



Dedworth
Middle School

Frequently Asked Questions

*What will my timetable be? Who will my teachers be?
Where will my lessons be?*

In Year 5 your lessons are mostly taught by the same teacher. That teacher is also known as your form tutor. This also means you will have most of your lessons in one classroom, much like you do in your first school.

Your form tutor will teach you for:

- English
- Maths
- Topic (which includes Science, History, Geography, Art and Music)
- RE

Lessons taught by other teachers are:

- PE (taught by our PE staff - Mr Lewis, Miss Perchard or Miss Swift)
- Computing (taught by Mr Taylor)
- French (taught by Mrs Stratton)
- Design Technology (taught by Miss Raz)

So, you only really need to know 4 other places around the school for different lessons. Don't worry, you won't have to find a different room for every subject. There is an example timetable at the end of these questions so you can see what time the day starts and what time break and lunch are too.

Where will my locker be? Can I stick stuff in my locker?

Every child who pays a deposit for their locker will be given one when they start in year 5. Luckily for us in Year 5, all our lockers are in our classrooms. This means you don't have to worry about finding your locker around school somewhere or being late to anything because you had to get to your locker first. The locker is big enough for your school bag, PE kit and a coat. To keep everything safe inside it is recommended that you use a padlock. You will need to purchase this yourself. We suggest buying a padlock that has a number combination instead of a key, if possible, as a number combination cannot be lost but a key can be. You are not allowed to stick things on the inside of your locker as it will be used by someone else each year.

Can I bring my own pencil case and equipment to school?

Yes - you will be expected to bring your own equipment to school every day. An equipment list will be sent to your parents so that you know what you will need. Any pencil case or equipment that is seen to be a distraction or too over the top may be taken away and given to you at the end of the day to take home. We recommend you only bring to school what is listed as too many items in your pencil case can take up too much working space on your desk.



Can I bring my mobile phone to school?

Seeing as some of you will be starting to walk to school by yourself or with friends, you can bring your mobile phone to school however it must be handed in to our safety storage box at main reception as soon as you arrive at school and can be collected from there at the end of the day just before you leave. The use of mobile phones within school is not allowed. Any mobile phones seen around school or known to be in bags/lockers during the school day will be collected by a member of staff and stored at reception until the end of the day.

Will I get homework?

You will get homework in Year 5. This will usually include:

- Reading for 20 mins each day
- Writing task
- Spellings
- Maths task



Homework is usually set on a Friday and must be handed in the following Friday. This gives you a week to complete your homework. If you do complete your homework you will earn house points. If you do not complete your homework you may be given extra time if your teacher thinks this is fair or you may have to complete it at school during your break time or lunch time.



What clubs are there?

We have many different clubs at DMS and these do change depending on the time of year. There are lots of sports clubs such as football, rugby, netball and basketball. There are also gym and dance clubs and most recently added was a cheerleading club. We also have lunchtime clubs such as computing club, art club and boards games club. These all have a different amount of children who are allowed to take part but it is usually between 20 and 30. You will find out what clubs are available at the beginning of each term and can sign up to join if you would like



Will I get lost? What do I do if I get lost?

The chances of getting lost are pretty low. You will probably feel like you don't know where anything is in your first week but you only need to know a few places around school during Year 5 anyway. During the first few weeks your form tutor will take you to the places you need to be to give you a chance to learn where they are without getting lost. There are also always going to be many other children and staff around the school who know where everything is, so if you do find you have gone the wrong way you can always ask someone to help you.



What can I do at break times and lunch times?

Year 5 and 6 have a playground that is just for them where Year 7 and 8 are not allowed to be during those times. There is a climbing frame and play equipment such as skipping ropes, balls and racquets that you can play with at break times. Year 5 and 6 are allowed to play football on the AstroTurf pitch on Tuesdays and Thursdays, if you want to do this you must bring and change into appropriate shoes though. There are also some lunchtime clubs that you can sign up to as well. If it is raining and we have wet break you must stay in your classroom where your teacher will tell you what you are allowed to do. This may be something like playing board games, drawing and colouring or watching a film.

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What are houses and how do they work?

Every child and member of staff at Dedworth Middle School is in a house. These are like teams and they are mostly used when we have competitions such as sports day or reading competitions. You can earn points for your house in lots of different ways and the winning house at the end of the year win the house trophy. You will be placed into a house when you start in Year 5. If you have an older sibling who is at DMS at the same time you are there you will be put in the same house as them. If you do not have a sibling your house will be chosen at random. Our houses are all named after famous explorers and are:

Armstrong
Earhart
Hilary

Johnson
Shackleton

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Will I get detention? What happens if I do something wrong?

We use a "traffic light" system in Year 5 to let you know if you have done something that is unacceptable but also to reward you when you behave well. This system will be explained in more detail when you start in September but it is very simple. Everyone starts each day on Green and if you do something you are not supposed to you get one warning. If you still do something you shouldn't you get put on Orange. This means you will have a conversation with your teacher about your behaviour during the next break time or end of the school day. If you still continue to misbehave you will be moved onto Red. If you are on Red you will have a lunch time detention the following day. If you are on Red for more than 2 days in a week you will have an after school detention. This very rarely happens! Your teachers want you to do well and will always help you to manage your behaviour as much as they can. You can also be moved up the traffic lights onto Silver and then Gold. These mean you get lots of house points!

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Example Timetable

Year 5 Timetable

	Registration 8.50 - 9.10	Lesson 1 9.15 - 10.05	Lesson 2 10.10 - 11.05		Lesson 3 11.25 - 12.20	Lesson 4 12.25 - 1.20		Registration 2.05 - 2.15	Lesson 5 2.20 - 3.15
Mon	Whole school assembly	Maths	English	Break 11.05 - 11.25	Topic	Computing	Lunch 1.20 - 2.05	Reg. Time	DT
Tue	Reg. Time	Maths	English		PE	Whole Class Reading		Reg. Time	Topic
Wed	Reg. Time	Maths	Maths		Grammar	French		Reg. Time	Topic
Thu	Reg. Time	Maths	English		Topic	PE		Assembly	Topic
Fri	Reg. Time	Maths	English		English	RE		Achievement assembly	Round Up