

New Features in *TimeTabler 2017*

Scheduling Groups which are Consistently Setted

Advanced Consistent Grouping

A new method now deals more efficiently with consistently-setted groups like these 4 examples:

1. A simple block, plus 2 sliding parts:

English-based groups:							Science-based groups:								
8A [30]	Mat	Eng 4	Fre 3	His 2	Art 1	Dr 1	RE. 1	Sd 3	Tec 2	Geo 2	Mus 1	PE. 1	PSE 2	Ga 2	ICT 1
8B [30]	Mat	Eng 4	Fre 3	His 2	Art 1	Dr 1	RE. 1	Sd 3	Tec 2	Geo 2	Mus 1	PE. 1	PSE 2	Ga 2	ICT 1
8C [30]	Mat	Eng 4	Fre 3	His 2	Art 1	Dr 1	RE. 1	Sd 3	Tec 2	Geo 2	Mus 1	PE. 1	PSE 2	Ga 2	ICT 1

2. Even 3 sliding parts:

English-based:					Science-setted:					Humanities-setted :					
8A [30]	Mat	Eng 4	Fre 3	Art 1	Dr 1	a	a	a	a	a	b	b	b	b	b
8B [30]	Mat	Eng 4	Fre 3	Art 1	Dr 1	a	a	a	a	a	b	b	b	b	b
8C [30]	Mat	Eng 4	Fre 3	Art 1	Dr 1	a	a	a	a	a	b	b	b	b	b

3. Smaller (independent) groups for Science:

Form-based or English-based:										Science-sets:					
9A [30]	Mat	Eng 3	Fre 3	His 2	Geo 2	PE. 1	Tec 2	RE. 1	Mus 1	Dr 1	PSE 1	Art 1	x	x	x
9B [30]	Mat	Eng 3	Fre 3	His 2	Geo 2	PE. 1	Tec 2	RE. 1	Mus 1	Dr 1	PSE 1	Art 1	x	x	x
9C [30]	Mat	Eng 3	Fre 3	His 2	Geo 2	PE. 1	Tec 2	RE. 1	Mus 1	Dr 1	PSE 1	Art 1	x	x	x
9D [30]	Mat	Eng 3	Fre 3	His 2	Geo 2	PE. 1	Tec 2	RE. 1	Mus 1	Dr 1	PSE 1	Art 1	x	x	x

4. Smaller 'practical' groups for S1 or S2:

Larger 'non-prac' groups:										Smaller 'practical' groups:					
S1A [32]	Mat	Ga	Eng 4	His 2	Spa 3	RE. 2	Geo 1	PSE 1	p	p	p	p	p	p	p
S1B [32]	Mat	Ga	Eng 4	His 2	Spa 3	RE. 2	Geo 1	PSE 1	p	p	p	p	p	p	p

For full details of how to set up and schedule the first 3 examples, and more, see the PDF in the Support Centre: [consistent grouping](#)

For full details of how to schedule S1, S2 efficiently (and S456), see: www.timetabler.com/scotland

This new method deals simply and very efficiently with all the examples in these two PDFs. (And so Container Blocks are now recommended only for Sixth Forms or more complicated examples.)

SuperBatches

The idea of the 'SuperBatch' has been improved so that rather than just a single SuperBatch, you can now select from six different possible representations of the curriculum (ie. six different SuperBatches), including creating & storing your own 'custom' sets of Batches.

(1) Select the SuperBatch

SuperBatch of Activities - Customize

Click on any SuperBatch below to make it the Current SuperBatch ... or click a button to view or edit its contents:

Fixed			Custom		
On the Schedule	Unlinked	Scheduled + Unlinked	Custom-1 My choices	Custom-2	Custom-3
<input type="button" value="View"/>	<input type="button" value="View"/>	<input type="button" value="View"/>	<input type="button" value="View or Edit"/>	<input type="button" value="View or Edit"/>	<input type="button" value="View or Edit"/>
The Batches linked to the Current Schedule	The Batches not linked to any Schedule	Batches on Current Schedule or Unlinked.	Choose your own Batches	Choose your own Batches	Choose your own Batches

The Current SuperBatch is in yellow - to choose a different one, click on it.

The first 3 are pre-fixed; the second 3 can be set up by you to be whatever combination you choose.

Whichever SuperBatch you select here, that is the one that is used for displaying the Statistics Screen, the Staff Loading Screen, the Combing Chart, the Conflict Matrix, etc.

Improved Exports

The exports to **SEEMiS** and to DoubleFirst **Engage** have been improved again, with the addition of new buttons for extra features. These new features are explained in the PDF which is available to download from the KnowledgeBase in the Support Centre.

[Read the latest instructions](#)

Exports to the Veracross MIS and to the ManageBac MIS have also now been added to **TimeTabler**.

Teaching Group Names (TGNs)



On the Curriculum Diagram Screen a new item allows you to print out your current TGNs to give to your MIS Manager, so that the MIS can be set up correctly to receive the import.



Export all current TGNs to show your MIS manager

You can now import Teaching Group Names (TGNs) from **Options** to **TimeTabler**, so that you can transfer the TGNs with the new option blocks, automatically.

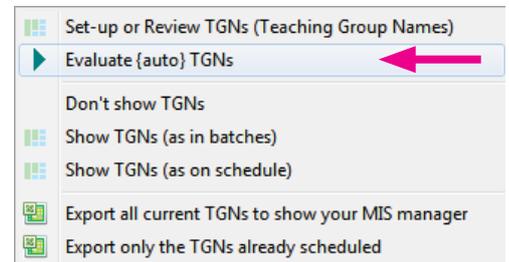
The Teaching Group Names Screen has been improved, with more 'Common formats' included.

You can now choose to include the TGNs on the Staff Proformas, so that Heads of Subject may recognise the groups better.

If you are using {auto} to automatically construct TGNs, it is now easier to see what the TGN will actually be.

Go to:

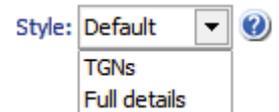
Curriculum Diagram Screen ➡ TGNs ➡ Evaluate {auto} TGNs to display the actual names instead of displaying {auto}.



Teacher-Inspector Screen



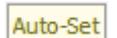
The Teacher-Inspector feature (on the Staff / Class / Room Timetable Screens) has been improved, so that (via the Style button) you can display extra information such as TGN, Set Label, Block Label.



Edit Details Screen : entering Set Numbers



On the Edit Details Screen (on the Staff / Class / Room Timetable Screens) it is now quicker to enter Set Labels, via the 'Auto-Set' button.

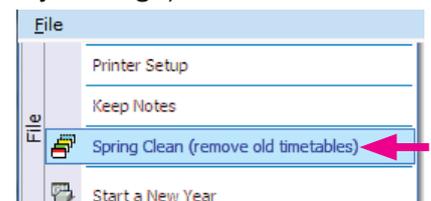


Spring-clean : Clean up old timetables

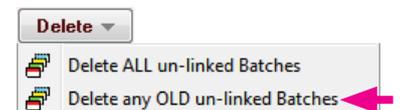
Some of our customers have now been using the Windows versions of **TimeTabler** for nearly 20 years, and some of them imported data from the DOS versions (released over 30 years ago) ... and so some schools now have 100s of Schedules and/or Batches stored.

This can slow down some screens a little ...but the data would be tedious to delete manually.

This new feature is at File ➡ Spring Clean (remove old timetables) and allows you to choose how far to go back. The default is 18 months, which will keep the data for this year and last year in most schools.



In addition if you think you may have old unlinked Batches (ie. they were never linked to a Schedule), you can now remove these too: go to Activities ➡ Activity Batches, click on 'Delete ➡ Delete any OLD unlinked Batches' and again choose the number of months you wish to go back.



Filtering Activities

On the Visual Builder Screen the very useful Filter has been improved, with extra items.

This Filter makes it easier to steer your way through a Batch, by showing the activities in stages so that you can prioritise them for scheduling.
 For example, scheduling Blocks first.



Print Screens

These have been improved with several new features, including easier selection of data to print, and two options when you click on 'Defaults': 'Standard' or 'Compact'.

You can also choose to omit specific periods from your timetable printout, by going to: Check & Tidy ➡ Edit Day & Period Labels and then entering *D on Line1 of the Label for the periods you wish to omit.

Junior-Senior School timetables with different period-timings

The PDF in the KnowledgeBase in the Support Centre explains how to schedule two schools with shared staff.

This new feature allows you to view a Combined View of your 2 (or 3) schedules – this will show you what each teacher is doing through the week, in a single Excel file. This then allows you to check that every teacher has a lunch break, etc.

Ensure that all your periods have timings specified for them (at Check & Tidy ➡ Edit Day & Period labels ➡ Period Times), and then go to Schedule Menu ➡ Combined Timeline View (of 2 Schedules).

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	Combined Timeline View for Laura No										
2	19/01/2017										
3											
4	Monday										
5	This shows 2 or more Schedules on a single timeline										
6											
7											
8	hour:		9								
9	min:	55	00	05	10	15	20	25	30	35	40
10	JHa	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
11	JM		A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
12	FHi	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B		
13	JV		A	A	A	A	A	A	A		
14	VH										
15	AHa	b	b	b	b	b	b	b	b		
16	IAA										

Symbol	Meaning:
A	In this period, this teacher is busy teaching a lesson on the first schedule that you selected.
a	In this period, this teacher is unavailable on the first schedule you selected.
B	In this period, this teacher is busy teaching a lesson on the second schedule that you selected.
b	In this period, this teacher is unavailable on the second schedule you selected.

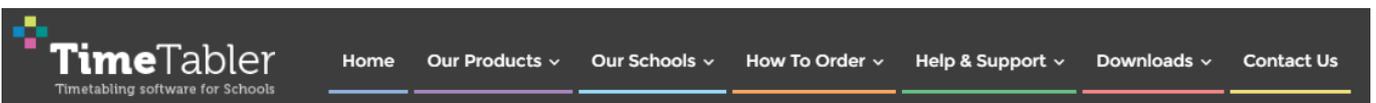
New web-site

We have updated our web-site so that it is more friendly, especially when viewed on phones & tablets.

www.timetabler.com



QR code for your tablet or phone



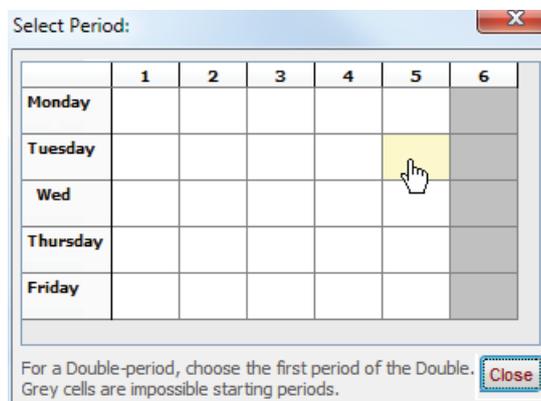
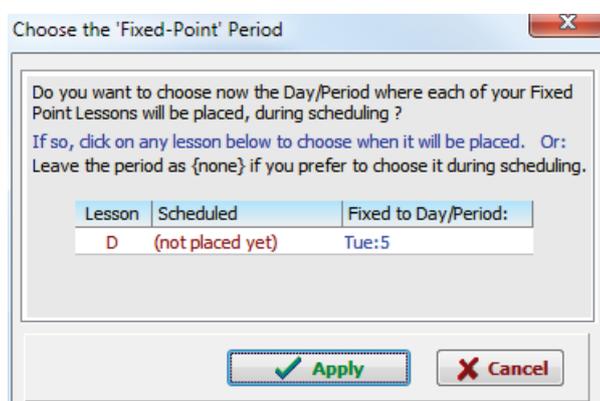
For news of Upgrades and how to order them, click on this Menu

Fixed points : entering and scheduling them

There is now an extra way to enter your Fixed Points (eg. Year 11 Games must be on Tuesday afternoon). While you are entering activities into your Fixed Points Batch (using the wizards) you are now offered the choice to **pre-specify** which periods they must be scheduled to.

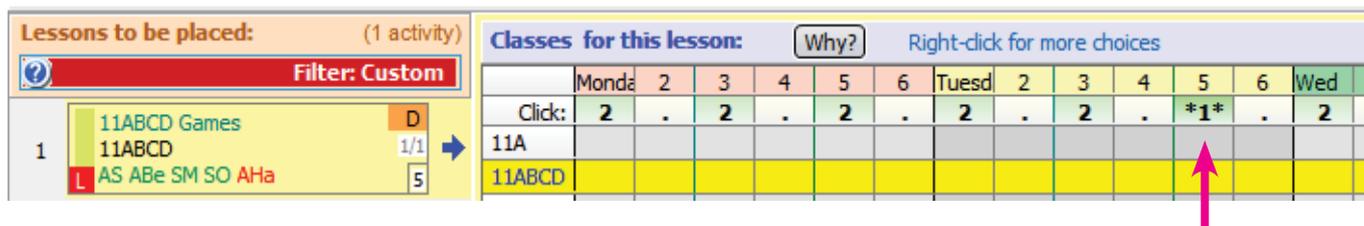
In this example the simple block wizard has been used to enter a block of Games (for 11ABCD) and now we are being given the chance to specify where it should be placed when we get to the scheduling stage.

Here we are saying the Double-period of Games should begin on Tuesday-period-5:



Period-6 is shown in grey, and is not selectable, as a Double-period cannot start in period-6 of a 6-period day.

Later, when you get to the scheduling stage on the Visual Builder Screen, you'll see:



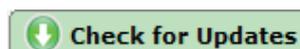
You can see that **TimeTabler** has pre-selected Tuesday-5 for you ...so if you just press <F2> to run Semi-Automatically, then the Games lesson (and any other Fixed Points) will be fitted immediately.

Other news

- The free **Gold-Start** Support for New purchasers continues, and in addition New timetablers in existing schools can now purchase this enhanced support. Details at: <http://www.timetabler.com/gold-start> and on the Upgrade Order Form.

- If you have your own ideas for the WishList, please send them to us.

- There will be further free updates during February & March (for example, to update exports to some MIS), so please use 'Check for Updates' regularly".



- The HelpScreens have been updated, and some HelpMovies have been updated.



Please remember : **before** starting your next New timetable, look **first** at the HelpMovie entitled :

8.	Tidying-up last year's data, ready to do a New timetable (How to re-use your data efficiently. Promote, Clone, & Rename batches.)	14 min	15MB
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