



Class Schedule FAQ

2024-2025

How do the class periods work?

Class periods meet for 90 minutes on Monday–Tuesday and Thursday–Friday. Wednesday class periods meet for 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 from 10:05-10:50 on Monday, Thursday, and Friday. This is a 45-minute block when all students and faculty are not in class. During Monday'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 and Thursdays how they wish (for example, attend club meetings, attend counseling appointments, study, etc.).

What's Extra Help Time?

Teachers at Deerfield offer extra help outside of class through one-on-one sessions or regular cohort sessions with open questions. During the Extra Help time on Tuesdays, from 10:05-10:50, all teachers are available in a classroom or office space to provide extra help. Teachers are also available during at least one other time each week (students will find these additional times and locations on course Canvas pages).

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:

- A limited number of varsity co-curriculars may start their practices during Flex Time (3:30pm). Please contact your co-curricular supervisor or coach to see if this applies to you.
- 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?

The [Class Schedule Calendar](#) is a tool that helps 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 alternating day schedule for each term will be published on the calendar before the first class day of that term, and it is typically released following the below schedule:
 - Fall Term: Available Late August
 - Winter Term: Available Late October
 - Spring Term: Available Late February
- All Special Class Schedules will be detailed on the calendar. Some Special Schedule days will be listed as TBD, these will be noted on the calendar with the details we currently have available and will be updated as plans are finalized.
- To limit the volume of emails students and faculty receive, emails about changes to the originally published 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](#).
- 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 during the school year; it ensures that you arrive at the correct class, on the correct day, and at the correct time, **so be sure to check it often!**

Please note: At the start of each term, we strive to publish a calendar that is as accurate as possible, but changes to the originally published daily class schedule may be needed. Any changes will be communicated to the school community as soon as possible via the [Bulletin](#).

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 published alternating day schedule the next day, or does the disruption ripple throughout the rest of the term, changing the published alternating day schedule?

When a class day is missed unexpectedly due to a surprise day off (e.g., Head of School Day), we will continue to follow the originally published alternating day class schedule on the next class day. The surprise day off will not change the published alternating day schedule.

Why are there bells ringing periodically during the class day?

This school year, we will continue to use 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 8:25 am)
- 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 5 minutes before the next period of the class day begins.

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

Please email the Academic Affairs Office: academics@deerfield.edu.