

# INTRODUCING KUMON

KUMON

MATHS ENGLISH



## What is Kumon?



Kumon is a unique method of learning maths and English designed to nurture each child's ability to think and learn for themselves.

By studying the maths and English programmes, your child will develop their ability to self-learn and gain confidence as they progress through the programmes.

Our aim is for your child to become able to think deeply for themselves and develop a positive attitude towards their learning.

Kumon Europe & Africa Limited

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April 2020

## How does Kumon work?

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Kumon offers individualised study programmes in maths and English that are tailored to suit a child's needs through daily study and Instructor guidance.

Our worksheet-based study programmes have evolved over the course of 60 years, as we've learned from our students about how best to help them succeed, build confidence and develop skills that allow them to learn for themselves.

Kumon students complete daily Kumon study at home and attend their study centre once or twice a week. The time taken to complete a day's work may be around 30 minutes per subject, although this study time can vary.

When visiting the study centre, students complete their assigned worksheets and are observed and guided by the Instructor and a team of Assistants. Time spent at the study centre allows the Instructor to support your child in their studies and ensure that they are progressing well. Whilst at the study centre, students hand in work that has been completed and marked at home, and collect work for the following days until their next study centre visit.





## Kumon worksheets and your Kumon Instructor

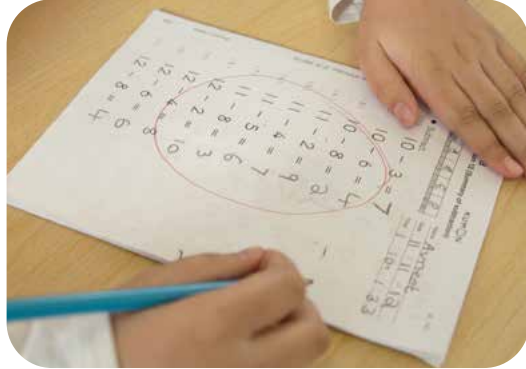
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When introducing new concepts, the worksheets show example answers, clues and hints to help students work out the correct process independently and then apply this to other similar questions to increase their familiarity. The Instructor does not immediately give their students answers to their questions. Instead they carefully guide students to be aware of the focal points of questions and think about the information that is given in the worksheet, supporting them to be engaged and solve problems by themselves.

The study is tailored to your child's needs and ability by the Kumon Instructor. Starting at a comfortable level and progressing at their own pace, in small manageable steps, they will grow in confidence and develop pace, concentration and rhythm. Once the foundations have been established, the difficulty will increase in small steps that your child will be able to complete independently. This will allow them to enhance their self-learning skills and eventually go on to confidently study work beyond their school grade level.



## We place value on children being able to think and learn for themselves



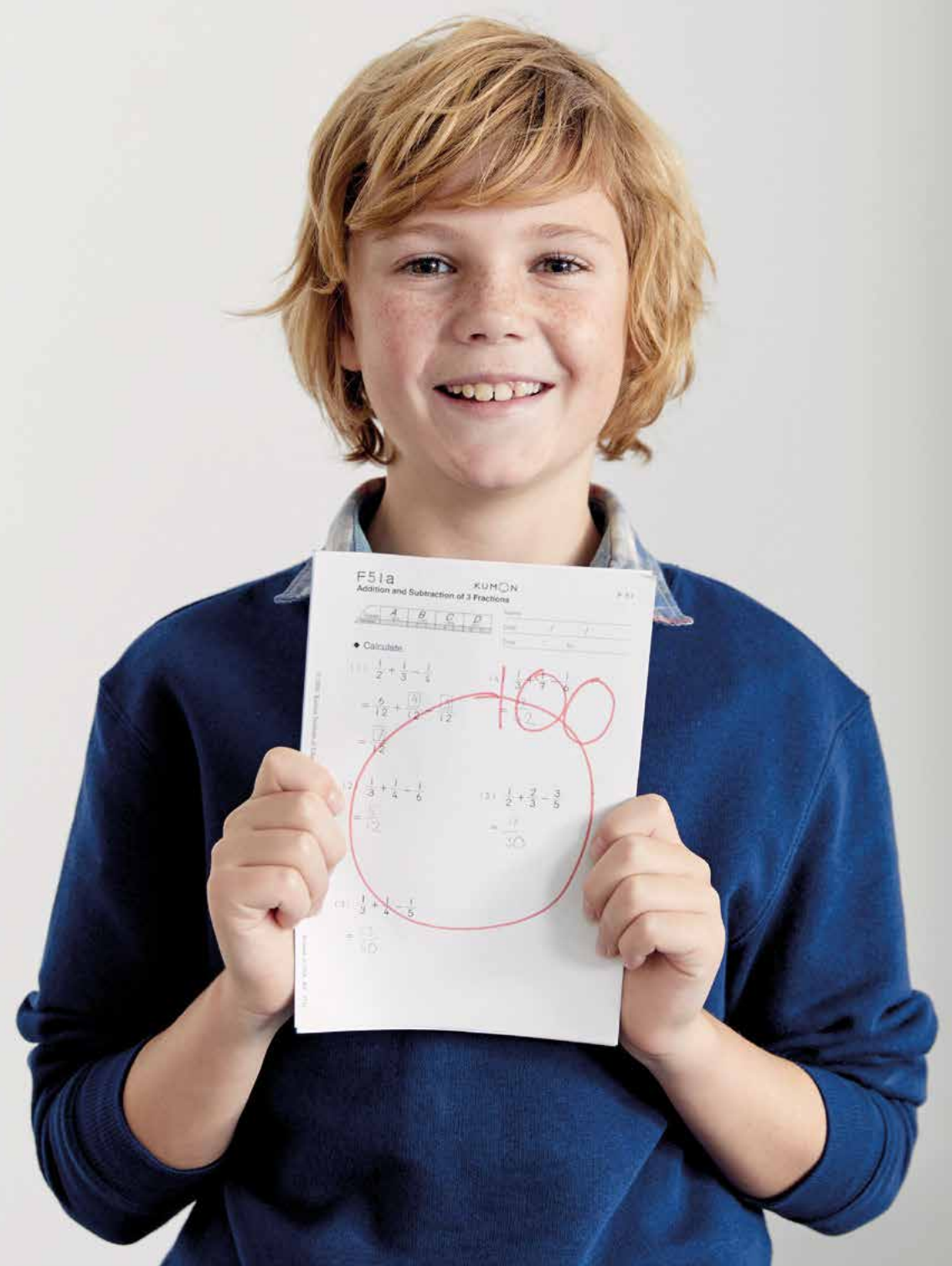
Kumon's study programmes place great importance on self-learning, encouraging students to discover how to solve problems, how to practise and try things out, and how to use their judgement. We believe that in equipping students to learn proactively, they will develop high academic ability and they'll have the best chance of pursuing their short and long-term goals and aspirations.

Achieving things independently gives students a great sense of accomplishment and enthusiasm for studying. Motivation and self-learning are also important skills they'll later benefit from at university and into adulthood, where independent study is a requirement and teachers are no longer available to teach them.

**We want our students to be able to think about the world around them and to be able to live in it with confidence.**

“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

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- 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
- Our programmes are designed so they can be completed by each and every student at their own pace. Everyone has the potential to study above international standard and complete the Kumon programmes given the right support
- 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



The Kumon Maths Programme helps children of all ages and abilities to develop maths skills and a love of numbers

The Kumon English Programme helps to develop each student's ability to read and understand a variety of texts, and nurture a life-long habit of reading for education and enjoyment



Kumon Completer

The Kumon Maths Programme

The Kumon English Programme

6

#### Kumon levels N-O: Calculus

- Skills that students have built up throughout the maths programme culminate at this point in their ability to complete advanced mathematical problems based on their calculation skills developed so far
- They develop the necessary skills to progress further through self-learning

6

#### Kumon levels J-L: Reading critically

- Students enhance their critical reading skills
- They are able to analyse text using evidence to justify their comments

5

#### Kumon levels J-M: Advanced algebra and functions

- Students fully develop their algebraic skills before learning the basic properties of functions
- They gradually increase their understanding of functions by tackling problems of greater complexity

5

#### Kumon levels G-I: Summarising

- Students learn how to summarise text, identifying key words and their relationship to each other
- They learn how to answer comprehension questions concisely, drawing reasoned conclusions from the information they have read

4

#### Kumon levels G-I: Calculation of algebra

- Students master positive and negative numbers using the four operations, as well as algebraic expressions and equations

4

#### Kumon levels D-F: Identifying the topics of each paragraph

- Students work on grasping the flow of a story, identifying topics and main ideas
- By the end of Level F, they are able to unravel text and break it down to understand its topic and conclusion

3

#### Kumon levels E-F: Calculation of fractions

- Students get to grips with fractions, enabling them to complete addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of fractions through examples and introductory problems

3

#### Kumon levels A-C: Visualising a passage

- Students put together simple sentences and understand more about their structure, expressions and punctuation
- They build reading speed and work on sentence complexity, learning how to use the correct word order, verb forms and punctuation

2

#### Kumon levels 3A-D: Calculation of whole numbers

- Students deepen their understanding of number sequence and are introduced to the main operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division

2

#### Kumon levels 5A-2A: Learning to read and write

- Students learn to fluently read words and short sentences aloud
- They begin to trace words and learn letter sounds and how to blend them, all the time increasing their vocabulary

1

#### Kumon levels 6A-4A: Understanding of number sequence

- Students recite, read and understand number sequence, gradually increasing exposure to a larger range of numbers as they become ready

1

#### Kumon levels 7A-6A: Repeating and reciting

- Students repeat words, phrases and sentences, and begin to associate words with their meanings
- They become familiar with phrases and longer sentences

Pencil Control Skills

## Exam success

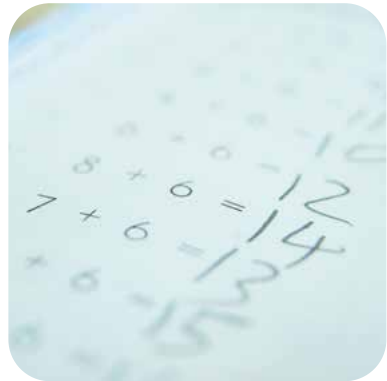
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The Kumon programmes are not designed to follow a school curriculum. Instead, as a global organisation, the programmes operate to complement curricula across the world. Regular Kumon study over time will equip your child with the fundamental study skills they need to excel academically. The skills our students develop, such as independent learning skills and confidence in ability, enhance their performance across all aspects of their school life, their extracurricular activities, and even exams!

Kumon students become familiar with working with good pace. Through their long-term study, Kumon students build strong academic foundations in maths and English, as well as develop skills that contribute to exam success.

Students become familiar with:

- Following instructions and reading questions carefully
- Managing their time wisely
- Improved concentration and ability to focus
- Confidence in their abilities which reduces exam stress





## Supporting your child

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The support that your child receives at home and from you is crucial to their development. You will work in partnership with the Instructor towards the same shared goals; for your child to become a self-learner, completing advanced work beyond school grade level.

At Kumon, the study class supports your child to work well at home, and the homework in turn supports their learning in class.



Create a quiet and focused environment that allows them to work to their best ability.



Encourage your child to think for themselves by referring to previous examples and clues given to them on the worksheet. This is better for their long-term development.



Mark your child's work each day so they can learn from correcting any mistakes.



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

## At the Kumon centre

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Your child will attend the study centre up to twice a week. During class, they complete worksheets that have been individually selected for them and interact with the Instructor and a team of class assistants. They'll be nurtured to develop the abilities needed to self-learn advanced material.

The time taken to complete a day's work in the centre may be around 30 minutes per subject (this study time is dependent on each individual and the programme level they have attained).



### The Kumon study centre:

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



## In class

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Arrival at class



Collection of class folder



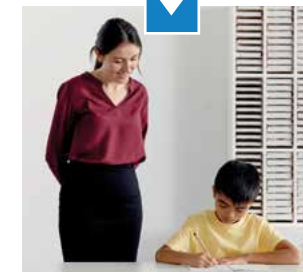
Hand in homework to assistants



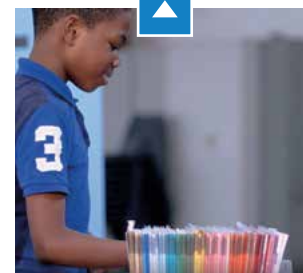
Class work



Home



Observation



Collection of homework



Corrections



Supplementary activities



Marking

## Case studies

### Alex

18-year-old Alex, who completed the Kumon Maths Programme and is currently studying a Mathematics Masters degree, said:

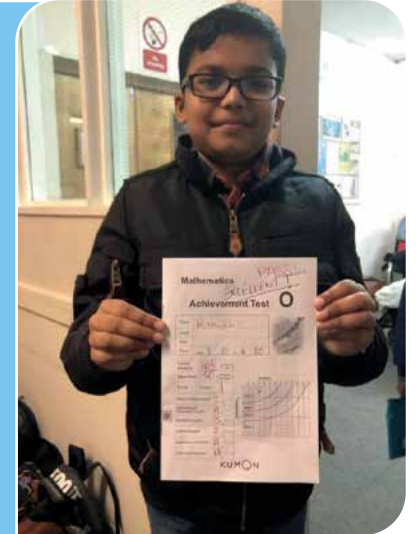
“The Kumon Maths Programme has greatly improved my mental maths skills. I remember when I first joined Kumon at seven years old - I had little confidence in maths and struggled with it in school. I’ve come such a long way. Now, I enjoy the subject and confidently study mathematics at an advanced level.”



### Rithwik

Rithwik was just four years old when he began studying with Kumon and he recently went on to complete the entire maths programme before his tenth birthday, studying advanced work normally tackled at A-level!

Studying Kumon has allowed Rithwik to develop and hone fundamental study skills. He says, “When other kids at school were learning numbers, I could already do multiplications. Now, I am working at GCSE level maths and I really enjoy it.”



### Carina

Carina, 14-year-old English programme completer, who passed the 11+ exam and gained admission into a prestigious Grammar school, said:

“Kumon has helped me develop a love of reading. The English programme has enabled me to think outside the box, which is why, I am more independent. What I enjoyed most about the programmes was looking forward to feeling proud of myself when I scored 100%, or even when I was able to correct my mistakes and knowing how I could improve. Looking back, I have enjoyed seeing the progress I have made over the years.”



### Jamie

Nine-year-old Jamie, who joined Kumon at the age of six, is making excellent progress in the Kumon Maths Programme. He said,

“Kumon has helped me learn how to master fractions and decimals ahead of what I was studying at school. It has also helped me a lot in my schoolwork as I am now an expert at my times tables. Because of Kumon, I enjoy maths and find the work so much easier to understand.”



## Where it all started

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### A history of Kumon

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

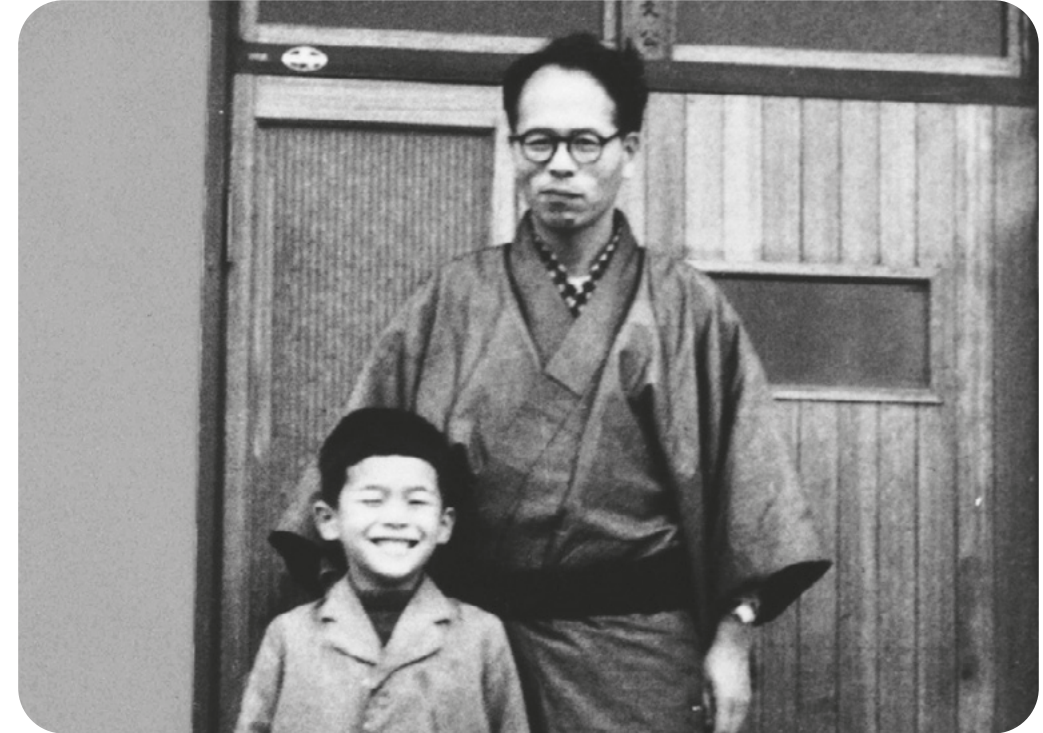
The founder of the Kumon Method, Mr Toru Kumon, was a maths teacher in Japan who wanted to give his own son the best start in life. When he discovered that his Year 2 son, Takeshi, was not fulfilling his potential in maths at school, Toru Kumon started creating worksheets for him to do at home every day.

With daily practice, Takeshi's maths ability naturally began to improve and so did his confidence. He studied small amounts of worksheets handwritten by his father every day and because they were individualised to his level at every point, he was able to progress smoothly and quickly to concepts far beyond what he had experienced at school.

Word got around and soon friends and neighbours were requesting worksheets for their children too, and a short time later the first neighbourhood Kumon centre was opened by Toru Kumon's wife. They came to realise that these worksheets and this individualised approach to study 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. Even now, almost 30 years later, we still stand firm by the founding principles:

- **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**



*Toru Kumon and his son Takeshi*

"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

Visit our website to find and contact your nearest Kumon centre  
[kumon.co.uk](http://kumon.co.uk) | [kumon.ie](http://kumon.ie)

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