



An introduction to the Kumon Method of Learning

At Kumon, our aim is for each and every child to become an independent, advanced learner, with a positive attitude to study. We have a desire to create a new generation of independent learners; confident children who take pride in their own studies, set their own goals, and continue to learn throughout their lives. For over 60 years we have made that vision a reality, and we are now doing so in more than 50 countries and regions across the globe.

At Kumon, our approach to learning is different to traditional methods of supplementary education. We develop children through the acquisition of independent learning skills, rather than teaching in the conventional sense. We equip our students with the ability to learn for themselves so they do not become dependent on – or limited by – the skills and knowledge of others.

Kumon is an individualised daily study programme, designed to pursue the potential of each child. Central to the Kumon Method is the principle of giving students the confidence and courage to confront new challenges and to set and achieve their own goals. Above all, materials were created with the aim of producing the greatest learning effect in the shortest time through self-learning.

Kumon is a self-learning programme. As Kumon aims to develop independent study skills, a Kumon study centre does not have a teacher at the front of the class. The carefully developed worksheets teach students how to find the answer for themselves, whilst their Instructor guides them along their journey. It is the Instructor's role to observe the child working, making sure they are developing at the right pace and thus set work according to their current ability.

In the UK we offer two programmes: the Kumon English Programme and the Kumon Maths Programme. On each programme the student will start at exactly the right level for them. Each student follows their own path of study; they will start the programme at their own individually set starting point and will move through the programme at their own pace.

The students begin by studying work at a comfortable level with the aim of developing good study skills such as steady rhythm and pace, following instructions, sitting with good posture and maintaining concentration.

Kumon worksheets are designed with examples and instructions to support students in becoming independent learners. They will learn to correct their own mistakes, further increasing their ability to solve new problems.

The students will then have the ability to apply the knowledge and skills they have gained through the earlier levels to more complex problems. They will be able to independently select which methods and techniques will best help them to tackle higher-level work. Through completion of advanced work we are able to maximise the students' ability as they progress beyond the Kumon International Standard. These analytical thinkers will take ownership of their learning as they work towards completion of the programme, an achievement we believe all students can attain.