

...have been guided to explore alternative pathways, including repeating Primary Seven to improve their grades.

"Those who did not pass have also been advised by the minister to consider repeating Primary Seven," she said.

At least 273,000 learners were admit-

made by young people and their families. However, some parents and learners may not be satisfied with what you have done over these two days," Dr Turyagyenda said.

Dr Turyagyenda also reminded schools to be mindful of special categories of learners who may require ad-

Primary Seven.

• 273,000 admitted to 1,521 government schools.

• 384,000 projected to join over 3,200 private schools.

government policies on access and equity, urging schools to give due consideration to vulnerable and disadvantaged learners while maintaining regional balance and merit.

The first term for Senior One 2026 is scheduled to begin on March 2, 2026.

Teso College posts better UCE results after year of discord

BY SIMON PETER EMWAMU

KAMPALA. After a year of bitter disputes between former students and the school administration over declining academic performance, Teso College Aloet, one of Teso's traditional schools, has posted significantly improved results in the 2025 Uganda Certificate of Education (UCE) examinations compared to 2024.

In the lead-up to the 2026 academic year, many alumni, who had previously raised concerns about the school's performance, were reportedly removed from key social media platforms used for developmental discussions.

However, the 2025 UCE results brought a sense of relief, prompting calls for the school management to sus-

tain the upward trajectory.

The 2025 results placed Teso College Aloet as the 36th best-performing UCE school in the country. The school recorded 652 A's, 2,225 B's, 977 C's, and 13 D's; a marked improvement from 2024, when the institution obtained 134 A's, 1,220 B's, 1,147 C's, and 98 D's.

Mr Julius Opasso, the head teacher, attributed the improvement to the teachers' deeper understanding of the new curriculum.

"They have mastered it compared to the previous year; We also held constant seminars with students, and our teachers attended workshops regularly to strengthen their grasp of the syllabus," Mr Opasso said.

He expressed optimism for the 2026 academic year, noting that students have now adapted to the new curricu-

lum, which could translate into even better results. Last year, alumni had clashed publicly with the school management over what they described as deteriorating performance and the alleged suppression of staff and student voices. The 2025 results, showing a positive trend, have opened the door for reconciliation, with many old students now appealing to work with the school board and administration to sustain the progress.

Other traditional schools in Teso also recorded improved results. Ngora High School in Ngora District attained 137 A's, 1,504 B's, 1,222 C's, and 17 D's in the 2025 UCE examinations.

St Elizabeth Girls Kidetok, a Catholic-founded girls' school that had faced near closure a few years ago due to low enrolment, also posted a respectable

performance. The school secured 15 A's, 282 B's, 538 C's, 35 D's, and 2 E's, giving hope that it is gradually regaining its former stature in the region.

The improved results across Teso's traditional schools are being welcomed by parents, alumni, and education stakeholders, who are now calling for sustained investments in teacher training, student support, and curriculum mastery.

Mr Opasso emphasised that continuous mentorship, regular workshops for staff, and close monitoring of student progress were key factors in the turnaround. He urged the alumni and community to support the school's development efforts, stressing that collaboration would be crucial in maintaining high academic standards.