

MEDIA RELEASE

September 02<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

Dear Editor / Head of Department,

Reopening of All ECCE, Primary and Secondary Schools for the new Academic Year 2024/25

The Ministry of Education wishes to advise that all ECCE, Primary, and Secondary Schools are open for the 2024/25 academic year. This includes 143 Government & Government Assisted and 57 SERVOL ECCE Centres, 452 Primary and 125 Secondary Schools in Trinidad, which have resumed operations to welcome students back to their classrooms.

Principals and teachers returned to their respective schools on Thursday, August 29th, and Friday, August 30th, to finalize classroom arrangements and ensure a smooth transition for students on their first day of school.

Partial Returns Due to Ongoing Repairs:

St. George's College: Orientation for Forms 1 and 2 will take place over the next two days. The school is fully prepared to welcome the other forms, with classrooms cleaned and ready. Minor repacking is still ongoing in the Staff Room, Art Room, and a few specialty rooms.

Holy Faith Convent, Penal: Due to ongoing roof repairs, Forms 2 and 3 will rotate attendance for the next two weeks. All other Forms are expected to attend school as scheduled.

The Ministry's July-August repair program addressed several critical infrastructure needs, enabling the safe resumption of school activities. As is usual, repair works continue at over 60 schools, with additional projects set to begin in September, and as becomes necessary during the school year. These projects required additional funding to be allocated to the Ministry, as the annual budgetary allocation for emergency repairs was exceeded by May, 2024, due to the volume of repairs required at schools.

The Ministry also confirms that PTSC transport services and school meal programs commenced today, ensuring that students have access to essential services from the first day of the term.

The Ministry of Education remains committed to ensuring modern, relevant, quality, equitable education for all, and wishes our students, teachers and parents a productive and enjoyable Academic Year 2024/25!

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