Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Education

MEDIA RELEASE

11 November 2026

Dear Editor / Head of Department,

Advancing Arrangements for Continued Learning at Canaan Presbyterian Primary School

The Ministry of Education (MOE) continues to implement measures to support the uninterrupted delivery of education at Canaan Presbyterian Primary School, following a fire on 16 October 2026.

The Ministry has facilitated alternative arrangements for teaching and learning while working collaboratively with relevant stakeholders and government agencies to advance the school's rehabilitation and the phased resumption of face-to-face classes.

As part of its immediate response, the Ministry facilitated alternative accommodation for the Standard Five classes at the Canaan Presbyterian Church. This arrangement allows students preparing for the Secondary Entrance Assessment (SEA) to continue receiving face-to-face instruction while rehabilitation arrangements are being pursued.

Students from Infant One to Standard Four continue to participate in asynchronous learning activities as part of the Ministry's interim arrangements. To support curriculum delivery, the Ministry, through the Teacher Education Performance and Professional Development Division (TEPPDD), facilitated Student Learning Management System (SLMS) training for all teachers, strengthening their capacity to deliver instruction and engage students through digital learning platforms. These efforts are complemented by arrangements to provide the necessary technological resources to strengthen teaching and learning.

Concurrently, the Ministry is coordinating with the relevant technical authorities and government agencies to assess the condition of the school's facilities and determine the scope of rehabilitation works required. These assessments will guide the necessary remedial interventions, including specialist cleaning, electrical safety inspections and structural works, where required, to facilitate the safe reoccupation of the affected facilities. Upon completion and review of the relevant assessments, the

Ministry will advance the necessary requests to the Ministry of Public Utilities for the implementation of the required restoration or reconstruction works.

The Ministry remains committed to prioritising the safety and well-being of students, teachers and staff while ensuring that educational opportunities are maintained throughout this period. Continued collaboration with the school's administration, the Presbyterian Primary Schools Board of Education, parents and other stakeholders will be central to supporting the school community and facilitating the safe and orderly return to face-to-face instruction.

The Ministry will provide further updates as the assessment and rehabilitation processes progress and arrangements for the phased resumption of classes are finalised.

END

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