

When is your child ready for international school?

By Vision Reporter

Parents worry about what age to take their children to school. This worry is even greater when it comes to international schools.

Some worry that due to the diverse cultures and nationalities in the schools, it would be hard for their children to adopt.

However, Muhammed Kakiika, the principal of Vienna College Namugongo and a veteran educationalist, says, there is no need for parents to worry because all international schools are governed by one body that governs other schools.

He says that all the parent needs to know is that their child is ready for school. This would be at the age of three years as recommended by the Ministry of Education.

He says that at three years, the child joins pre-primary until they are five years. During this stage they will learn the basics about relating with others, among other things.

“At this age children learn lifeskills that help them adapt to the life when they

start the real education,” Kakiika says.

He adds that at six years the child is ready to join primary and this is where formal learning is supposed to begin. The child will be introduced to learning and they are expected to stay in primary until 11 to 13 years before they join junior secondary which is an equivalent of Primary Seven to Senior Two.

He also explains that after completing Senior Two at 13 years, the child is ready to do check point exams to see if they are ready to join senior secondary. At 14 they join senior secondary which is an equivalent of Senior Three to Senior Four and at 17 to 18 the child will be in A’level and after they are ready to join university.

“Naomi Devino, the director Kings International School, says because of their busy schedule, parents now take their children to school as early as two years.

She, however, says it is not recommended for international schools, but for those who have no option, Devino advises they find out if the school has all the basic facilities for a day care centre.