



MINISTRY OF  
EDUCATION & YOUTH

# PRIORITY

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

## Schools' Bulletin

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

**SUBJECT: CALENDAR OF SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024**

**Dear Colleagues,**

In accordance with the provisions of Regulation 7 of the Education Regulations 1980, the Honourable Minister of Education and Youth has specified the following school terms and periods within which school holidays may be allowed in the school year 2023/2024.

The school year shall run from the 1st September of each year to the 31st August of the following year.

The school year shall be divided into three terms, that is to say -

- (a) the first term, which shall begin on 1<sup>st</sup> September and end on 31<sup>st</sup> December;
- (b) the second term, which shall begin on 1<sup>st</sup> January and end on 30<sup>th</sup> April; and
- (c) the third term, which shall begin on 1<sup>st</sup> May and end on 31<sup>st</sup> August.

However, the first school day in each term shall be the first Monday of that term, except when that day is a public holiday, in which event the first school day shall be the day next following which is not a public holiday.

### **School Days per School Term Guided by the minimum 190 Contact Days**

1. The first/CHRISTMAS TERM of the school year will commence on **Monday, SEPTEMBER 4, 2023** and the last school day for the term is **Tuesday, DECEMBER 19, 2023**. The Christmas Holidays will be, Wednesday, December 20, 2023 to Sunday, January 7, 2024.

**School will officially resume from Christmas Holidays on Monday, January 08, 2024.**

2. The second/EASTER TERM of the school year will commence on **Monday, January 8, 2024** and end on **Friday, April 30, 2024**. Easter Holidays will begin on **Thursday, March 28, 2024** and end on **Friday, April 5, 2024**.

**School will officially resume from Easter holidays on Monday, April 8, 2024.**

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

July 28, 2023

3. The third/SUMMER TERM of the school year will commence on **Monday, April 8, 2024** and end on **Friday, July 5, 2024**. Summer Holidays will begin **Monday, July 8, 2023 to Sunday, September 1, 2024**.

**The first school day of the 2024/2025 School Year begins Monday, September 2, 2024.**

**The following dates are suggested for Mid-Term Holidays:**

**CHRISTMAS TERM** (National Heroes Day Mid-term) - October 12 -16, 2023

**School resumes Tuesday, October 17, 2023**

**EASTER TERM** (Ash Wednesday Mid-term) - February 12 -14, 2024

**School resumes Thursday, February 16, 2024**

**SUMMER TERM** (Labour Day Mid-term) – May 22-24, 2024

**School resumes Monday, May 27, 2024**

Breakdown of total teaching and learning days for the school year

School Terms	Teaching Days Per Term
Christmas Term	74
Easter Term	72
Summer Term	45
<b>Total Days for the School Year</b>	<b>191</b>

**Informal Co-Curriculum Days included in the 191 Contact Days**

Informal Day	# of Days
Carol Service	1
Jamaica Day	1
Sports Day(s)	1 or 2
Graduation Day	1
Heritage Day	1
Child's Day	1
Read Across Jamaica Day	1
Orientation Day(s)	1-3
Career Day(s)	1-2
Teachers' Day	1
Internal Examination Days	24
Founders Day/School Spirit Day	
Field Trip	
Study Leave and External Examination Period for Grades 11-13 (optional)	April – June

Given the plethora of co-curricular activities, efforts should be made to maximize and complement teaching and learning episodes with the use of technology (asynchronous learning, Google Classroom etc.).

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*Chief Education Officer (Acting)*

----- July 28, 2023 -----

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

<b>National Heroes Day</b>	Monday, October 16, 2023	<b>Good Friday</b>	Friday, March 29, 2024
<b>Christmas Day</b>	Monday, December 25, 2023	<b>Easter Monday</b>	Monday, April 1, 2024
<b>Boxing Day</b>	Tuesday, December 26, 2023	<b>Labour Day</b>	Thursday, May 23, 2024
<b>New Year's Day</b>	Monday, January 1, 2024	<b>Emancipation Day</b>	Thursday, August 1, 2024
<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	Wednesday, February 14, 2024	<b>Independence Day</b>	Tuesday, August 6, 2024

## MINISTRY OF EDUCATION and YOUTH PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

### TEACHERS' IN-SERVICE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (SUMMER):

<b>Primary School Teachers</b>	July 17 - 28, 2023
<b>Secondary School Teachers</b>	August 8 - August 18, 2023
<b>CHRISTMAS TERM</b>	Thursday, October 12, 2023
<b>EASTER TERM</b>	Monday, February 12, 2024
<b>SUMMER TERM</b>	Wednesday, May 22, 2024

Please note the following dates for the national and external examinations/assessments:

<b>Examination</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Jamaica Student Readiness Assessment (Age 4 Assessment)	<b>June 12 – 24, 2024</b>
Grade One Individual Learning Profile (GOILP)	<b>August 26 – September 23, 2024</b>
Grade Three Diagnostic Test	<b>May 29 – 30, 2024</b>
Grade 4 PEP Performance Tasks	Literacy (morning) and Language Arts Performance Task Test (afternoon) – <b>June 19, 2024</b>  Numeracy (morning) and Mathematics Performance Task Test (afternoon) – <b>June 20, 2024</b>
Grade 5 PEP Performance Tasks	Language Arts Performance Task Test (morning) and Science

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Examination	Dates
	Performance Tasks Test (afternoon) – <b>June 5, 2024</b>  Mathematics Performance Task Test (morning) and Social Studies Performance Task Test (afternoon) – <b>June 6, 2024</b>
Primary Exit Profile (PEP) Ability Test (Grade 6)	<b>February 22, 2024</b>
Primary Exit Profile (PEP) Performance Tasks (Grade 6)	Language Arts Performance Task Test - <b>March 20, 2024</b>  Mathematics Performance Task Test – <b>March 21, 2024</b>
Primary Exit Profile (PEP) Curriculum Based Tests (Grade 6)	Language Arts (morning) and Science (afternoon) – <b>April 24, 2024</b>  Mathematics (morning) and Social Studies (afternoon) – <b>April 25, 2024</b>
Grade Nine Achievement Tests	<b>May 9, 2024</b>
Vocational School Leaving Certificate Examination (VCLCE)	<b>June 11 – 21, 2024</b>
Jamaica School Certificate (JSC)	<b>July 9 – 12, 2024</b>

#### CXC Registration & Examinations – 2024

The dates are predicated on normal examination cycles for both January and May/June. These are therefore subject to change. Also, all schools should peruse eTesting as the preferred method of assessment in the 2024 sitting.

EXAMINATION	DATES
<b>CSEC (January 2024)</b>	<i>Registration:</i> August 15, 2023 to October 21, 2023  <i>Examination Dates:</i> January 03 - 30, 2024
<b>CSEC (June 2024)</b>	<i>Registration:</i> October 01, 2023 to November 27, 2023  <b><i>Draft Examination Dates:</i></b> April 15, 2024, to June 14, 2024
<b>CAPE (June 2024)</b>	<i>Registration:</i> October 01, 2023 to November 27, 2023  <b><i>Draft Examination Dates:</i></b> April 15, 2024, to June 21, 2024
<b>CVQ (June 2024)</b>	<i>Registration:</i> September 01, 2023 to January 20, 2024  <b><i>Draft Assessment Deadline:</i></b> Coursework to be uploaded May 01 to June 09, 2024  <i>The Online Registration System (ORS) opens for submission of completed units.</i>

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## City and Guilds Workshops and Examination Dates

Category	Event	Date
Exam Date	City & Guilds Diagnostic Test Day	Thursday, 14 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
Workshop	Math Skills Online Workshop [Zoom]	Tuesday, 19 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
Workshop	English Skills Online Workshop [Zoom]	Thursday, 21 <sup>st</sup> September 2023
Workshop	Skills Proficiency Awards Online Workshop [Zoom]	Tuesday, 26 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
Workshop	Customer Service Workshop	Tuesday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2023
Deadline	<b>Deadline for submission of Diagnostic Exam grades to Regional Office</b>	<b>Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b>
Timeline	<b>Deadline to submit MoEY Subsidy Documents to the City &amp; Guilds Rep. Office</b>	<b>Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup> 2023</b>
Deadline	<b>Timeline for Math &amp; English registration for June 2024 Exams</b>	<b>Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup> - Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> 2023</b>
Deadline	<b>Deadline for submission of Skills Proficiency Awards to Rep. Office</b>	<b>Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b>
Deadline	Deadline for Completion of Math & English Amendments	Friday, 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2024
Exam Date	Practice Exam Day	Thursday, 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
<b>Exam Date</b>	<b>Examination Date for Speaking &amp; Listening</b>	<b>Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024- Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b>
Deadline	Deadline for Submission of Speaking & Listening Grades	Friday, 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2024
Exam Date	<b>Math Skills @9 am</b>	<b>Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024</b>
Exam Date	<b>English Skills @ 9 am</b>	<b>Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024</b>
Exam Date	<b>Customer Service @ 1pm</b>	<b>Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024</b>
Timeline	Assessment of Skills Proficiency Awards (Verification Process)	Monday, 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2024- Friday, 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2024

### The following outlines the NCTVET Registration, Assessment and Certification

#### Timelines:

Assessment Period	Application Deadline	Verification of Candidacy	Assessment Dates	Release of Assessment Results	Issuance of Certificates
<b>November</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday of: June	Verification of candidacy must be done by the institution within 5 days of receipt	Nov. 13 - Dec 1, 2023	40 days after the last sitting of the assessment	1 month after the release of the assessment results
<b>February</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday of: September		Feb. 12 – March 1, 2024		
<b>June</b>	November 30 <sup>th</sup>		June 2024	65 days after the last sitting of the assessment	2 months after the release of the assessment results

Attention is drawn to Regulation 7 (3) of the Education Regulations 1980, which makes it obligatory for every Educational Institution to meet for not less than One Hundred and Ninety (190) days in every school year. Chairmen of School Boards are asked to inform the Ministry of any variation of dates on which their schools will close for each term, with justification and plans to recover the teaching time.

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Please note that schools are expected to remain open during all examinations, except for cases where space is a challenge and in these cases the Regional Education Officers should be informed. Plans must be made to recover the teaching time for the students affected by this discussion.

*\*Please be reminded that the dates are subject to change due to any extenuating circumstances.*

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