

GLS/C/1247-26

CIRCULAR

01 May 2026

## GRADE IX - VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND ELECTIVE SKILL SUBJECTS

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Dear Parents,

We would like to inform you that, as per the latest updates from CBSE, the skill subjects **Artificial Intelligence** and **Food Production** have been withdrawn from the list of approved subjects without prior notice. The revised list of skill subjects can be accessed here:

- [List of Skill Subject for Class IX](#)

In line with these changes, the school will now offer students the option to choose one of the following skill electives and the curriculum details for these subjects are available in the links below:

- [Information Technology \(Code 402\)](#)
- [Introduction to Tourism \(Code 406\)](#)
- [Front Office Operations \(Code 410\)](#)
- [Beauty and Wellness \(Code 407\)](#)

Please note that all skill electives include a common Theory Part A: Employability Skills, which is already being covered during the current skill subject periods.

Please complete this survey before Tuesday, 5th May 2026 to indicate your preferred option; the final subject offering will be determined based on the majority of responses received.

- **Survey Link: [Grade IX Skill Subject Selection Survey \(Academic Year 2026–27\) – Fill out form](#)**

### **CBSE SUBJECT STRUCTURE**

Additionally, as per CBSE guidelines, alongside the core subjects—English, Second Language, Mathematics (Standard/Advanced), Science (Standard/Advanced), and Social Science—a **compulsory sixth subject, Vocational Education**, has been introduced. The optional skill subject offered by the school is in addition to this and enables students to appear for **seven subjects**.

*This optional subject also provides an important advantage: if a student is unable to pass in any one of the three core subjects (Science, Mathematics, or Social Science) but passes in the optional skill subject, the optional subject may replace the failed subject in the final result, provided the student has successfully passed the required languages as per CBSE norms.*

Furthermore, as part of school-based internal assessment, the following components have been introduced:

- Interdisciplinary subject: *Individuals in Society*
- Art Education
- Physical Education and Well-being

## **UPDATE ON TEXTBOOKS**

We would also like to inform you that hard copy textbooks for these new subjects are currently not available with Goyal Publications, as they are awaiting release from NCERT/CBSE. We will keep you updated as soon as they are available. In the meantime, soft copies of all released textbooks can be accessed here:

- [NCERT ONLINE TEXTBOOKS](#)

## **ASSESSMENTS**

As CBSE has not yet released the textbooks for Vocational Education, and in light of the recent changes to skill subjects, there will be no Periodic Test 1 for Artificial Intelligence, Food Production, or the newly selected skill subjects.

Students will continue to engage with the compulsory Part A: Employability Skills, which will be assessed formatively during class. This approach will provide sufficient time for us to gather survey responses and smoothly transition to the new skill subject(s) without placing additional pressure on students.

**A Half-Yearly Assessment for these two subjects will be conducted as scheduled.**

## **ORIENTATION SESSION**

A second orientation webinar will be scheduled shortly to elaborate on and explain these new changes, ensuring transparency and a shared understanding among all stakeholders.

In the meantime, should you require any immediate information or guidance, please feel free to contact the class teacher or the supervisor - Ms. Sneha Nair (sneha.n1\_gls@gemsedu.com) or Head of Secondary - Ms. Alethea Vaz (alethea.v2\_gls@gemsedu.com).

We appreciate your continued support and cooperation as we implement these curriculum changes in the best interest of our students.

Warm regards,



**Asha Alexander** أشا ألكسندر

**Principal** مديرة المدرسة

**Executive Leader - Climate Change** الرئيس التنفيذي - تغير المناخ