



PRIORITY

"Every Child Can Learn... Every Child Must Learn"

Schools' Bulletin

**ATTENTION: REGIONAL DIRECTORS, SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRMEN AND PRINCIPALS
OF ALL PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

**SUBJECT: POSTPONEMENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSESSMENTS AT THE PRIMARY
LEVEL AND CANCELLATION OF GRADE NINE ACHIEVEMENT TEST**

Dear Colleagues,

Pursuant to a series of consultations with our key stakeholders and consultant psychometricians concerning the administration of the 2021 sitting of Primary Exit Profile (PEP) 4 and 5 assessments, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information (MoEYI) has taken the decision to postpone all the remaining national assessments at the primary level until the latter half of the Christmas Term of the upcoming academic year 2021/2022. These assessments include the following:

1. Grade Three Diagnostic Test
2. Grade 4 Performance Tasks
3. Grade 5 Performance Tasks

Based on this decision, effective **Monday, May 31, 2021** Boards of Management/principals of schools that have been approved by the Ministry of Health and Wellness as COVID-19 compliant, should ensure that all Grades 4 & 5 students are scheduled for face to face instruction in preparation for their examinations. School administrators should use a whole day/rotational approach based on resources available (space, staffing etc.) to facilitate the inclusion of face-to-face engagement for students sitting the 2021 PEP examinations. This means that only a subset of each cohort of students should be at school each day while others will work remotely. No more than 50% of each cohort should be at school at the same time. Schools with total enrolment of 120 or below can schedule their full cohort daily. Boards of Management/principals of secondary schools that are COVID-19 compliant should continue offering in-person learning for students sitting exit examinations.

Grade 6 students should continue to operate using the remote/distance learning programme. All students who deferred the sitting of the Grade 6 PEP for 2021 along with those in Grade 5 will be required to sit the Grade 5 Performance Tasks at the date to be announced in the new school year.

Cancellation of the Grade Nine Achievement Test (GNAT)

The Grade Nine Achievement Test has been cancelled for 2021. All students registered to sit the GNAT, will be placed in schools that are in proximity to their home address and/or attending school consistent with the approach used in June 2020.

For additional Information, please contact Mrs. Terry Ann Thomas Gayle via email at terryann.thomas@moey.gov.jm or by telephone at 876 455-3003.

Dr. Kasan Troupe, JP
Chief Education Officer (Acting)

-----May 28, 2021-----

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