# **New Features in Options 2025**

# **Shuffle: Log of Changes**

After using Shuffle (in Current Pattern → Tools) to move individual students between groups on your Tools:

Pattern:

✓ Shuffle

... you can now see a log of the changes. Just click on Review then Review changes (Print) or

Review changes (Excel):

<b>■ Review ▼</b>				
	Review changes (Print)			
	Review changes (Excel)			
	Clear / Restart log			

Date	Time	Student	Step	Choice	From	To	New size
28/10/24	16:09	Daniel Flowers	1	Fo	A-4	B-5	23
			2	Gg	D-5	A-5	10
			3	Fr	B-4	C-2	24
			4	Art	C-4	D-4	19
28/10/24	16:09	Paul Hurst	1	Fr	B-4	C-2	25
			2	Fo	A-4	B-5	24
			3	Art	C-4	D-4	20
			4	Gg	D-5	A-5	11

Please note, 'New size' is the Group size immediately after that student moved into the Group. You can clear the log at any time, if you only want to see the changes from now on, via **Review** then Clear / Restart log.

## **Improved Exports to Excel**

All the exports to Excel have been improved so that:

The colours in the Excel file are now the same as the colour in the software.

For example, at Print Pattern Design Export to Excel

you now see subject colours in the Excel file:

Block A		Block B		Block C		Block D	
IT	39 (-1)	PE	18	De	24	Dr	13 (-1)
Mu	18 (-1)	Hi	15	Gra	16 (-1)	Te	16
Fo	24	Fo	16	Sp	17 (-1)	Fr	18
CD	19	Fr	33	Fr	12	IT	34 (-1)
		Art	15	Gg	11	Gg	20

# **Recently Viewed Patterns**

The patterns you have viewed or worked on most recently are displayed at the bottom of the opening screen and present the information more clearly including the number of students missing a choice (they show in brackets as a negative number). Any flag you have put against the pattern in the Pattern Library is also shown and there are two extra colours: orange and purple:



continued...

## **Review & Counsel : Student Inspector**

If you want to look at a particular student and can't easily find him/her, you can now ask **Options** to find them.

Click on **Find** (top-left of the screen) and enter the start of the student's forename or surname (as many letters as you wish):



# **Pattern Library: Flags**

Any flags you have selected / turned on, are now square rather than circular and you are reminded on

the right-hand-side:



## **Clash Table: Improvements**

i) **Gender Bias** monitoring is now more prominent, in a new section:



To allow the selection of Show Girls/Boys, first endable the tracking of Sex/Gender by going to Customize Record Sex/Gender

ii) Using **Compact** the program will now try to autosize rows and columns to make them as small as possible. This is useful if you have lots of subjects and are struggling to see them all on one screen:



#### **Miscellaneous**

including features added late into Options 2024, taken from requests to the WishList.

Current Pattern: TGNs → Import student assignments has been improved so that it doesn't require one line per student; your students can be on separate lines.

**Import Students & Choices**: improvements have been made to the logic it uses for matching.

#### Swap-in reserves:

- i) no longer swaps-in a reserve of Free.
- ii) improvements have been made to the pop-up reports.

**Insist on 1st Choice :** now obeys the Strict rules better.

#### Other news

- The free Gold-Start Support for New purchasers continues, and in addition Users in existing schools can purchase this enhanced support, or Gold-Start PLUS.
  - Details at: www.timetabler.com/gold-start and on the Upgrade Order Form.
- The HelpScreens have been updated.
- Free Timetabling & Options booklets are available at: www.timetabler.com/timetabling-ebooks/
- If you have your own ideas for the WishList, please send them to us.