



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of the Secretary

Date: 14/01/2025

PRESS STATEMENT

Resumption of the 2025 Academic Year for schools and institutions under the National Education System

The Secretary for Education, Dr. Uke Kombra has announced the important dates for the 2025 academic year, including for the term and holidays, the national examinations and the public holidays.

Dr. Kombra also announced that Term 2 holiday will be one week and Term 3 will have two weeks.

“This change was requested by the Government to ensure that the country's 50th Golden Jubilee Independence celebrations in September happened during school holidays so that there is no disturbance to the education of our children and also so that our students and teachers have the opportunity to be part of the celebrations,” the Secretary said.

Below are the term dates and holidays for 2025:

TERM	START OF TERM	END OF TERM	NO. OF TEACHING WEEKS	TERM HOLIDAYS
1	Monday, January 27	Friday, April 04	10	Monday, April 7 – Friday, April 11
2	Monday, April 14	Friday, June 20	10	Monday, June 23 – Friday, June 27
3	Monday, June 30	Friday, September 5	10	Monday, September 8 – Friday, September 19
4	Monday, September 22	Friday, December 05	11	Monday, December 8 - Friday, January 23, 2026

Term 1 will begin for teachers, principals and heads of all institutions on **Monday, January 20th, 2025**, and students will resume classes on **Monday, January 27th, 2025**.

Teachers and heads of schools and institutions in the General Education System are expected to resume a week early for enrolment purposes and to prepare lessons for the students to begin a full day of teaching and learning on Monday, January 27th, 2025.

"I expect all teachers in all schools and institutions under the National Education System to resume duty on Monday, January 20th, 2025 to prepare for students to start on Monday, January 27th, 2025," Dr. Kombra said.

Upon resumption by teachers on Monday, January 20th, all teachers are to fill and complete the Resumption of Duty Summary Sheets (RoDSS).

Dr. Kombra also advised that teachers who have relocated to a new school during the year or have changed their position in a school must complete the EDB023 form. All RoDSS and EDB023 forms must then be sent immediately to the Provincial Education Authorities after completion.

Dr. Kombra also announced the dates for the national examinations and the public holidays:

NO.	NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS	DAYS	DATES
1	Lower Secondary School Certificate Written Expression (Grade 10)	Thursday	5 June 2025
2	Upper Secondary School Certificate Written Expression Exam (Grade 12)	Monday	4 August 2025
3	Grade 12 STEM Exams	Monday-Friday	1-5 September 2025
4	Lower Secondary School Certificate Exams (Grade 10)	Monday-Friday	6-10 October 2025
5	Upper Secondary School Certificate Exams (Grade 12)	Monday-Friday	13-17 October 2025
6	Certificate of Basic Education Exams (Grade 8)	Monday-Thursday	20-23 October 2025

NO.	PUBLIC HOLIDAYS	DAYS	DATES
1	New Year's Day	Wednesday	1 January, 2025
2	National Remembrance Day of the Late Former Prime Minister, Great Grand Chief Rt. Hon. Sir Michael Thomas Somare	Wednesday	26 February, 2025
3	Good Friday	Friday	18 April, 2025
4	Easter Saturday	Saturday	19 April, 2025
5	Easter Sunday	Sunday	20 April, 2025
6	Easter Monday	Monday	21 April, 2025
7	King's Birthday	Tuesday	17 June, 2025

8	National Remembrance Day	Wednesday	23 July, 2025
9	National Repentance Day	Tuesday	26 August, 2025
10	Independence Day	Tuesday	16 September, 2025
11	Christmas Day	Thursday	25 December, 2025
12	Boxing Day	Friday	26 December, 2025

All Provincial Education Advisors, principals and heads of schools and institutions are advised to take heed of the important dates mentioned above and to use them in planning for the school year while waiting for the education calendar to be printed and distributed nationwide.

The Secretary wished all PEAs, principals and heads of schools and institutions, teachers and students, a successful school year.

Approved for release by:

DR. UKE KOMBRA, PhD, OBE.

Secretary for Education