



केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड

(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्त संगठन)

CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

(An Autonomous Organisation Under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)



CBSE/ DIR(ACAD)/ 2026

April 9, 2026

Circular no. Acad-18/2026

Heads of all Institutions affiliated to CBSE

Subject: Students' and Teachers' Resource books for course on Computational Thinking and Artificial Intelligence (CT&AI) for classes 3rd to 8th

Dear Principal,

The National Education Policy (NEP) aims to position India as a leader in emerging knowledge fields by integrating technologies like AI, Machine Learning, Big Data and Computational Thinking into school education. It seeks to promote technology-enabled, interactive and gamified learning using tools such as Augmented Reality (AR), Virtual Reality (VR), and virtual labs to foster creativity, problem-solving, and interdisciplinary exploration. NCFSE 23 carries this recommendation further for implementation.

While Artificial Intelligence (AI) is an important requirement, Computational Thinking (CT) should be a broader skill, developing a foundation for learning AI. It can cover various aspects like Cybersecurity, basic network, etc. Hence, CBSE approaches this by integrating computational thinking with AI and other technological advancements, without dependence on any platform.

Learners engage with problems involving powers and number systems, proportional reasoning, geometric configurations and structured distributions, requiring decomposition of multi-variable scenarios, identification of complex patterns and design of stepwise algorithms under constraints. The Artificial Intelligence component deepens understanding of the AI project lifecycle, data-driven decision-making and ethical considerations such as bias and fairness, enabling students to critically analyse how data and models influence outcomes.

CBSE has released the curriculum framework for CT & AI, for students of classes 3rd to 8th, with the aim of creating AI-literate learners by 2030. The curriculum mandates AI + Ethics + Unplugged Learning as a unified national curriculum from Preparatory Stage. All other courses on AI being run till the session 2025-26 are being discontinued for class IX, session 2026-27 onwards. Students of class X for the session 2026-27 will continue with the scheme followed in the session 2025-26. NCERT shall provide modules on CT& AI for classes 9th to 12th for the session 2026-27 to be transacted as modules for internal assessment.



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The Students' and Teachers' Handbooks for CT& AI classes 3rd to 8th are now available on www.cbseacademic.nic.in. These resource books are not designed as textbooks, but rather as a companion to the Mathematics textbooks (the concepts of TWAU are interwoven), and are intended to be used alongside regular classroom teaching. Since they follow the same chapter sequence as in Mathematics, the subject teacher can seamlessly integrate them into daily instruction. As concepts are introduced in class, the corresponding questions from this book can be used to deepen understanding and encourage application.

Before beginning a chapter, the teacher is encouraged to go through the content of the book, identify the underlying concepts required for each question, and plan how to align them with classroom teaching. As these concepts are taught, the teacher can introduce the related thinking questions to students.

It is important to note that the questions in the books are thinking-based and designed to promote analysis, reasoning, and problem-solving. Teachers should adopt a facilitative approach, guiding students through prompts and discussions rather than directly providing solutions. Students should be given time to think and attempt independently, followed by classroom discussions where different approaches are shared and explored.

Some chapters also include activities that build intuition and engagement. These should be conducted before attempting the questions, as they help students approach the problems with better understanding.

Teachers should approach this book with the mindset that the process of thinking is more important than arriving at the correct answer. Creating a safe and encouraging environment where students feel comfortable making mistakes, exploring multiple strategies, and expressing their reasoning is essential. The goal is to nurture confident, independent thinkers rather than focus solely on correctness.

Dr. Praggya M. Singh
Professor & Director (Academics)



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13. The Director, Central Tibetan School Administration, ESSESS Plaza, Community Centre, Sector -3, Rohini, Delhi
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15. The Secretary AWES, Integrated Headquarters of MoD (Army), FDRC Building No. 202, Shankar Vihar (Near APS), Delhi Cantt-110010
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22. In charge IT Unit with the request to put this Circular on the CBSE Academic Website
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24. Record File

Professor & Director (Academics)



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