



PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **\$37M boost for LIV GUD Summer Programme**

“**Sir, why it had to be three weeks?**”, eleven year-old Caylee Cherrington asked Minister without Portfolio, Senator the Hon. Matthew Samuda, as he visited Dupont Primary School, during the closing of the Ministry’s Music, Sports and Technology Summer Programme on Friday (July 31).

Senator Samuda pointed out that the summer programme, which catered to over 350 students was executed under the Ministry’s anti-violence campaign, ‘**Liv Gud**’ and embodied “**a new approach to community intervention**”. He said by engaging children residing in vulnerable communities, the Ministry’s intervention ensures they do not fall prey to violence and similar acute issues that may have affected close relatives who wield influence.

Meanwhile, David Osbourne, Country Representative for the UK Department for International Development (DFID) at the British High Commission which supported the programme through a donation of over J\$37 million, added that the need to provide “**bespoke support**” to people vulnerable to violence was as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, noting that the summer programme provides a productive and protective environment for at-risk youth.

“**Our one wish and theirs, is for the programme to be sustained. We all need to make sure that throughout the summers, vulnerable children who don’t always live in the safest environment, have support networks and support programmes**”, said Osbourne.

The 350 students who participated in the programme benefitted from classes in basic animation, art and craft, music and basketball, coupled with sessions that enhanced numeracy, literacy and conflict resolution skills. The schools included Dupont, Cockburn Gardens, Greenwich, St. Peter Claver, Tavares Garden and Whitfield Town Primary Schools.

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