout the student's transfer; implement individualized education plans and monitor the student's academic progress following the transfer.

Transfer to the General Stream

Eligibility for Transition to the General Stream

Current Stream		Transferring From	Transferring To	Transfer Eligibility	Notes
Advanced	Optional Transition	**Grades 8–11** Advanced	**Grades 9–12** General	**Eligible**	Passing students may transfer based on their preference, alongside with completing the needed transfer forms [1]
	Mandatory Transition	**Grades 9–12** Advanced	**Grades 9–12** General	**Eligible**	In the event of failing, the student will be transferred to the General Stream, with the option to repeat the grade in the Advanced Stream in accordance with the regulations and procedures. [1][2]
Applied		**Grades 12** Applied	**Grades 12** General	**Not Eligible**	Applied stream students are not allowed to transfer to the General Stream.

(1) Notes:

- The transfer process may only take place within the first two weeks of the new academic year.
- Students are required to consult the academic advisor and school administration to discuss eligibility for transfer between streams.
- The responsibility for addressing any learning gaps — where they exist — falls jointly on the student, the school, and the parent, in addition to bearing full accountability for any outcomes resulting from the transfer.

(2) Regulations and Procedures for Students Wishing to Remain in the Advanced Stream:

- A formal application for grade repetition must be submitted by the student and parent, with a commitment to achieving passing grades in all subjects.
- If the student fails in the first term, he is compulsorily transferred to the General Stream at the beginning of the second term.
- The appropriate scenario is determined in coordination between school administration, parents, and the student.
- The school, parent, and student share responsibility for identifying the educational stream for the repeated grade and any resulting academic or administrative consequences.

Transfer to the Advanced Stream

Eligibility for transition to the Advanced Stream

Current Stream	Transferring From	Transferring To	Transfer Eligibility	Notes
General	**Grades 8** General	**Grades 9** Advanced	**Eligible***	A minimum of 80% must be achieved in English, Mathematics, and Science at the end of the previous academic year.
	Grades 9 General	**Grades 10** Advanced	**Eligible***	
	Grades 10 General	**Grades 11** Advanced	**Not Eligible**	Students are not permitted to transfer as they do not meet the science subject requirements for the Advanced Stream grades.
	Grades 11 General	**Grades 12** Advanced	**Not Eligible**	

***General Notes:**

- The transfer process may only take place within the first two weeks of the new academic year.
- Students are required to consult the academic advisor and school administration to discuss eligibility for transfer between streams.
- The responsibility for addressing any learning gaps — where they exist — falls jointly on the student, the school, and parents, in addition to bearing full accountability for any outcomes resulting from the transfer.

Higher Education Requirements and Educational Streams

Academic Year 2026 / 2027

Stream Alignment with Minimum Specialization Requirements in Higher Education

As per Ministerial Decree No. (19) of 2024 on The Guiding Admission Criteria for Higher Education Institutions in the United Arab Emirates, it is recommended that English language scores to be used as the assessment basis for determining program eligibility, as illustrated in the table below:Secondary English language scores are used as an assessment basis for determining program level, as illustrated below:

Program Level	Guiding Score
Bachelor's Degree	80% in English
Higher Diploma	70% in English
Diploma	70% in English

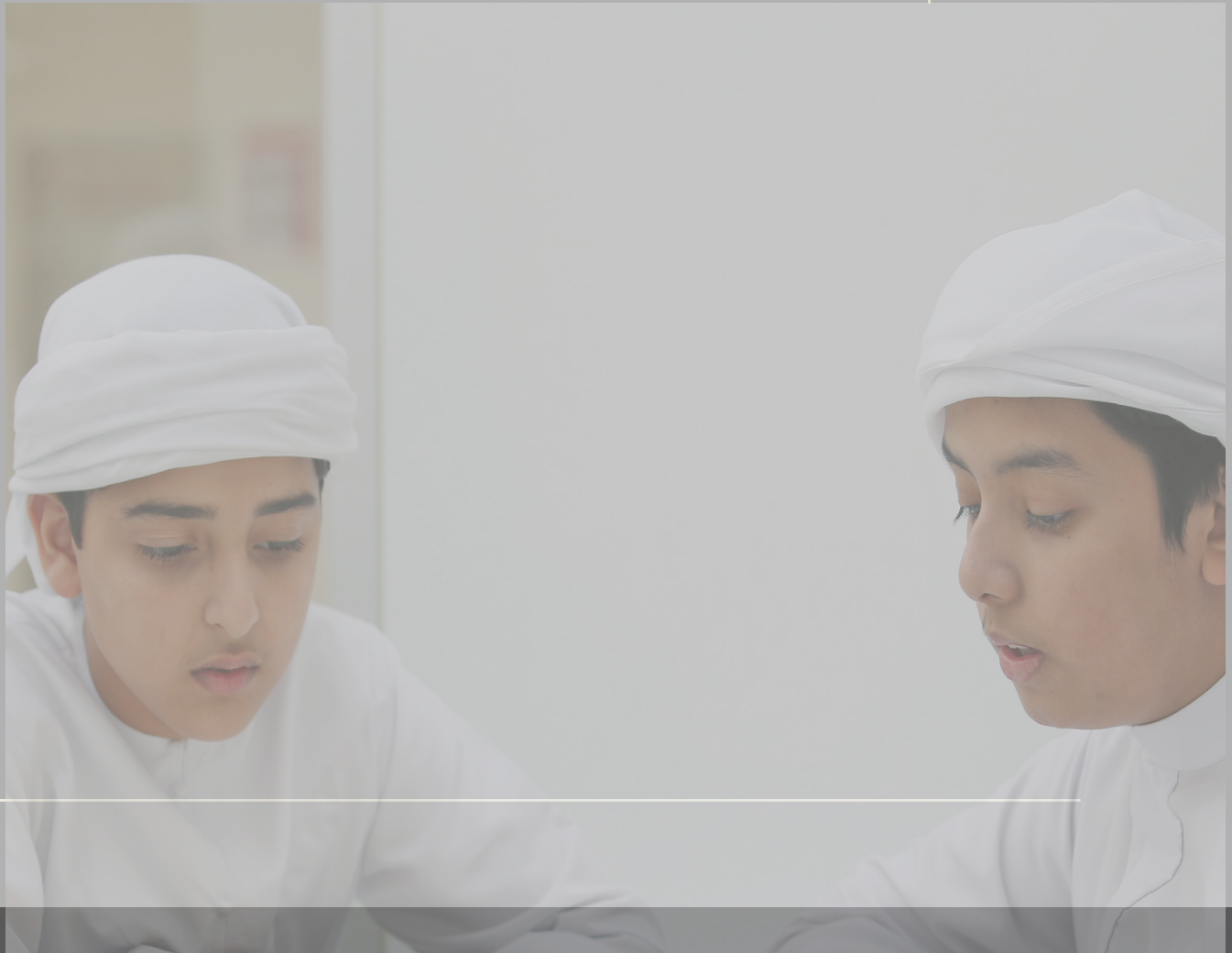
Secondary scores in subjects relevant to the university majors below:

Major	Stream	Guiding Score
Medicine / Dentistry	Advanced Stream	90% in Mathematics and 90% in two of the following: Chemistry, Biology, Physics
Pharmacy	Advanced Stream	80% in Mathematics and 80% in two of the following: Chemistry, Biology, Physics
Engineering	Advanced or General Stream (only for scenarios including Physics)	80% in Mathematics, 80% in Physics, and 80% in one of the following: Chemistry or Biology
Law	General or Advanced Stream	70% in Mathematics
Other Majors (Technology, Natural Sciences, Business, and Humanities)	General or Advanced Stream	No specific subject requirements

Important Notes:

- All undergraduate programs require a minimum of 80% in English.
- Please refer to the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research's requirements and verify the specific admission conditions of the higher education institution the student intends to enrol in.

Roles and Responsibilities



Roles and Responsibilities of School Leadership

	Task Matrix
Cluster Manager	• Empower school administrations and familiarise them with the academic plan and its updates. • Monitor overall statistics on elective subject system scenarios in Al-Manhal, specifically regarding Grade 12 student enrolment. • Support schools in the cluster in meeting their teacher staffing requirements based on each school's needs, addressing increases and vacancies through direct coordination with the School Operations Sector. • Oversee the quality of curriculum implementation and academic support periods with efficiency and effectiveness. • Ensure that all challenges faced by schools during the implementation process are addressed, including decisions on class merging or closure. • Ensure that schools adopt and implement a clear and structured communication methodology with students and parents.

Roles and Responsibilities of School Leadership

	Task Matrix
School Principal	• Attend orientation workshops on the academic plan, and ensure that its content is disseminated to school staff to support effective implementation. • Oversee the implementation of the academic guidance plan for Grade 8 students and their parents, in alignment with students' interests and aspirations. • Approve students' stream selections in collaboration with the academic advisor, taking into account the school's capacity in terms of classroom availability and student density. • Oversee the implementation of curricula in classrooms and monitor delivery progress. • Oversee the development and implementation of academic support plans based on the needs of the school's students, and monitor the impact on their performance.

Roles and Responsibilities of School Leadership

	Task Matrix
Academic Deputy	• Attend orientation workshops on the academic plan, and ensure that its content is disseminated to school staff to support effective implementation. • Obtain final student statistics based on the required streams, and conduct the necessary survey to identify class groups and teachers, ensuring the timetable is designed in line with students' preferences, and escalate any staffing needs to the school principal. • Design the school timetable in accordance with the approved scenarios, ensuring the effective delivery of elective subjects and academic support periods. • Oversee the implementation of curricula in classrooms, ensure that necessary support is provided, follow up with teachers, and measure impact. • Develop the academic support plan in collaboration with the academic advisor, tailored to students' academic levels and needs, and monitor its impact on their performance.

Roles and Responsibilities of School Leadership

Task Matrix

Academic Advisor / Head of Student Affairs Unit

- Attend orientation workshops on the academic plan and effectively guide and counsel students.
- Implement the academic guidance plan for Grade 8 students and their parents effectively, to introduce them to the educational streams and elective subjects.
- Support students in selecting the appropriate stream based on their academic level and future aspirations, through individual or group sessions as required.
- Approve students' stream and elective subject selections in collaboration with the school principal, taking into account the school's capacity in terms of classroom availability and student density.
- Support students whose class has to be closed due to low student density, and assist them in identifying the most suitable alternative scenario.
- Follow up on stream transfer requests submitted by students within the first two weeks of the academic year, and guide them towards the most appropriate option to ensure their placement in a class.
- Provide advice and guidance to students and parents in the event of a transfer request being declined, explaining the reasons and presenting available alternatives.

Roles and Responsibilities of the Student and Parent/ Guardian

	Task Matrix
Student	• Attend the orientation workshops on the academic plan organised and delivered by the school. • Attend individual and group sessions conducted by the school to acquire the skills needed for selecting the appropriate stream. • Review the Higher Education guidlines to ensure that the chosen educational stream aligns with the student's intended career path. • Verify the university admission requirements for the desired programme and institution of study, and select the stream that aligns with those requirements.
Parent/Guardian	• Attend workshops organised by the school to introduce the academic plan. • Verify the university admission requirements for the desired major and institution of study, and ensure that the selected stream aligns with those requirements. • Communicate and collaborate continuously with the school to support the student and guide them toward selecting the most appropriate stream for their academic and professional future.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1 What is the scope of application of the academic plan for 2026/2027?

The academic plan applies to all public schools and private schools that follow the MoE curriculum.

2 What changes does the academic plan for 2026/2027 include compared to the academic year 2025/2026?

First: Grades 9 and 10 (General Stream) The Science course has been updated to cover the domain of Physics, Chemistry, and Biology across both grades.

Second: Grade 11 The three science subjects (Physics, Chemistry, and Biology) have become compulsory and fixed under a single scenario for both the General and Advanced streams, and no longer fall within the elective subject system.

The elective subjects are now limited to: Artificial Intelligence and Technology, Health Sciences, and Arts. The number of subjects a student may study varies depending on the stream or whether the school offers a third language, as they complete them in Grade 12.

Third: Educational scenarios for Grade 12 are limited to two scenarios only.
Grade 12 students shall continue with the scenarios previously selected in Grade 11.

3 What are the subject groups covered for Grades 11 and 12 in the General and Advanced Streams?

Subjects are structured into three groups:

- **Compulsory Subjects Group:** Six subjects that all students are required to study regardless of their stream or educational choices. These include: Arabic Language, Islamic Education, Social Studies / Moral Education, English Language, Mathematics, and Physical and Health Education.
- **Science Subjects Group:** Comprises Physics, Chemistry, and Biology.
- **Elective Subjects Group:** Comprises Artificial Intelligence and Technology, Health Sciences, and Arts.

4 When does Grade 10 students select the electives subjects they wish to study?

Students select the elective subjects they wish to study before the end of Term 2 of Grade 10.

5 How many elective subjects must the student choose?

The number of elective subjects varies depending on the stream and the academic plan. Students may select one or two subjects from the elective subjects group.

6 What is the Compulsory Subjects Group and what does it include?

This group comprises six subjects that all students are required to study regardless of their stream or educational choices. It includes: Arabic Language, Islamic Education, Social Studies / Moral Education, English Language, Physical and Health Education, and Mathematics.

7 What is the Science Subjects Group and what does it include?

This group comprises subjects of a scientific nature, including Physics, Chemistry, and Biology.

8 Does the Mathematics curriculum differ between the General and Advanced Streams?

Yes, the Mathematics curriculum varies depending on the stream.

9 Will there be an update to the method of calculating grades and the percentage score for secondary school graduates?

Please refer to the assessment policy approved by the Ministry of Education.

10 What changes have been made to the Science courses scenarios in Grade 11 of the General Stream?

Scenarios within the Science subjects for Grade 11 has been discontinued. The science subjects (Chemistry and Biology) are now fixed and compulsory, and no longer fall within the elective subject system. Students study both subjects with two periods allocated per subject, with the expectation of completing them in Grade 12 the following year.

11 What are the updates to the Grade 9 and 10 Science courses in the General Stream for the academic year 2026/2027?

The science course in Grades 9 and 10 (General Stream) has been updated to cover the fields of Physics, Chemistry, and Biology across both grades.

12 What are the updates to the Grade 12 educational scenarios in the General Stream for the academic year 2026/2027?

Educational scenarios for Grade 12 are limited to two scenarios only.

Grade 12 students shall continue with the scenarios previously selected in Grade 11.

13 What changes have been made to the academic plan for the academic year 2026/2027 regarding Grade 12 science subjects in the General Stream?

The Biology course has been updated without any change to the number of allocated weekly periods.

14 What changes have been made to the academic plan for 2026/2027 regarding science subjects in Grades 9 and 10 of the Advanced Stream?

There are no changes to the science curricula in Grade 9.

The Physics course in Grade 10 has been updated without any change to the number of allocated weekly periods.

15 What changes have been made to the academic plan for 2026/2027 regarding the Physics course in the Advanced Stream?

The Physics course has been updated across Grades 10, 11, and 12 without any change to the number of allocated weekly periods.

16 What changes have been made to the Science courses scenarios in Grade 11 of the Advanced Stream?

Scenarios within the Science subjects for Grade 11 has been discontinued. Science subjects are now fixed and compulsory in Grade 11 and no longer fall within the elective subject system. Students study all three science subjects — Physics, Chemistry, and Biology — in accordance with the period allocations specified for each stream.

17 What are the updates to the Grade 12 educational scenarios in the Advanced Stream for the academic year 2026/2027?

Educational scenarios for Grade 12 are limited to two scenarios only.
Grade 12 students shall continue with the scenarios previously selected in Grade 11.

Wishing you a successful academic year.