

'Alleged baby killer scouted schools before Ggaba attack'

The suspect initially searched for "schools near me" using Google Maps before narrowing down to specific institutions.

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Evidence tendered yesterday in the trial of Christopher Okello Onyum, who is accused of killing four toddlers at a Ggaba daycare centre, revealed that he conducted extensive online searches about several nursery and preschool facilities across Kampala and Wakiso districts before the deadly attack occurred.

Testifying on Wednesday, Assistant Superintendent of Police Kenneth Henry Angulo, a digital forensic analyst, told the mobile High Court sitting at Ggaba Community Church playground that analysis of the suspect's electronic devices revealed a pattern of searches focused on early childhood learning centres.

"When examining exhibit 1-5, which is the Motorola phone, we observed that it was used over time to search for keywords revolving around kindergartens, preschools, play centres, and nursery schools," Angulo said.

He added that the suspect initially searched for "schools near me" using Google Maps before narrowing down to specific institutions.

According to the forensic findings presented in court, some of the schools Okello reportedly researched include Fajja Junior School, Matugga Pre School, Lam Kindergarten and Daycare Centre in Matugga, Mom's Love Kindergarten on Ssemuto Road, Edibet ECD and Play Centre on Kiiti Road in Matugga, and Golden Infant Kindergarten, also in Matugga.

The testimony paints a picture of a suspect who may have been scouting potential targets before eventually settling on Ggaba Early Childhood Development Programme, where the attack



Christopher Okello, who is accused of murdering four children at Ggaba Early Childhood Development Programme, in the dock as ASP Barnabas Harelimana, a forensic biologist, presents evidence collected at the crime scene. PHOTOS/ ABUBAKER LUBOWA

occurred on April 2, leaving four toddlers dead.

Earlier last week, Detective Assistant Superintendent of Police Jame Eserait, the Division CID officer at Kabalagala Police Station, testified that during interrogation, Okello admitted to surveilling the Ggaba facility prior to the attack.

"He said he took time surveilling the school and noted that there was no security guard and that mostly women were present," Eserait told the court.

Eserait further testified that the suspect indicated he had prepared in ad-

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The forensic analyst told the court that shortly after the attack on the Ggaba day care school, education authorities started inspecting schools around Wakiso and Kampala districts, checking on their security readiness to avert similar attacks.

vance for the killings.

"He told me he bought several knives prior to the murder and used some of them in committing the crime," he said.

Additional digital evidence presented in court showed that Okello also searched for locations and services that investigators believe may have been linked to the planning of the attack.

These included Bunga Police Station, "how long it takes to get a Uganda fire-

arm licence", "Church Close in Ggaba", and "Trip Car Rental Uganda".

The forensic analyst told the court that he examined nine exhibits recovered from the suspect's rented house in Kyanja, including two laptops, four mobile phones, and flash disks. The analysis focused on user activity, browsing history, call logs, mobile money transactions, and car hire inquiries between March 12 and March 31, 2026.

According to the charge sheet, Okello is accused of unlawfully causing the deaths of Gideon Eteku, Keisha Agenorwoth Otim, Ignitius Sseruyange, and Ryan Odeke at Ggaba Early Childhood Development Programme in Makindye Division, Kampala.

Postmortem reports presented to the court during the committal to the High Court about three weeks ago, indicate that the children died of hypovolemic shock resulting from deep neck wounds.

The injuries were described as severe, cutting through critical structures.