

**DETERMINANTS OF STUDENTS' ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE IN PRIVATE  
SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN WAKISO DISTRICT**

**BY**

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## DECLARATION

I **OGUTTU WILLIAMS (98/HD04/205)** declare that this Dissertation entitled; “**Determinants of Students’ Academic Performance In Private Secondary Schools In Wakiso District**” is my original work and has never been submitted to any University or tertiary institution for any award. I have acknowledged any work cited in this work

Signature.....

Date.....

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## APPROVAL

I certify that this Dissertation by **OGUTTU WILLIAMS** titled “**Determinants of Students’ Academic Performance In Private Secondary Schools In Wakiso District**” has been under our supervision and is now ready for submission to the College of Education and External Studies, Makerere University

Signature.....

Date.....

**Dr. Wycliffe Scott Wafula**

Signature.....

Date.....

**Dr. Anthony Muggaga Muwagga**

## **DEDICATION**

This dissertation is dedicated to the members of my family, my spouse Juliet Ann Were Oguttu who encouraged me to strive on and my children, Vian, Valine, Vera and Emma who always challenged me to complete this course and who I want to follow in my footsteps.

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## **ABBREVIATIONS**

DEO	District Education Officer
DES	Directorate of Education Standards
KI	Key Informant
MoESTS	Ministry of Education, Sports and Technology Sciences
MoFPED	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
PPET	Post Primary Education and Training
UNEB	Uganda National Examinations Board
UNGEI	United Nations Girls' Education Initiative
UPE	Universal Primary Education
USE	Universal Secondary Education
WAKSHA	Wakiso Schools Head teachers' Association

## ABSTRACT

The study examined the determinant of students' academic performance in highly performing private secondary schools in Wakiso District, Uganda. The study objectives were; to establish student characteristics that influence academic performance; to establish teacher characteristics that influence academic performance and to establish school characteristics that influence academic performance in highly performing private secondary schools in Wakiso District, Uganda. The study employed a descriptive cross-sectional and correlational design incorporating both quantitative and qualitative methods to data collection with a sample size of 384 derived using Morgan and Krejcie (1970) from a target population of 590 students from classes of senior 2, 4 and 6 in selected secondary schools in Wakiso district. Data collected was exported to SPSS version 20 for editing, coding to facilitate informative and relevant computation. The objectives of the study were analyzed using the Probit Model. The independent variables that included student, teacher and school characteristics were statistically significant in explaining the dependent variable, students' academic performance for instance Class attendance (0.011), Peer influence (0.003), Parent's visit (0.009), Students' health status (0.004) and Teacher attendance (0.013); teacher characteristic variable such as Teachers' disciplinary actions (0.018), Teachers' qualifications (0.004), Teachers daily attendance (0.002), School administration (0.009) and school characteristics variables such as School library (0.001), Time table (0.000), School rules (0.017) and Sanitation (0.019) were all significant at 5% (0.05) levels of significance. The study concluded that student, teacher and school characteristics are paramount factors explaining students' academic performance. From the study, its recommended that students traits need to studied, teachers need to be motivated while schools need to reexamine their operation efficiency so as to contribute towards improved academic performances by the students.