

MINISTRY PAPER #16/15
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
PARENT PLACES IN SCHOOLS

INTRODUCTION

Members are being asked to note the progress made by the Ministry of Education (MoE), through USAID grant-aided activities and in collaboration with the National Parenting Support Commission (NPSC), in establishing Parent Places in schools. The initiative assists parents to develop proper parenting skills and forge greater collaboration between home and school.

BACKGROUND

Parent Places are established in communities and schools as a focal point for information on various aspects of parenting and support services. They also serve as a counselling and training centre, providing parents with skills for their economic development, as well as empowering parents to support their children in their acquisition and development of early literacy skills.

OBJECTIVES OF PARENT PLACES

Specifically, the Parent Places aim to:

1. Strengthen the competencies, skills and capabilities of parents/guardians
2. Provide strategies for parents/guardians to help them to reduce the tensions and cope with difficulties, struggles associated with bringing up children especially regard to parenting and support for early literacy
3. Reinforce the social networking among parents/educators and their children/wards
4. Make information, training and educational opportunities available to parents/guardians
5. Provide support in problem-solving

ESTABLISHMENT OF PARENT PLACES

Under the USAID/MOE Project, it was projected that one hundred and twenty (120) Parent Places would be established. One hundred and twelve (112) Parent Places have been established island-wide to date. Please see **Appendix 1**.

PARENT PLACES TO BE ESTABLISHED:

The NPSC identified five (5) schools for the establishment of Parent Places and the implementation of parenting programmes based on the NEI Report (2013), which stated

that these schools were “**in need of immediate support**”. This programme has commenced with the Mentorship programme in three (3) of the schools.

The NPSC will also be establishing an additional three (3) Parent Places and parenting programmes based on private requests from the schools.

The NPSC will implement Parenting Programmes in seventeen (17) schools that currently have Parent Places but were identified by the National Education Inspectorate (NEI) as being in need of immediate support in leadership and management. It will enable these institutions to build synergies with parents, school and the community. Please see **Appendix II**.

MANAGING PARENT PLACES

The NSPC is responsible for coordinating and evaluating the activities at the Parent Places to ensure compliance with set standards. A review to determine the impact of the Parent Places is currently being undertaken.

PROJECTION FOR 2015/2016

As a cost saving measure, ten (10) Parent Places will be established at existing Early Childhood Resource Centres across the island in 2015/2016. As a result, it will cost approximately J\$3.4M annually to operate each Centre and a Parent Place which will be absorbed into the Ministry’s operational budget. It must be noted that the Resource Centres will also provide diagnostic services for children at the Early Childhood level.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A total of J\$10,084,355 was expended on the establishment of the Parent Places of which the United States Agency for International Development/Ministry of Education (USAID/MoE) partnership provided J\$5,159,085. The additional amount was provided through the Ministry’s regular budget for primary schools where the parent places are established. The Parent Places will be maintained through the regular schools’ grants and through voluntary support from parents.



Ronald Thwaites, MP
Minister
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File No.

APPENDIX 1**Parent Places established in 2013 (60)**

NO.	SCHOOLS
1	Allman Town Primary
2	Boys Town All Age
3	Central Branch All Age
4	Chetolah Park Primary
5	Cockburn Gardens Primary & Junior High
6	DuPont Primary & Infant
7	Franklin Town Primary
8	Greenwich All Age
9	Grove Primary
10	Hall's Delight Primary & Junior High
11	Iris Gelley Primary
12	Maxfield Park Primary
13	Melrose primary & Junior High
14	New Providence Primary
15	St. Albans Primary
16	St. Andrew Primary
17	St. Anne's Primary
18	Swallowfield Primary & Junior High
19	Tavares Gardens Primary
20	Trench Town Primary
21	Anchovy Primary
22	Bethel Town All Age
23	Bickersteth Primary & Junior High
24	Cambridge Primary
25	Chester Castle All Age
26	Coke's View Primary
27	Cornwall Mountain All Age
28	Ferris Primary
29	Goodwill Primary
30	Mount Hermon Primary
31	New Roads All Age
32	Riverside All Age
33	Roehampton Primary
34	Salt Spring All Age
35	Sheffield All Age
36	Springfield Primary
37	St. Paul's Primary
38	Sudbury All Age
39	Townhead Primary
40	Williamsfield All Age
41	Aenon Town All Age
42	Cross Primary & Junior High
43	Friendship Primary
44	Garlogie Primary & Junior High
45	Good Hope Primary
46	Hayes Primary & Junior High
47	Kitson Town All Age
48	Linstead Primary & Junior High
49	May Pen Primary
50	Old Harbour Primary
51	Osbourne Store Primary & Junior High
52	Pindars Valley Primary

53	Salt Savannah Primary & Infant
54	Sligoville All Age
55	Spanish Town Primary
56	Spring Gardens All Age
57	St. John's Primary
58	Tredegar Park All Age
59	Waterford Primary
60	York Town Primary
	TOTAL 60

Parent Places Established in 2014/2015

No.	SCHOOL
1.	Buff Bay Primary
2.	St. Margaret's Bay All Age
3.	Martin Primary
4.	Morant Bay Primary
5.	Windsor Castle All Age
6.	Hope Bay All Age
7.	Golden Grove All Age
8.	Chalky Hill All Age
9.	Top Hill Primary
10.	Goshen All Age
11.	Christiana Leased Primary & Infant
12.	Devon All Age
13.	Rio Bueno Primary
14.	Aeolus Valley All Age
15.	Bull Bay All Age
16.	Nain Primary & Junior High
17.	Ballards Valley Primary
18.	Bull Savannah Primary
19.	Park Mountain Primary
20.	Carisbrook Primary
21.	Siloah Primary
22.	Thornton Primary
23.	Wakefield Primary
24.	Duncan's All Age
25.	Mandeville Primary & Junior High
26.	Granville Primary
27.	Falmouth All Age
28.	Mile Gully Primary
29.	Walkerswood All Age
30.	Steer Town Primary & Junior High
31.	Ocho Rios Primary
32.	Claremont Primary & Junior High
33.	Yallahs Primary
34.	Moneague Primary and Junior High
35.	Grants Pen Primary
36.	Moore Town Primary
37.	Fellowship Primary
38.	Reach Primary
39.	Dalvey Primary
40.	Huntley Primary
41.	Fairfield Primary

42.	Prospect Primary
43.	Warsop Primary
44.	Low River Primary
45.	Hatfield Primary & Junior High
46.	Salt Marsh Primary
47.	Bounty Hall Primary
48.	Porus Primary
49.	Muirhouse Primary & Junior High
50.	Clarksonville Primary
51.	Murray Mountain Primary
52.	Higgin's Land Primary & Junior High
Total	52

APPENDIX 11 – For establishment of Parenting Programmes 2015-2016

Schools	location	Region
St. Alban's Primary	Kingston	1
Grove Primary	Kingston	1
Bethel Town All Age	Kingston	1
Cambridge Primary	Montego Bay	4
Ferris Primary	Montego Bay	4
Williamsfield All Age	Montego Bay	4
Linton Park All Age	Brown's Town	3
Ocho Rios Primary	Brown's Town	3
Wakefield Primary	Brown's Town	3
Christiana Moravian Primary and Infant	Mandeville	5
Devon All Age	Mandeville	5
Tredegar Park All Age	Old Harbour	6
Waterford Primary	Old Harbour	6
Aenon Town All Age	Old Harbour	6
Good Hope Primary	Old Harbour	6
Sligoville All Age	Old Harbour	6
Spring Gardens All Age	Old Harbour	6