

Guidelines to regulate use of ICT in schools in pipeline

By Juliet Kasirye

In an effort aimed at safeguarding learners from getting exposed to inappropriate content, the Government, through the Ministry of Education and Sports, is planning to develop guidelines on how Information and Communications Technology (ICT) should be used in schools.

The permanent secretary in the education ministry, Dr Kedrace Turyagyenda, said if ICT is left unregulated in schools, it causes a disaster instead of enhancing learning.

"While using ICT, we know that students can get both constructive and destructive things. To protect our children from getting drawn to danger, teachers and parents will use these guidelines to guide children," Turyagyenda explained.



Turyagyenda launching the book at Kyambogo College School in Kampala on Wednesday. She called for cautious use of ICT in schools

She made the remarks during the opening of the fifth Youth Debate and Literary Championship 2026 at Kyambogo College School in Kampala

on May 20.

The event's theme was: *Patriotism with Pan Africanism; for Social Justice, Quality Education and Culture;*

PHOTO BY JULIET KASIRYE

for Actual Nation Building and Sustainable Development.

Some of the competing schools include Kyamate Secondary School in Ntungamo, St Paul's Secondary School in Bukinda, St Mary's Kwerjik from South Sudan, Samson Memorial High School in Kyebando, Kyambogo College, Lumino High School, Mukura Memorial Secondary School, Queen of Martyrs Secondary School, Kigoma and Mufutu Bumbo Seed Secondary School.

During the event, a book titled *A Comprehensive Guide on Public Speaking Skills* was launched.

Addressing learners about the competency-based curriculum, Turyagyenda said they are reviving real learning.

"Real quality education is not about the grade learners get on the piece of paper. Real quality education is when

the learner has holistically developed," she said.

The headteacher of Kyambogo College School, Stanley Mugume, said debates help young people to think clearly, speak confidently, listen respectfully and solve problems peacefully.

"When we invest in the minds and hearts of our youth through activities such as debate, poetry, quiz and public speaking, we are building a stronger Uganda," he explained.

Mercy Melody Kayodi, the youth and innovation programme officer at the United Nations Development Programme, Uganda, advised students to embrace patriotism.

"When you debate issues of regional integration, cross-border trade, climate justice, or youth mobility across Africa, you are practising Pan-Africanism," Kayodi stated.