

Q: Is Kumon only for children not doing well in school?

A: No. Kumon curriculum is designed to work with all learning goals. Even if the worksheets remain the same, the study plans vary greatly based on student ability and background. The Kumon program can be used as a remedial (for kids having a hard time at school) or an enrichment (they need to be challenged beyond their school level) or a revision (to make sure they do not forget) tool. It is not impossible for kids to start as remedial and then go on to be advanced students on the Kumon Advanced Student Honour Roll.

Q: How does Kumon differ from tutoring?

A: Tutoring is usually a one on one process that revolves around the student's school curriculum with the goal of catching up to grade level. Kumon students become life-long independent learners. Kumon has its own curriculum that has been researched and tested for over 50 years. Students enroll in Kumon and start at a level that is very easy for them in order to: fill any pre-existing learning gaps, build confidence in their ability to achieve and excel as well as get the student and the family used to the routine of doing Kumon. Students, then, advance in small incremental steps while developing and sharpening their ability to self-learn and self-correct independently.

Q: How often does my child have to be at the centre and for how long?

A: Optimally, the student is at the centre twice a week. Their stay in the centre each class depends on how long it takes them to finish their classwork and correct their mistakes. When that is done, they are free to go. On average, a student requires 25 minutes per subject on each centre visit. Regular centre attendance and homework exchange are essential for the student to progress. Students who pick up work or miss classes will not fulfill their goals within the desired timelines.

Q: How many pages of homework does my child have to do?

A: Every student is different. There is no set number of pages. For every student, the Kumon instructor creates an individualized plan that suits the family circumstances, schedule and ability of that student. As the student progresses through the program or things change, the plan is adjusted accordingly. As long as the student is doing the assigned daily work, they should progress according to plan.

Q: How does my child's Kumon relate to what they are doing in school?

A: Kumon has its own separate curriculum. The overlap between Kumon and the school curriculum increases the higher the Kumon study level. In all cases, the skills that your child acquires by doing Kumon will be invaluable at school and will spill over into all school subjects. Also, in the long run, the student will have the solid foundation that enables them to tackle any school subject with ease and confidence.

Q: Is it OK for my child to be ahead of his/her class?

A: Of course it is. That is often the case with Kumon students. That only means that school material will be that much easier for them to do. Kumon materials deal with aspects that are not necessarily part of the school curriculum or not covered at the same depth. That is why Kumon students acquire the skills and knowledge that become a cutting edge advantage in higher education or later on at work.

Q: Can my child use the calculator/spell check/grammar check on his Kumon math?

A: No. It is extremely important for the students to build their mental calculation ability in Math, train their eyes and ears to spot errors, and exercise their long-term retention and memory in both subjects. Use of the above aids is not allowed in Kumon, at centre or at home, as they take away from the student's own brain's efficiency in performing the

Q: Will the Centre provide supplies to my child?

A: The centre will provide all worksheets and supplemental study material. The Centre also hands out a starter kit containing the necessary office supplies to all new students at enrolment. The kit contains one Kumon pouch, a Kumon+ gift set, two pencils, one eraser and one sharpener. When the supplies run out, it is the family's responsibility to ensure that the student comes to centre with all supplies needed to do the worksheets.

Q: What kind of payments do you accept?

A: We accept payment via Pre-Authorized Debit to a chequing account, Visa and MasterCard. A standard form will be provided at the time of registration.

Q: If I enroll more than one child or for more than one subject, do I get a discount?

A: No. The Kumon tuition is significantly lower than other tutoring options on the market. Also, Kumon charges the instructor a fixed fee per student regardless of number of subjects or siblings enrolled.

Q: What skills will my child acquire in the Kanata South Kumon Centre?

At our centre, students build and hone a variety of vital skills: communication and self-expression, mental calculation, analytical skills, eye hand coordination, ability to learn independently, exposure to cultural history, problem solving techniques, self-correction, long term memory development, oral reading and presentation, prioritization, pattern recognition, estimation, focus and retention, organizational skills, attention to detail, efficiency, self-evaluation, summarization, time management, discipline, etc. These skills will serve them well in and out of school.

Q: Can I break my one year Study Contract?

A: Not without a compelling reason (family emergency, relocation, etc.). Otherwise, the commitment is binding. We always advise parents to give Kumon enrolment careful thought and consideration prior to registration in order to avoid such situations. If you decide to break your commitment, there is an early termination fee. Details in Tuition Policy and Payment Terms.

Q: Can I take a break?

A: Yes, you can after the first year of enrolment. Keep in mind that long breaks without work mean that knowledge will be lost and back-tracking will be required. Kumon dictates a maximum of one calendar month in any calendar year without work or tuition payment. Breaks in two calendar years can not be adjacent. If you surpass that limit, the student's entire history will be erased. To resume, the registration process has to be restarted.

Q: What if we go on holiday?

A: Going on holiday is a normal family activity. The majority of our students take their work with them. It all fits nicely in their compact and handy Kumon pouch. Students continue to progress, as long as they do some work. A "holiday workload" option is available upon request. If you have completed your first year of enrolment and do not wish to take work with you, then please refer to the previous question for more information. One thing to remember, Kumon does not recognize partial or rolling month. If worksheets are handed out in any month, full tuition payment for that month is due and payable without dispute.

Q: Can I change Kumon centres?

A: Yes, but tell us why (problem, relocation, etc.). Only current students may request a transfer. Note that each Kumon centre is an independent instructional, legal and financial entity. Tuition and/or fees are non-refundable cannot be transferred between centres. Each centre has its own instruction approach, policies and notice requirements, which the parents and students are required to respect. You and your children will not get the same experience in another Kumon centre.

Q: Who plans work and/or tests for students?

A: That is under the instructor's careful supervision. He/she has the full understanding of the Kumon curriculum, the goals of each level, the skills required in every learning block, the interconnections between the levels, and what it takes to progress successfully within the Kumon program. Feedback from parents and students will be taken into consideration, but the final planning decision always rests with the instructor.

Q: What age group does the your centre accept?

A: We accept all clients aged 3 and up. With an individualized study plan and the proper structure at home, all students are able to progress. The younger they start, the more they will get out of it and the further they will progress.

Q: What is my role as a parent?

A: Parent support is crucial to a student's success in Kumon (details are in the "Parent Pledge"). Kumon parents must support Centre efforts by doing the following:

- Brings student to class regularly and on time
- Provide structure and routine at home
- Ensure that daily assignments are properly completed with time accurately recorded
- Mark the daily assignments using the marking guide, a red pen and an answer book
- Verify accurate error correction of all mistakes daily
- Train student to be responsible, organized and neat with their Kumon worksheets and supplies
- Praise the student's successes and support them when the work is hard
- Support the framework, policies and guidelines of Kumon and the centre
- Communicate with the instructor and staff as needed

Q: What am I paying for?

A: The students pay tuition to be enrolled in the Kumon program and not just to receive worksheets. Enrollment in Kumon means:

- access to the knowledge and expertise of a well trained, certified and licensed instructor
- an individualized study plan to suit the student's abilities and the family schedule
- regular class attendance at the scheduled time slot
- evaluation and observation at centre
- assistance with questions and new concepts as needed
- assisting the student with the development of good study habits and independent learning skills
- oral and written evaluations at the end of every level
- use of supplemental material to support understanding as needed
- daily homework in the form of worksheets and supplements as needed