Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Education

MEDIA RELEASE

16 October 2026

Dear Editor / Head of Department,

Update Following Reported Fire at Canaan Presbyterian School

The Ministry of Education continues to work closely with relevant stakeholders following a reported fire at Canaan Presbyterian School, Duncan Village, San Fernando. No students or staff were on the school compound at the time of the incident.

On Friday 16 October 2026, the Ministry of Education, in collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service (TTFS), the National Maintenance Training and Security Company Ltd (MTS), the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (T&TEC), and the Presbyterian Primary Schools' Board of Education (PPSBE), advanced a coordinated approach to chart the way forward, prioritising the necessary assessments, appropriate interventions, and arrangements to facilitate the safe resumption of school operations.

The Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service is currently conducting a comprehensive assessment of the school compound, with a detailed report expected by Wednesday 21 October 2026. As a precautionary measure, access to the school compound will remain restricted pending the necessary clearance from the Fire Service.

In the interim, the Ministry, in collaboration with the school's administration and the PPSBE, is coordinating alternative arrangements to minimise disruption to students' education. A structured programme is being developed to facilitate the distribution of schoolwork and continued academic engagement from Monday 19 October to Wednesday 21 October 2026.

Parents and guardians will be advised of these arrangements through the school's established communication channels.

The Ministry of Education remains committed to safeguarding the welfare of all students and staff while ensuring that the necessary measures are undertaken to facilitate the safe resumption of normal school operations at the earliest opportunity.

Further updates will be communicated as information becomes available.

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Communications Unit
Ministry of Education
corporate.communication@moe.gov.tt
622-2181 Ext 1425, 1433