

PYP

Kumamoto International School
Application Guidelines for Primary Years Program
2026 Academic Year
(April 2026 - March 2027)

For Japanese Nationals:

Although Kumamoto International School (KIS) is an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School and is officially recognized in Japan as a Kakushu Gakko (各種学校), it is not a regular public elementary school (called an “Article 1 school” 一条校) under Japanese law. This means that being enrolled at KIS by itself does not meet the compulsory education requirements in Japan. For this reason, it is considered necessary for Japanese nationals to stay registered at their local public elementary school while attending KIS. Japanese parents of applicants should fully understand this characteristic of KIS before applying.

日本国籍の方へ:

熊本インターナショナルスクール(KIS)は、国際バカロレア(IB)ワールドスクールとして認定されており、日本では各種学校として正式に認可されています。ただし、日本の法律で定められた公立小学校(いわゆる「一条校」)ではありません。そのため、KISに在籍しているだけでは、日本の義務教育を修了したとはみなされません。このため、日本国籍の児童がKISに通う場合は、地元の公立小学校に籍を置くことが必要とされています。入学を希望される日本人保護者の方は、このKISの特性を十分にご理解いただいたうえで、お申し込みください。

1. NUMBER OF AVAILABLE SPACES

Grade Level	Number of Spaces
New Grade 1 Students	Approximately 35 students
New Grade 2–6 Students	Limited spaces (dependent on class availability)

2. ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY TO KIS PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAM

- The KIS admissions process aims to assess whether a student will thrive and succeed within our community. We seek students who demonstrate academic abilities, personal qualities, and motivation aligned with our curriculum and values.
- If an applicant is unable to demonstrate the recommended level of English proficiency for study at KIS, they may be permitted to enroll on the condition that they participate in KIS language support classes. These classes must be taken until the student reaches the necessary level of proficiency and are subject to an additional fee.
- In some cases, applicants who do not meet the recommended proficiency level may be offered admission into a lower grade to help ensure their academic success.
- Please refer to the table below for the recommended English proficiency by grade level.
- Age is applicant age as of **April 1st** of the academic year they will enroll in KIS.

Guidelines for Recommended Language Proficiency at Admissions by Grade			
Division	Age	Grade	Recommended English Level
Primary Year Program	6 yrs. old	Grade 1	Eiken 5 or above or equivalent
	7 yrs. old	Grade 2	Eiken 4 or above or equivalent
	8 yrs. old	Grade 3	Eiken 3 or above or equivalent
	9 yrs. old	Grade 4	Eiken Pre-2 or above, CEFR score 35+
	10 yrs. old	Grade 5	
	11 yrs. old	Grade 6	

3. STEPS IN THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS

2026 Academic Year Admissions Calendar 入試日程 Primary Years Program (PYP) 初等部					
	STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5
Admissions Schedule 入試日程	Information Session 説明会	Application Submission Period 出願期間	Entrance Examination 入学試験	Results Notification 可否通知	Enrollment Window 入学手続期間
Early Admissions 前期	6/2	6/6 - 6/13	7/3	7/7	7/8 - 7/16
General Admissions 一般 1	7/23	7/24 - 8/5	8/26	8/29	9/1 - 9/10
General Admissions 一般 2	9/25	9/26 - 10/8	10/21	10/27	10/28 - 11/5
Late Admissions 後期	1/2026	To be decided → Subject to cancellation depending on the availability of remaining spaces. 定員に達した場合、後期入試は実施されませんのでご了承ください。			

STEP 1) ATTEND AN ADMISSIONS INFORMATION SESSION

- **Information Session Schedule:**
 - **6/2 Session:**
 - 13:00 - Reception
 - 13:15 - Information Session
 - **7/23 & 9/25 sessions**
 - 9:15 - Reception
 - 9:30 - Information Session
- **Things to bring:**
 - Indoor shoes / slippers
- Applications are submitted online. The **QR code** to access the application will be given at the information session.
- Please note that we will not accept applications from families who have not attended a KIS admissions information session.
- Applicants who are unable to attend an in-person information session because they are overseas may request to attend an online session instead.
- Please refer to **Step 1** in the Admissions Calendar 入試日程 table above for the scheduled dates of the Information Sessions.
- Register for an information session via the following form link: [👉 Registration Form](#)
 - The registration deadline is **2 days prior** to each information session.
 - A member of the KIS Administration Team will contact you to confirm your registration. Please note that you must receive a confirmation in order to attend the session.

STEP 2) APPLICATION SUBMISSION

How to submit the application ● All documents must be turned in online ● Once you submit your application online, KIS will contact you to confirm receipt of your application ● KIS will send your Entrance Test Admission Ticket (受験票) by email. Please be sure to bring the ticket with you on the day of the test.	
Dates of Submission Period	See the dates for Step 2 in the Admissions Calendar 入試日程 table above

What to Submit	In order for KIS to consider an applicant for admission, <u>all documents listed below must be submitted in full—including those that must be sent directly from the applicant's current school.</u> ➔ Applications are submitted online. The QR code to access the application will be given at the information session. 1. KIS Application Form 2. 1 passport-size ID photo (attached to the application) 3. Application Fee: 15,000 yen (Non-refundable after payment) 4. Child Family / Health Questionnaire 5. Copy of Eiken or other English test results (if available) 6. Current school or preschool / kindergarten contact information
Documents to be sent directly to KIS from applicant's current school	1. Copy of most recent report card or academic progress report (if applicable) 2. School Recommendation Form ○ KIS will contact the applicant's current school to obtain the School Recommendation Form. ○ The form must be submitted directly by the school to KIS. ○ Parents are kindly requested to contact their current school and ensure that the School Recommendation Form is submitted to KIS <u>in English</u> in a timely manner. ○ Please note that the application will not be considered complete until KIS has received this form.

STEP 3) ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

- **Location:** Kumamoto International School (Toshima-Nishi Campus)

Date	See the dates for Step 3 in the Admissions Calendar 入試日程 table above
Examination Day Time Schedule	● 9:00–9:20: Reception ● 9:20–9:30: Explanation of test rules / guidelines ○ All smartphones, smartwatches, and other digital devices must be turned off and stored in the applicant's backpack for the duration of the exam. ● 9:30–11:00: Examination and behavioral observation ○ Parents may wait in the waiting room during the examination or choose to leave the school temporarily. ○ You may eat snacks or lunch with your child in the waiting room. ● 12:00–: Interviews (student and one parent / guardian)
Entrance Examination Content	1. Academic Test a. For students whose native language is Japanese: 1. English 2. Mathematics 3. Japanese b. For students whose native language is not Japanese: 1. English 2. Mathematics 2. Interview (<i>One guardian must accompany the applicant</i>) - Approximately 5 minutes

What to Bring	1. Examination ticket 2. Pencils (3 sharpened) 3. Eraser 4. Water bottle 5. Indoor shoes a. (Parents, please bring indoor footwear) 6. Lunch or snack
Notes	• Check interview time on the admission ticket ○ Parents may leave the school premises but must return at least 10 minutes before their scheduled interview time and wait until the interview begins. ○ Interview duration: approx. 5 minutes per applicant • Children may only be accompanied by one parent/guardian for the interview. • You may take your child home after the interview ○ Please take all trash home with you.

STEP 4) RESULTS NOTIFICATION

- The results of the Entrance Examination will be announced by 12:00 p.m. on the date listed in **Step 4** of the Admissions Calendar (入試日程) table above.
- Successful applicants will receive a notification outlining the next steps required to complete their enrollment.
- Applicants may not appeal an admissions decision made by the school. KIS will not, under any circumstances, disclose or discuss the reasons for an individual applicant's acceptance or denial of admission. By submitting an application, parents/guardians acknowledge and accept this policy in full.

STEP 5) ENROLLMENT WINDOW

- Successful applicants must schedule an appointment with the school Administration Office to complete the enrollment procedures.

Deadline to complete all enrollment requirements	Please refer to Step 5 in the Admissions Calendar (入試日程) table above for the dates of the Enrollment Window. • 9:00~12:00 – 13:30~16:30 ○ To secure a place for their child, parents must complete all three required steps outlined below <u>by the final day of the enrollment window</u>.
Enrollment Step	Details
Tasks to complete <u>before</u> you visit KIS to complete your enrollment	1. Register for automatic bank account transfer online (for tuition payments, etc.) ○ Bank account details will be provided in the acceptance letter. 2. Pay the 300,000 yen entrance fee via bank transfer
Items to submit <u>when you come to</u> the school	3. Letter of Intent to Enroll and Promise to Follow School Rules (入学誓約書)
Important Notes	• Upon completion of all admission procedures, KIS will email a Letter of Acceptance. This letter serves as official confirmation of the applicant's enrollment at KIS. • If an applicant fails to complete all three enrollment requirements by the specified deadline, KIS will assume that the applicant does not intend to enroll, and the reserved space may be offered to another applicant.



Kumamoto International School

Address: 4-2-61 Toshima-Nishi, Higashi-ku
Kumamoto, Japan 861-8043
Tel / Fax: 096-285-3938
Email: renraku@kumamotointer.jp
Office Hours: 8:00 - 18:00 (Mon - Fri)