



MEDIA RELEASE

May 12, 2025

Dear Editor / Head of Department,

Ministry of Education Expresses Concern Over Shooting of Student

The Ministry of Education expresses concern and condemns the shooting incident, which has left Zwade Alleyne, a Form Five (5) student of the Arima North Secondary School hospitalized. The incident occurred on the night of Saturday May 10th 2025 in the East Maloney Gardens area.

According to Police reports, Zwade, a seventeen-year-old student, was socializing with friends near the apartment building when unidentified individuals opened fire on the group. While others managed to flee, Zwade was unfortunately struck by a bullet and was subsequently transported to the Arima Hospital. He was later transferred to the Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex (Mt. Hope Hospital) where he remains in critical condition.

Dr. the Honourable Michael Dowlath, Minister of Education, has strongly condemned the incident, stating: *"This act of violence against one of our nation's youth is deeply troubling and wholly unacceptable. Our prayers are with Zwade and his family during this extremely difficult time."*

Zwade Alleyne is currently undertaking the Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC) examinations. Considering the existing circumstances, the Ministry of Education will facilitate his re-registration for the May/June 2026 examination period at no cost to his family. Minister Dowlath is assuring the family that the Ministry stands ready to provide psychosocial support to the student's peers and school staff, through its Student Support Services Division.

END

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