

The Kumon Method of Learning

An introduction



KUMON

What is Kumon?

Kumon is a unique method of learning designed to give each and every child skills to last a lifetime.



Through studying the maths and English programmes, your child will develop independent learning skills and increased self-confidence as they work out how to overcome challenges by themselves.



Our aim is for your child to become an independent, advanced learner, with a positive attitude to study.



Kumon Europe & Africa Limited

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How it works

The Kumon programmes are tailored to suit your child's current needs and ability through daily study of maths and/or English worksheets. These worksheets are set by your child's Instructor who will get to know their individual needs.

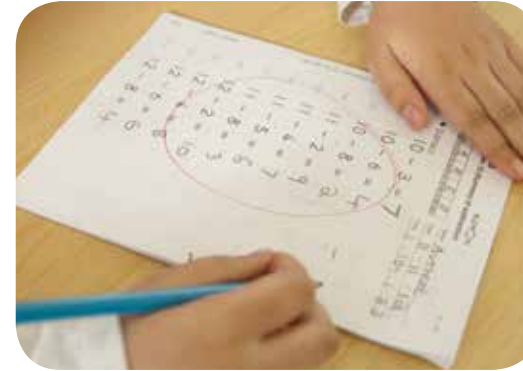
Your child initially starts at a comfortable level, where they are not challenged academically, enabling us to build a strong foundation in the way they study. By ensuring the work is manageable, without being too simple, we are able to develop pace, concentration and rhythm, whilst also cultivating their ability to work independently.

Once this foundation is established, more challenging work will be set that will help your child to discover and learn for themselves. They will be guided to apply what they have already learned to solve questions they have never seen before.





A long-term approach



The realisation of your child's potential begins when they study advanced topics and independently use the methods, study skills and confidence they have developed to tackle work which you might not have previously thought possible.

The Kumon programmes develop the independent learning skills essential for university, employment and all other aspects of adult life while also focusing on essential academic skills such as mental arithmetic, algebra, sentence structure, and text analysis, problem solving, logical and critical thinking.

“It’s our job as educators not to stuff knowledge into children as if they were merely empty boxes, but to encourage each child to want to learn, to enjoy learning and be capable of studying whatever he or she may need or wish to in the future.”

Toru Kumon

The Kumon programmes

Toru Kumon founded the Kumon Method over 60 years ago with the aim of producing the greatest learning effect in the shortest possible time by increasing a child's ability and desire to self-learn.

Ever since they were first devised, the Kumon programmes have been continually improved to maximise student development.

Each Kumon programme culminates in a particular academic level. This is the goal that determines necessary topics and the focus of each worksheet leading to that point.

Our programmes are designed so they can be completed by each and every student. Each student progresses at their own pace; everyone has the potential to study above international standard and complete the Kumon programmes given the right support, and it is with this belief in mind that we work with your child.

The programmes are open to children of all ages and we offer additional pencil skills worksheets with colourful pictures to help younger children practise holding and using a pencil.

Maths

O N	Calculus
M L K J	Advanced algebra and fractions
I H	Calculation of algebra
G	Calculation of fractions
F E	
D C B A 2A 3A	Calculation of whole numbers
4A 5A	
4A 5A 6A	Understanding of number sequence

English

L K J	Reading critically
I H G	Summarising
F E D	Identifying the topic of each paragraph
C B A	Visualising a passage
2A 3A 4A 5A	Learning to read and write
6A 7A	Repeating and reciting

Pencil skills

Supporting your child

The support your child receives from you is crucial. You work in partnership with the Instructor towards the same shared goal: for your child to become an independent learner and work towards programme completion.



Nurture your child's study habits by motivating them to work every day.



Encourage your child to learn for themselves by referring to previous examples rather than helping them with the answers.



Mark your child's work each day so they can learn from correcting their mistakes on the spot.



Focus on the long-term benefits and goals of the programmes.

At the Kumon centre

Your child will attend the study centre up to twice a week. In these sessions they complete their worksheets and are observed and supervised by the Instructor and a team of assistants.

After an initial period, your child works independently on their studies. The time taken to complete a day's work may be around 30 minutes per subject (though this study time is completely down to each individual and the programme level they have attained).



Attending a Kumon study centre:

- provides motivational surroundings where personal interaction with the Instructor and assistants ensures your child feels encouraged and supported at all times.
- gives the Instructor the opportunity to observe how your child works and better match the worksheets to their growing skills and abilities.
- provides an opportunity to explore new topics in a setting where the Instructor can give guidance and feedback as necessary.
- allows your child to work alongside other students and benefit from the excellent learning environment that provides.

At class



Arrival at class



Collection of class folder



Hand in homework to assistants



Collection of homework



Home



Class work



Feedback



Corrections



Supplementary activities



Marking

Case studies

Janaka Sumanasekera, maths programme Completer, who is currently studying for his maths degree at Cambridge University, said:

“Studying the Kumon Maths Programme has given me the skills to excel not only in maths, but in all aspects across the board. Kumon has aided me in appreciating maths more than I ever could, as well as helping me develop many useful skills, such as concentration and perseverance.”



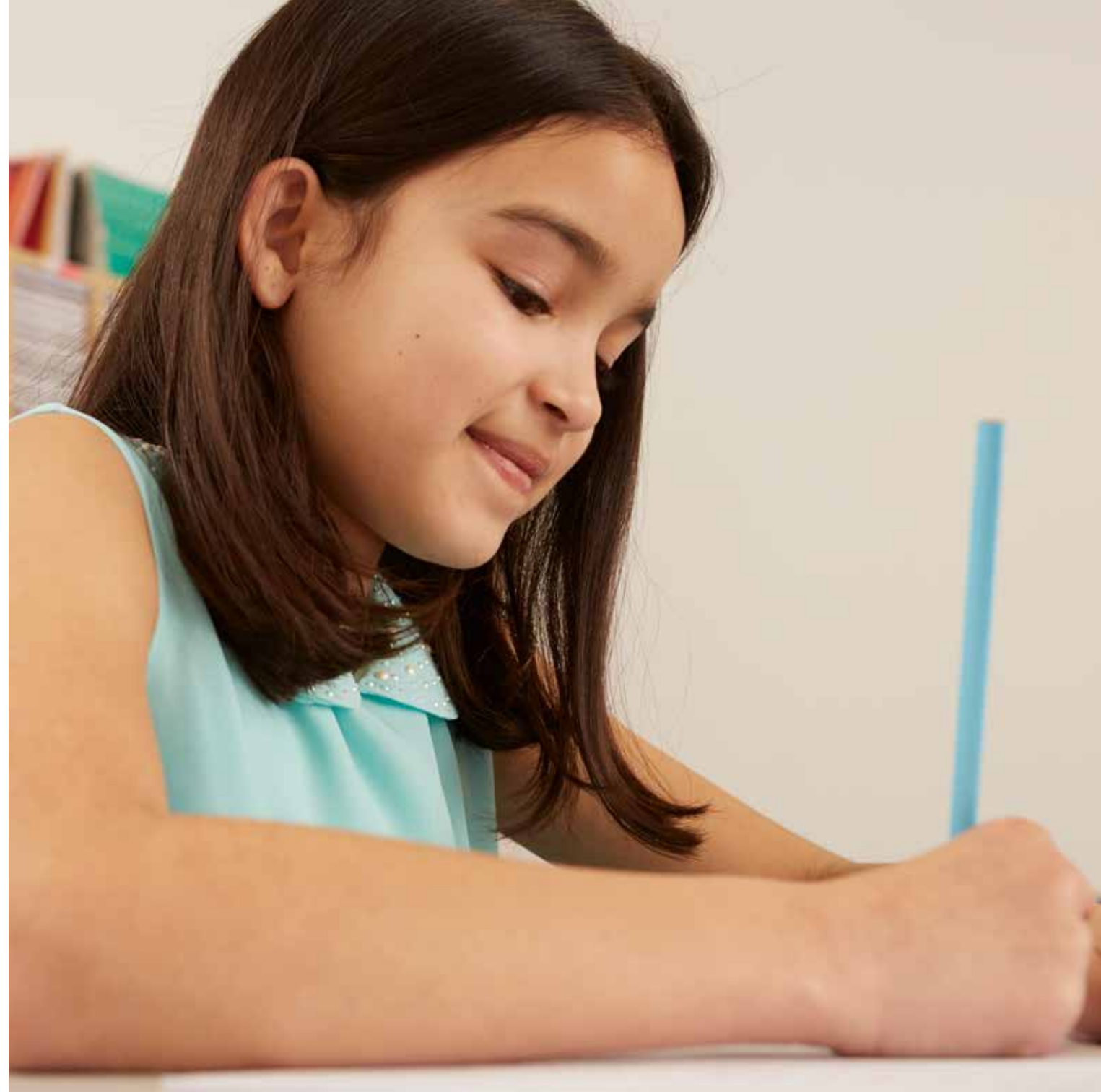
Nikhil Kadambadi, ten-year-old English programme Completer, said:

“I feel very proud about completing the programme. For me, it’s a fine achievement. The stories chosen in Kumon were fantastic and I enjoyed reading them. Some were adventurous and thrilling, some were extremely funny and some were of great interest.”



Charlotte Stiles, who started Kumon at 11 years old and completed both programmes by the age of 14, said:

“Kumon really helped me with my confidence, especially as I started to do things at Kumon which I hadn’t yet learnt at school. Kumon has helped me realise what I want to do. It has shown me that if you put lots of effort and hard work into something, it eventually pays off.”





“By discovering the potential of each individual and developing his or her ability to the maximum, we aim to foster sound, capable people and thus contribute to the global community.”

Kumon's Mission Statement

Where it all started

A history of Kumon

More than four million children in 50 countries around the world study with the Kumon Method each day.

Our founder, Toru Kumon, was a maths teacher in Japan who wanted to give his own son Takeshi the best start in life. When he discovered that Takeshi was not fulfilling his potential with maths at school, Toru Kumon started creating worksheets for him to do at home every day. Word got around and soon friends and neighbours were requesting worksheets for their children too. Toru Kumon came to realise that his method could benefit any child around the world and in 1958 the Kumon Institute of Education was established.

Kumon's success has spread across the world and the company was established in the UK in 1991. We still stand firm by the founding principles outlined by Toru Kumon:

- All children have enormous and often untapped potential to excel.
- Strong skills in language and maths are the key to all-round academic achievement.
- All education must focus on delivering the maximum **long-term** benefit to each individual child.

