

# Police closes St Gerald's, Makobore High over clashes

**RUKUNGIRI**

By Caleb Bahikaho

Police in Rukungiri have closed two schools over fighting that started on Thursday night and left over 20 students seriously injured.

The Kigezi sub-region Police spokesman, Elly Maate, said the students of St Gerald's invaded Makobore High School Kinyasaano with the aim of burning down their school. However, they found the students alert and a bitter fight ensued.

It is alleged that students of St Gerald's sent a message to Makobore informing them that they wanted to pay them a visit and revenge for the loss of their office that was burnt down a week ago by unknown arsonists.

Maate disputed allegations that two students from St Gerald's died in the fracas, but said they were admitted at Nyakibale Hospital in critical conditions.

He said the Police have arrested eight students who were found with deadly weapons, including bottles containing petrol.

Maate said both schools



Some of the students of St Gerald's going home after Police closed the school. Photo by Caleb Bahikaho

were closed and Police is manning the premises until the governing body decides their fate.

He said at St Gerald's, candidates were allowed to complete their mock exams, but on condition that they commute from home.

St Gerald's SS Nyakibale, a mixed day and boarding school, has over 900 students, while Makobore High School has about 300 students.

## STUDENT NUMBERS

■ St Gerald's SS has over 900 students while Makobore High School has about 300 students.

Last week, unknown arsonists set fire to a teacher's house and an office at St.

Gerald's destroying all the documents in there.

The headteacher, Nazarius Byaruhanga, said some students suspected their friends, who were expelled from school over indiscipline, to have been behind the act.

It is alleged that over 20 students, who were expelled from St Gerald's Nyakibale early this month, were admitted at Makobore High School Kinyasaano.