

2021-2022 Class Schedule FAQ

How do the class periods work?

Class periods will be 90 minutes on Monday–Tuesday and Thursday–Friday. Wednesday class periods will be 60 minutes. Classes will alternate every other class day, with Periods 1/2/3 meeting on one day, and Periods 4/5/6 meeting the next day. Classes will generally meet five times over a two-week period. As a general rule, on each class day, you should attend the classes that you did not attend on the previous class day. For example, if you attend your Period 1, Period 2, and Period 3 classes on Friday, and on Monday there is no class because it's a holiday, you should attend your Period 4, Period 5, and Period 6 classes on Tuesday.

What's Community Time?

Community Time is at 10:05 Monday–Tuesday and Thursday–Friday. This is a 45-minute block when all students and faculty are not in class. During Tuesday's Community Time, faculty attend Faculty Meeting, and on Thursdays they attend their Department Meeting. Advisory Meeting time is reserved on Fridays. Students may use Community Time on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays how they wish (for example, attend club meetings, attend counseling appointments, study, etc.).

What's Flex Time?

Flex Time is at 2:55 Monday–Tuesday and Thursday–Friday. This is a 45-minute block when all students and faculty are not in class. Unlike Community Time, Flex Time is not reserved for attending community meetings, but rather, Flex Time is a scheduled block during the day that students may use as they wish; students will use their Flex Time in different ways depending on their co-curricular, personal preferences, and overall daily schedule:

- Some varsity co-curriculars may start their practices during Flex Time (3:30pm)
- Some students may want to attend counseling or college advising appointments
- Some students may want to study or relax
- Some students may want to schedule music lessons during this block.

What is the Class Schedule Calendar and why is it so important?

This year we are introducing a new tool called the [Class Schedule Calendar](#) to help students and faculty remember what class period (first, second, third, fourth, fifth, or sixth) they should attend on what day. The Class Schedule Calendar can be found on [the Student Bulletin](#) below the Academy Calendar and on the [Class Schedule page](#).

A few notes about the Class Schedule Calendar:

- The projected alternating day schedule for Fall Term has been loaded into this calendar; this calendar keeps track of what periods are meeting on what days. Some Special Schedules for Fall Term are still TBD, these are noted on the calendar with the details we currently have available; these will be updated as soon as possible. Winter and Spring Terms will be added over the next few months.
- Should anything change due to an unexpected class day off (Head of School Day, snow day, etc.), the calendar will be updated to reflect this change, so please check it often.
- Any Special Class Schedules will be detailed on this calendar. Please also note that this year we will not be adding Special Schedules to the Main Academy Calendar as we have done in the past, so it's important you check the Class Schedule Calendar regularly to stay informed.
- To limit the volume of emails students and faculty receive, emails about changes to the Class Schedule Calendar will only be sent if the change is made with less than 48 hours notice, but we will always make a post to [the Student Bulletin](#).

- Please note that the Class Schedule Calendar only has events related to the Class Schedule, so you should continue to refer to the [Main Academy Calendar](#) and the [Academic Affairs Calendar](#) for other important events and deadlines, such as when grades are due/available.

The Class Schedule Calendar is an essential tool for this school year; it ensures that you arrive at the correct class, on the correct day, and at the correct time. **You should check the [Class Schedule Calendar](#) every Monday through Friday.**

What happens when we miss a class day due to an unexpected event like a Head of School Day, snow day, etc.? Do we continue following the projected alternating day schedule the next day, or does the disruption ripple throughout the rest of the term, changing the projected alternating day schedule?

When an unexpected class day is missed, we will employ a Special Schedule the day after the missed class day. On this day, all six periods will meet. On the day following the Special Schedule day, we will return to the projected alternating day schedule and will not allow the change to ripple through the rest of the term (please see example hypothetical scenario below for a visual aid). This response to an unexpected missed class day provides some predictability for students and employees, while also ensuring that classes do not have long lapses between meetings and certain classes do not end up with significantly more class days than others do. Be sure to check the [Class Schedule Calendar](#) on the afternoon of a cancelled class day to see the next day's Special Schedule.

Projected Alternating Day Schedule	A Class Day is Missed	Day After Missed Class Day	Day Following the Special Schedule Day: "Return to Normal"
9/6: Periods 1/2/3 meet 9/7: Periods 4/5/6 meet 9/8: Periods 1/2/3 meet 9/9: Periods 4/5/6 meet 9/10: Periods 1/2/3 meet	<i>(Hypothetical scenario):</i> Head of School Day called on 9/6, classes are cancelled (check the Class Schedule Calendar the afternoon of a cancelled class day for details about tomorrow's schedule)	9/7: Special Schedule is followed, all six periods meet	9/8: Return to projected alternating day schedule (Periods 1/2/3 meet)

Why are there bells ringing periodically during the class day?

This school year, we will resume the use of bells during the class day. Bells ring at different times throughout the class day for different purposes to help students and faculty stay on time. Bells will sound for the following reasons:

- As a reminder that the class day is about to begin, a reminder bell will sound 5 minutes before the class day begins (generally at 8:25am)
- To signal the start of a period
- To signal the end of a period
- As a reminder a period is about to begin after a break between classes (e.g. at the end of Community Time, Lunch, School Meeting, etc.), a reminder bell will sound five minutes before the next period of the class day begins

Who do I contact if I have questions about the schedule?

Please email Ms. White in the Academic Affairs Office: hwhite@deerfield.edu.