

## Priority

“Every Child Can Learn... Every Child Must Learn”

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# Schools' Bulletin

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

**SUBJECT: CALENDAR OF SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2015-2016**

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Colleagues,

In accordance with the provisions of Regulations 7 of the Education Regulations 1980, the Honourable Minister of Education has specified the following school terms and periods within which school holidays may be allowed in the school year 2015/2016.

1. The first/CHRISTMAS TERM of the school year will commence on **Monday, SEPTEMBER 7, 2015** and end on **Friday DECEMBER 18, 2015**. Christmas Holidays will be Monday December 21, 2015 to Friday January 1, 2016.

2. The second/EASTER TERM of the school year will commence on **Monday, JANUARY 4, 2016** and end on **Friday March 18, 2016**. Easter Holidays will be Monday March 21, 2016 to Friday April 1, 2016.

3. The third/SUMMER TERM of the school year will commence on **Monday, APRIL 4, 2016** and end on **Friday JULY 8, 2016**. Summer Holidays will be Monday July 11, 2016 to Wednesday August 31, 2016.

**The 2016/2017 School Year begins Monday, September 5, 2016**

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

**CHRISTMAS TERM** Friday, October 16, 2015

**EASTER TERM** Thursday, February 11, 2016

**SUMMER TERM** Thursday, May 19, 2016

*Grace McLean PhD*  
*Chief Education Officer*

-----June 25, 2015-----

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

National Heroes Day	Monday, October 19, 2015	Good Friday	Friday, March 25, 2016
Christmas Day	Friday, December 25, 2015	Easter Monday	Monday, March 28, 2016
Boxing Day	Saturday, December 26, 2015	Labour Day	Monday, May 23, 2016
New Year's Day	Friday, January 1, 2016	Emancipation Day	Monday, August 1, 2016
Ash Wednesday	Wednesday, February 10, 2016	Independence Day	Saturday, August 6, 2016

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

TEACHERS' IN-SERVICE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (SUMMER):

Primary School Teachers                      July 6-17, 2015

Secondary School Teachers                      August 10-12, 2015

CHRISTMAS TERM    Thursday, October 15, 2015

EASTER TERM    Friday February 12, 2016

SUMMER TERM    Friday, May 20, 2016

Please note the following dates for examinations:

EXAMINATION DATES

Examinations	Dates
Grade One Individual Learning Profile	August 25, 2015 – September 11, 2015
Grade Six Achievement Tests	March 17 & 18, 2016
Grade Nine Achievement Tests	May 13, 2016
ASTEP Test	May 13, 2016
Grade Four Literacy and Numeracy Tests	June 28 & 29, 2016
Vocational School Leaving Certificates Examinations (VSLCE)	June 13 – 24, 2016
Grade Three Diagnostic Tests	June 7 – 8, 2016
Jamaica School Certificate (JSC)	July 4 – 7, 2016
CSEC (January)	<b>Registration:</b> August 15, 2015 – September 25, 2015

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-----June 25, 2015-----  
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Examinations	Dates
	<b>Examination Dates:</b> January 4 –January 19, 2016
CSEC (June)	<b>Registration:</b> September 25 – November 25, 2015 <b>Examination Dates:</b> April 15 –June 10, 2016
CAPE	<b>Registration:</b> September 25 – November 25, 2015 <b>Examination Dates:</b> April 15 –June 10, 2016
CCSLC	<b>Registration:</b> September 25 – January 25, 2016 <b>Examination Dates:</b> June 13 – June 15, 2016
CVQ	<b>Registration:</b> September 1 - December 31, 2016 <b>Examination Dates:</b> May 1 – June 15, 2016 Online Registration System opens for submission of completed units. June 15 –June 25, 2016 Schools should submit the following documents to the Overseas Examinations Commissions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• External Verifiers Report</li> <li>• Internal Assessors' Report</li> <li>• Achievement Sheets</li> <li>• Candidates' Portfolio Completion Form</li> </ul>
NVQJ	<b>Registration deadline:</b> November 30, 2015 <b>Examination Dates:</b> June 13 - July 8, 2016
City and Guilds	<b>Examination Dates:</b> December 10, 2015 <b>Registration deadline:</b> October 26, 2015 <b>Examination Dates:</b> June 16, 2016 <b>Registration deadline:</b> December 14, 2015

*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.*

*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.*

*\*Dates are subject to change due to any extenuating circumstances.*

**Grace McLean PhD**  
Chief Education Officer

-----June 25, 2015-----  
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