

Malaysia Academic Calendar for 2027 Takes Shape With State Groupings and Term Dates

The Ministry of Education has finalised the Malaysia academic calendar for the 2027 school year, setting term dates, holiday periods, and the familiar three-group state system that determines when pupils return to class. Schools nationwide will follow a structure that balances instructional weeks with short breaks, though the exact start dates vary by state grouping as in previous years.

Under the published framework, the 2027 session is divided into two main semesters. The first semester opens in early March for Group A states and in mid-March for Group B states, while Group C states begin later in the same month. This staggered arrangement, long a feature of the Malaysia academic calendar, allows the ministry to coordinate national examinations and public holidays across states with different religious and cultural observances.

How the Three State Groups Work

State groupings have been a fixture of the school timetable for more than a decade. Group A comprises Johor, Kedah, Kelantan, Melaka, Negeri Sembilan, Pahang, Perak, Perlis, Pulau Pinang, Sabah, Sarawak, Selangor, Terengganu, and the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur. Group B includes the remaining states plus Labuan, and Group C covers Putrajaya. The distinction arises largely from the timing of the Chinese New Year, Hari Raya Aidilfitri, and other festivals that shift between January and March. By splitting the states, the ministry ensures that schools in each group observe a full term before and after major holidays without shortening instruction time.

For 2027, the first semester runs from early March until late May, followed by a two-week mid-year break. The second semester starts in mid-June and continues through to mid-November, with a one-week break in early September. The year-end holiday period extends from mid-November until early January 2028. These dates are subject to minor adjustments by state education departments, but the national framework provides a consistent reference for parents, teachers, and administrators.

Key Term Dates for 2027

- First semester: early March to late May 2027
- Mid-year break: two weeks from late May
- Second semester: mid-June to mid-November 2027
- Mid-semester break: one week in early September

- Year-end holiday: mid-November 2027 to early January 2028

The ministry has also confirmed that national examinations, including the Ujian Pencapaian Sekolah Rendah (UPSR) and Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM), will be scheduled within the second semester. Examination timetables are expected to be released separately by the Malaysian Examinations Syndicate. Schools will adjust their internal assessments accordingly.

Public Holidays and School Closures

Malaysia observes a rich calendar of public holidays at the federal and state levels, and the school calendar accounts for these closures. Among the fixed dates are National Day on 31 August, Malaysia Day on 16 September, and numerous religious holidays that fall on different days each year. The ministry coordinates with the Department of Islamic Development Malaysia and other agencies to ensure that school holidays coincide with major celebrations such as Hari Raya Aidilfitri, Hari Raya Aidiladha, Deepavali, Christmas, and Chinese New Year.

In 2027, Chinese New Year falls in early February, which places it before the start of the school year for most groups. Hari Raya Aidilfitri is expected in April, during the first semester. The ministry has scheduled a one-week break around the festival, allowing families to travel and observe the celebrations without disrupting attendance for an extended period. Deepavali occurs in October, during the second semester, and a similar break is provided.

State-specific holidays, such as the birthday of the Sultan of Johor or the Gawai Dayak festival in Sarawak, are also observed. Schools in affected states close on those days, and the ministry advises parents to consult their state education department for precise dates.

State Groupings and Their Rationale

The three-group system is not arbitrary. It reflects the demographic and cultural diversity of Malaysia, where different ethnic and religious communities celebrate festivals at different times. By grouping states with similar holiday patterns, the ministry can create a uniform schedule that maximises instructional days while respecting local traditions. Group A, for instance, includes states where the Chinese New Year holiday is typically longer, while Group B and Group C accommodate states with different festival calendars.

This arrangement also helps to stagger the load on public transport and accommodation during peak travel periods. Parents and students in Group A may travel during one week, while those in Group B travel the following week, reducing congestion on roads and at airports. The ministry coordinates with transport operators and tourism boards to manage the flow.

Impact on Teachers and Administrators

For educators, the [malaysia academic calendar](#) provides a clear framework for lesson planning, assessment scheduling, and professional development. Teachers receive the calendar well in advance, typically by the middle of the preceding year, allowing them to prepare schemes of work and coordinate with colleagues across subjects. School administrators benefit from the advance notice when booking facilities, arranging co-curricular activities, and planning staff leave.

The ministry also uses the calendar to schedule national training programmes and curriculum workshops during the breaks. These sessions are optional but widely attended, and they help to standardise teaching practices across states. The breaks also allow for school maintenance and renovation projects that would be disruptive during term time.

Parental Considerations

Parents planning family holidays or medical appointments are advised to consult the school calendar before making commitments. The ministry publishes the calendar on its official portal and distributes it through state education departments. Many schools also share the dates via their own communication channels. Knowing the term dates well in advance helps families to avoid taking children out of school during critical periods, such as examination weeks or the start of a new term.

The staggered start dates mean that families moving between states may need to adjust their schedules. A child transferring from a Group A school to a Group B school, for example, may have a longer or shorter break depending on the timing. The ministry advises parents to liaise with both schools to ensure a smooth transition.

Conclusion

The 2027 school calendar reaffirms the Ministry of Education's commitment to providing a structured yet flexible academic year that accommodates Malaysia's multicultural society. With clear term dates, well-placed holidays, and the familiar state groupings, the calendar supports effective teaching and learning while respecting the diverse needs of students, parents, and educators across the country.

About Checksekolah.my

Checksekolah.my is a guide to the 2027 school calendar in Malaysia, including holidays, term dates, and state groupings by the Ministry of Education. The site provides clear and accessible information for parents, teachers, and anyone involved in planning the school year.