

Kinder Kids is the
#1 pre-school
in Japan in four very
important categories!

In a nationwide survey of pre-school services in Japan, Kinder Kids was voted Number 1 in four categories: Curriculum Quality, Child Welfare, Children's Enjoyment and Elementary School Preparation. Upholding our unique philosophy of "Japanese Spirit with an International Future", we will continue to build on our 20 years of accumulated knowledge to develop children who have an international perspective and who are able to thrive in new environments.



Questionnaire conducted by: General Research Ltd.
Survey period: February 22-25, 2019
Survey method: Internet Survey summary: Comparison of services offered
by 10 English focused pre-schools
Survey participants: 1048 Japanese adults M/F aged 20-50

Please share your ideas!

"Hiraku" provides useful information and the latest news related to English and childhood education.

· Your recent interests · Topics you want us to cover · New content etc...

If you have ideas to contribute, please share these with us!

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Hirakû

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Expanding future possibilities

Hirakû

5



Developing Self-Expression from Early Childhood.

Globally Active Kids Interview with a Kinder Kids Graduate

Japanese Spirit with an International Future. Kinder Kids inc.





SELF EXPRESSION Part.1

What does it mean to develop “self-expression”

with clear communication skills?

Internationally, the Japanese may be seen as poker-faced and not showing their feelings clearly.

There are two possible reasons why the Japanese are seen this way. One is because Japanese tend to adopt this stance as a way of showing respect to others and it is also a result of traditional Japanese education.

Traditionally Japanese education tends to focus on acquiring knowledge, while developing students’ people skills has been seen as less important than accruing new knowledge.

However, due to the acceleration of globalization in Japan, this traditional method of education is being reconsidered.

A lack of expression makes it difficult to convey your thoughts and feelings to others. It may also cause difficulties in both personal and workplace relationships.

Under the course of study, it describes developing “self-expression” as an essential life skill.

Feature Story

We inspire our children to communicate their ideas and feelings with others.

Children who can clearly express themselves

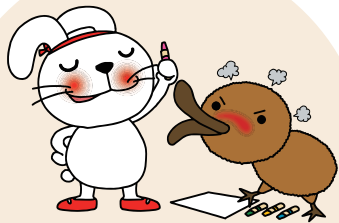
At Kinder Kids, children take part in Circle Time from Nursery level as part of the daily routine and learn how to express themselves, and the importance of sharing their feelings with friends.

Toddlers often can’t express their needs verbally to say “I want my toys back!”. Crying, pinching or biting their friends is a substitute for the messages that they can’t yet express with words. At those moments, we teach children how to respond depending on the situation, and provide them with the language they need to express themselves.

We frequently use words like “sorry” “thank you” or “please” during reading time, play activities and throughout the day. Children see examples of situations where these words can help them to express their feelings, empowering them to communicate.

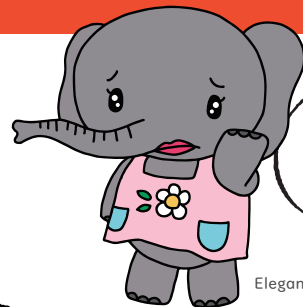
In Kinder level classes, children have theme discussions where they use their theme workbooks as a tool to explore their feelings or ideas around the topic and share them. Additionally, children take part in “Show and Tell” to share their experiences or interests with their classmates, helping them become confident public speakers.

Children who can clearly express themselves



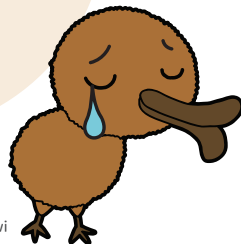
I wonder about this feeling... Am I frustrated?

Kissing Kiwi



You'll be upset if someone takes your crayon

Elegant Elephant



Kiwi is sad... I wonder what I can say

Running Rabbit



As the children have new experiences in class they will also develop new vocabulary so they can adequately describe and express their reactions to these.

Developing strong communication skills that allow the children to share their opinions effectively with other people will be a benefit to them throughout their life.



The newest Kinder Kids school in Japan opened in April 2017.

Interview Tama Plaza School

Tama Plaza School Manager
Manaka Iwashita



Staff Spotlight



Interview Nagoya School

Nagoya School Manager
Junna Ojima



Our Only Kinder Kids school in Chubu region. Supporting children from infancy through to elementary and high school with their learning.

Tama Plaza school is located close to the train station. It is conveniently located close to central Tokyo, with a big shopping mall and park nearby and it is home to many young families.

All of our Tama Plaza school staff actively contribute to the smooth running of the school. We interact with all the children so we are very close to each other regardless of the children's age differences and that creates a warm and lively ambience in the school.

We encourage the children to interact with different age groups so we often see older children will help to take care of the younger children and the younger children try to learn from their older peers. I genuinely feel the importance



of communication every day working in this school. My goal is to notice the fine details about each child's growth and tell parents about their progress even just a small thing that shows the children are working hard.

I will watch the children grow up alongside their parents and share the joy of their growth while maintaining a homely and inclusive atmosphere.



Nagoya school is in an urban area where many major schools are located but has nature on its doorstep, including the local park with a famous big pond and beautiful spring cherry blossoms.

It offers a spacious yard and gym so children can enjoy playing even on rainy days. Our school staff have a lot of energy and lots of smiles so they can keep up with children. The staff often impress me when I see how they genuinely interact with each child. We value building trust with children and watch each child's growth closely through the well thought out activities created by our team.

It feels very rewarding when I hear stories from parents telling me how they are so impressed that their child translated for them when they went on an overseas trip, or a graduate student explains to me how he uses the same English book that he used at Kinder Kids so he's very confident reading it at elementary school. I feel so proud to hear that Kinder Kids graduates excel with the English skills they honed through Circle Time and our comprehensive curriculum. I will strive to provide excellent childcare and education that will continue to make our graduate students proud to say they went to Kinder Kids.



3F KM Bldg, 2-14-4
Utukusigaoka, Aobaku-ku,
Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa

Nagoya school is continuing to grow with the children!

Every day we are lively from morning till evening!



5-1 Hayato, Hiroji-cho,
Showa-ku, Nagoya-shi, Aichi



Globally Active Kids

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A student from our Canada School used our transfer system to visit Yokohama School. Her mother returning temporarily to her hometown took advantage of our service.

Visiting a different country for a while with kids can be challenging and stressful for both parents and children. However, by using Kinder Kids' transfer system, she could transfer to Kinder Kids Yokohama smoothly without changing her uniform, textbooks or having to miss any education. She enjoyed school in Japan just as much as she did at Kinder Kids Canada. We asked the mother what she thought about using the Transfer System.



— Why did you choose to send your children to Kinder Kids?

I chose Kinder Kids because I heard positive feedback about Kinder Kids from people I know. Also, there is a transfer system and staff are bilingual. When I visited the school, it had a good ambience that is also a reason why I chose Kinder Kids.

— Did you have any concerns before coming to Japan?

If you did, were those concerns resolved after you arrived?

My daughter can be shy so I worried about how she would adjust to the new surroundings. However, the class teachers and her classmates were very bright and friendly and my worries soon disappeared.

— Kinder Kids doesn't arrange a place for you to stay in Japan.

How did you make arrangements for your accommodation?

Luckily, my parents' home was close to the Kinder Kids school so we were staying at my parents'.

— Tell us about your child's first day at school: Were they nervous or were they excited?

Although she didn't say it, I could feel that she was a little bit nervous.



— Did you join any events held at School?

There was an Open Day held so I went along to it. It was a very nice opportunity to see my daughter enjoying her class.

— How did you spend your holidays? Please tell us about your favorite places, recommendations or tourist destinations.

Our favorite place is "Kodomo No Kuni" and not to mention, Disneyland was lots of fun. A Shopping mall called "Tressa Yokohama" was also fun for her, especially because she could ride in the shopping cart. Shopping carts that kids can ride in is uncommon in Canadian shopping malls, and even if there is one, we would have to pay 5 dollars so she doesn't usually get to ride it.

— Do you recommend other students experience the transfer to Japan? Please give advice to those who are thinking about participating in the program about how to prepare.

Yes, I definitely would recommend it. There is no need for any particular preparation but the school year has a different structure in Japan to Canada (the school year in Japan is from April to March, but it is January to December in Canada), so depending on when you transfer, you may go into a different class from your local school class. Therefore, it is safer if you check which level your child will go into before you transfer and find out how it is different.

My daughter was born in February, so she is preschool in Kinder Kids Canada, but she is in K1 class in Japan. (In Canada, Kinder class starts only from 4 years old for 2 years). She was confused in the beginning when she found out there was no nap time, and she needed to write a sentence for homework because she only knew how to trace the alphabet. She attended class every day although she only went three days a week to Kinder Kids Canada (you can choose three days or five days per week in Canada's preschool).



Interview

Interview with a Kinder Kids Graduate

Kinder Kids Toyonaka School 8th graduate student: R.S
 After she graduated from Kinder Kids, she went to a public elementary school and junior high school, then moved on to the Senri and Osaka International Schools of Kwansai Gakuin high school. From her second year of high school, she studied abroad at a high school in South Carolina, U.S for a year and she came back to school here in Japan from September. She passed Eiken pre-Level 1 when she was a junior high school student and she speaks English fluently.
 When she was at high school in South Carolina, she was selected for the "National Honor Society" which only selects students who maintain excellent grades, are actively involved in volunteering, and have great leadership skills.
 After she graduated from Kinder Kids Toyonaka, she came back to Toyonaka school to take part in an internship. She also joined our Grad Club camp and Australia program. This year, she helped out as a volunteer leader at G1 Summer Camp. We asked her about her memories of Kinder Kids and what she is doing currently.

— What do you remember the most about when you were at Kinder Kids?

The Christmas Concerts. It was fun to play with my classmates and to wear the costume my mother made for me.

— When was your first overseas trip?

I went to Australia when I was in K2 to see the Wiggles concert as that was my favorite music at the time. I went there with three of my K2 classmates' families.

— Tell us what you thought about the overall experience of studying abroad in the U.S.

There were so many different races, religions and people with different backgrounds. It was really important to respect other people's opinions and understand each other.

— What language do you watch foreign movies in?

I definitely watch in English. I can tell that when it is translated into Japanese the nuance and expression changes.

— What do you want to do when you grow up?

I haven't specifically decided yet, but I would like to do a job that requires me to interact with other people.

Not only is she interested in English, but she is also interested in IT, so she will join an IT camp for junior high and high school students from all over Japan. We can't take our eyes off her, she's going places!

High School



Kinder



Toddler



Nursery

Report

Cambodia Youth Volunteers

Three Kinder Kids graduates visited Cambodia to do volunteer work. They visited Chanserrey Elementary School in Western Cambodia's Pursat province, established by a donation from Kinder Kids students' parents.
 They also visited a Japanese language school in Phnom Penh.

I thought it was amazing that although the environment for studying is not very well developed, they study hard anyway.

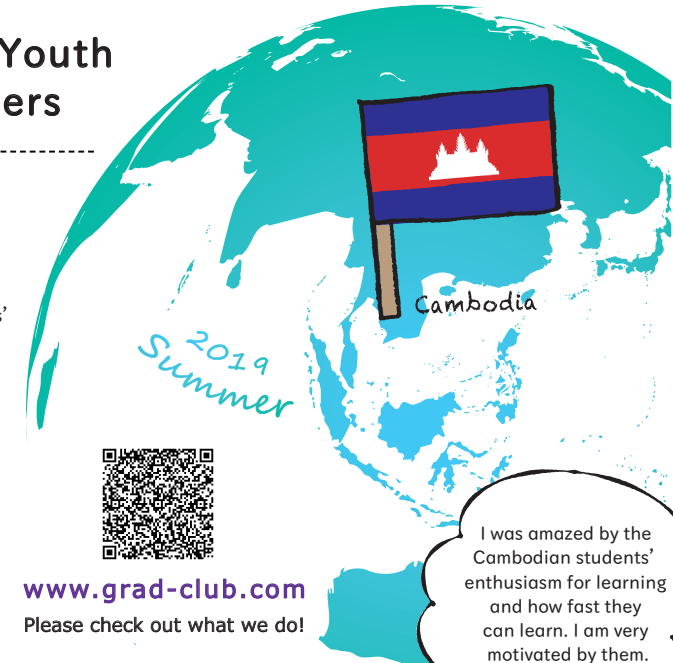


I am not a very sociable person but the Cambodian children made such an effort to interact with me, that I was able to easily overcome my social awkwardness!

Cambodia Youth Volunteer provided them an opportunity/milestone to gain further international perspective and nurture adaptability in preparation for the international workplace. Going overseas and learning something new with friends, can be an opportunity to take a look at oneself again and the experience has certainly made their world bigger.



Chaperone



www.grad-club.com
Please check out what we do!

I was amazed by the Cambodian students' enthusiasm for learning and how fast they can learn. I am very motivated by them.

Eiken Online Lesson

will start!

Applications

Kinder+

Please go to Kinder+ for more information and to send us an application.

* Students can apply for up to 6 different lessons at once.



We are proud to offer new Eiken online lessons!

For students who can't attend Eiken class

This great opportunity is offered only for K3 students who will be taking Grade 5 & 4 exams. We started these online lessons to help students who want to join Eiken class but due to their conditions (such as a schedule conflicts or their school currently doesn't have Eiken class etc.,) are unable to physically partake.

They will learn about the format of the Eiken test as well as how to study for it effectively, particularly the reading test. Your child will be required to submit homework in order to practice what they have learned in the lesson. Keeping their age in mind, ideally it is better to study with 'study buddies' in a school as they will gain more motivation than they would just studying by themselves. However, if there is no other choice then take the online lesson - please apply!

We also provide lessons that prepare children for the second stage speaking test for those who passed the first stage of grade 3.

The first stage of Eiken will take place around the time when new K3 students are participating in Sports Day.

Around this time there are usually only a few students who can join Eiken Class so there are usually only a few students who will take the Eiken test. However, this year, two students for grade 3, and 15 students for grade 4 took the test at group test sites of Kinder Kids.

The result was impressive; both students passed grade3, and 13 students out of 15 passed grade 4!

Our teachers were very proud of them, and we hope that they gained some confidence from this experience and will move on to the next step.

Procedures for taking lessons

1 One on One Lesson

approx. 22 minutes

Taught by a Japanese instructor in Japanese. Chosen question of the desired grade. Students will be able to understand and learn what it is like to take an Eiken test and what type of questions there are and how to answer them.

3 Submit homework via email

Students will complete homework and submit it back to us by 15:00 on the day of the lesson via email.



2 Feedback

approx. 3 minutes

The student with their guardian can receive feedback on points from the lesson.

4 Feedback on homework

Once we receive your homework, we will give feedback on the homework and send it back to you via email.

Let's keep at it together!



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