



## MEDIA RELEASE

August 11, 2025

Dear Editor / Head of Department

### School Year Calendar Revised – Longer July/August Vacation From 2025

Students and teachers will enjoy a longer July/August vacation starting in the 2025/2026 academic year, following Cabinet's approval of the Ministry of Education's recommendation to revise the school year calendar.

From 2025, the July/August break will be extended from seven (7) to eight (8) weeks, while maintaining the full 39 weeks of instructional time across three terms:

School Term	Beginning	Ending	Weeks
Term I	September 8, 2025	December 12, 2025	14 weeks
Term II	January 5, 2026	March 27, 2026	12 weeks
Term III	April 13, 2026	July 10, 2026	13 weeks

### Why the Change?

- **Better Term Balance:** The revised calendar achieves a more balanced distribution of weeks across the three terms (14-12-13), compared to the previous 15-12-12 arrangement.
- **Efficient Infrastructure Works:** The extended vacation provides an uninterrupted eight-week period for repairs and upgrades at 278 educational facilities across Trinidad, including ECCE Centres, Primary and Secondary Schools, under the Vacation Repair Programme.
- **Staffing Preparedness:** The additional week allows the Ministry to fill teacher and administrative vacancies before the start of the new term.

Minister of Education, Dr. the Honourable Michael Dowlath, indicated that:

*"This adjustment supports examination readiness, infrastructure upgrades, and staffing needs — all without reducing teaching time. Our priority remains delivering quality education in safe, well-maintained learning environments."*

The revised calendar will take effect from September 2025 and has been circulated to all schools.

The Ministry of Education remains committed to keeping stakeholders informed and ensuring a well-prepared and efficient commencement of the new school year.

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