



THE AGENCY FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION

P.O Box 608, Kingstown, St Vincent and The Grenadines

Tel: (784) 456-1600, Fax (784) 456-2430

Email: apisvg2023@gmail.com

05/06/2026

SANDALS RESORT SVG AND MINISTRY OF EDUCATION PARTNER TO PROVIDE HOSPITALITY ETIQUETTE TRAINING FOR 69 ST. JOSEPH'S CONVENT KINGSTOWN STUDENTS

Sandals Resorts International in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, hosted a hospitality training programme for 69 students of St. Joseph's Convent, Kingstown, on Wednesday, May 27, 2026.

The programme gave students direct exposure to the hospitality industry and the skills needed to succeed in both hospitality and the professional world. Throughout the programme, students interacted with executive managers from the resort and received practical training in customer service, beverage preparation, napkin folding, proper plate handling, and guest service etiquette.

Speaking in an interview with the API, General Manager of Sandals SVG, Tamon Allen, described the programme as a valuable opportunity for students to gain first-hand exposure to the industry and better understand its expectations.

“This is a great opportunity for students because they are being exposed to the industry and the expectations of the hospitality sector, which will ultimately help determine whether they are willing to pursue a career in hospitality,” Allen stated.

He further noted that Sandals provides an ideal learning environment due to its internationally recognised service standards. “Sandals is the ideal place for students to learn because it is recognised as one of the top resorts when it comes to service excellence,” he added.

Senator and Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Lavern King, encouraged students to take full advantage of the opportunity, reflecting on her early work experience in the hospitality

industry. She explained that her first job helped her develop punctuality, professionalism, and organisational skills that continue to benefit her today.

King noted that the initiative represents an important partnership in youth development, workforce readiness, and the advancement of the hospitality sector in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. “As tourism continues to play a vital role in national economic growth, programmes like this not only prepare students for employment, but for excellence within a globally competitive industry,” Senator King said.

She further emphasized that the programme helps bridge the gap between classroom theory and real-world experience by exposing students to international hospitality standards at an early stage. According to King, the training also builds confidence, professionalism, communication skills, and workplace ethics among participants.

President of the SVG Hotel and Tourism Association, Isola Giddings, expressed gratitude at seeing so many young people eager to participate in the training programme. “If this is your passion, you must pursue it because it is an important skill set. Not everyone can become a doctor, and there is tremendous potential for growth within the tourism sector,” Giddings stated.

She also encouraged more schools across the country to form partnerships with Sandals SVG to provide students with similar opportunities for practical industry experience. “You are in an environment where you will receive some of the best training possible, so make the most of the opportunity. It is not where you start, but where you decide to end that shapes who you ultimately become,” she added.

--End--