

A history of Kumon

1954 – Toru Kumon, a gifted maths teacher in Japan, begins providing self-learning based education to his son, Takeshi. This is the prototype of the Kumon Method.

1955 – The first Kumon study centre opens in Moriguchi City, Osaka, Japan.

1958 – The Kumon Institute of Education is established.

1959 – Toru Kumon starts the Advanced Student Roll – celebrating students learning independently, above the level expected for their age.

1969 – The number of Kumon students exceeds 10,000.

1974 – The first Kumon centre outside of Japan opens in New York, USA.

1975 – The number of Kumon students exceeds 100,000.

1976 – Kumon celebrates the first student to complete the final worksheet in the maths programme.

1977 – The first pre-school aged child to be able to solve linear equations is nurtured via the Kumon Maths Programme.

1978 – A ceremony commemorating the 20th anniversary of Kumon is held and Takeshi Kumon (Toru Kumon's son and the first Kumon student) is appointed as the President of the Kumon Institute of Education.

1979 – Kumon arrives in Europe, offering the maths programme in Germany.

1980 – The first Kumon Recommended Reading List is prepared.

1981 – The number of Kumon students exceeds 1,000,000.

1983 – The first Kumon study centre in the United Kingdom opens.

1987 – The first Kumon International Instructors' Conference is held at the Kumon Kyoiku Kaikan in Osaka, Japan.

1990 - The Kumon English Programme (for native English speakers) is launched in Australia.

1991 – Kumon UK is established.

1994 - The number of Kumon students worldwide exceeds 2,000,000.

1995 - Chairman Toru Kumon passes away at the age of 81 (25 July).

1997 – The Kumon English Programme (for native speakers) arrives in the UK.
President Takeshi Kumon passes away (7 January).

2001 - The number of Kumon students exceeds 3,000,000 worldwide.

2006 – The number of Kumon students exceeds 4,000,000 worldwide.

2008 – The Kumon Group celebrates its 50th anniversary.

2011 – Kumon UK celebrates its 20th anniversary at the annual Instructor Conference in Brighton.

2014 - Toru Kumon Centenary Celebration held in Japan. Over 7,500 Kumon Instructors, staff and guests from all over the world attend.

2017 - Kumon reaches 50 countries and regions around the world.

2018 - The Kumon Group celebrates its 60th anniversary.

2019 - Kumon is now in more than 50 countries and regions around the world.