

Kakumiro authorities move to crack down on teacher absenteeism

KAKUMIRO

By Ismael Kasooha

Authorities have come up with strategies to fight teacher absenteeism in government-aided schools in Kibaale and Kakumiro districts.

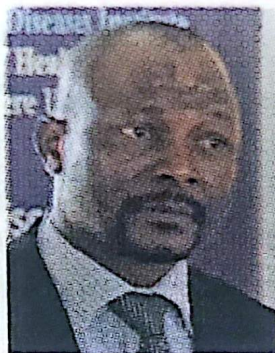
The strategies include tracking the performance of teachers and monitoring their attendance and actual teaching in order to address inefficiencies.

"Government schools are performing poorly in examinations because of persistent teacher absenteeism," said Innocent Asaba, the Kakumiro chief administrative officer.

Asaba said it is a disservice and an immoral act when someone is paid to teach, but decides to do other business, leaving children to suffer.

He was presenting a policy guidelines circular from the education ministry to headteachers in government-aided schools at Kakumiro district

ON THE GROUND



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headquarters on Friday.

Asaba ordered the headteachers to immediately enforce the Public Service Standing Orders to check the increasing non-attendance of teachers.

"Those who will fail to adhere to what is required of them will be scrapped off the government payroll

and have their contracts terminated," Asaba added.

John Kyaboona, the Kibaale district education officer, emphasised the need for teachers to respect the new guidelines on dress code as directed by the public service ministry.

"Public officers are required to dress decently in acceptable standards," the education officer said.

Report findings

According to findings by the 2016 Uwezo learning assessment report in primary schools in Uganda, private schools had much lower rates of teacher absenteeism compared to government-aided schools.

Teacher presence in the schools visited during the Uwezo survey stood at 90.4% in private schools and 81.1% in government-aided schools.

The report further revealed that private schools had higher learning outcomes compared to government-aided schools.