Application Guidelines for International Course (Foreigners and Returnee Children) for the 2027 Academic Year (First Grade)

Elementary School Attached to the Faculty of Education, Kumamoto University
Address: 5-12 Kyomachi Honcho, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto
Tel: 096-356-2492 (Switchboard)

As an elementary school that provides compulsory primary education equivalent to public schools, our school also serves as an affiliated school of the Faculty of Education, Kumamoto University. We work in cooperation with the Faculty of Education and our school missions are conducting pre-service teaching training for students of the Faculty of Education, Kumamoto University, and implementing educational research and practice by collaborating with the other affiliated schools: the kindergarten, the junior high school, the school for special needs education, and other research institutions. Therefore, unique activities based on our own educational plans will also be conducted.
Parent(s)/guardian(s) of applicants applying for admission to the school are requested to fully understand the educational policies and characteristics of the school and its International Course before applying for admission.

1. Enrollment capacity

Approximately 7 foreign/returnee children.
※Applicants may apply to both the International Course and the General Class. (However, only those who designate the International Course as their **first choice** and agree to enroll in the International Course if accepted may apply.)

2. Qualifications

Applicants must meet all of the following conditions from (1) to (4).

(1) Applicants must be foreign children or returnee children, and meet the following requirements:
・Foreign nationality or a returnee child (※)
・An interest in Japanese education in English (parent(s)/guardian(s) also required)
・Ability to communicate in English
(2) Applicants must have been born between April 2, 2020, and April 1, 2021.
(3) Applicants must live with their parent(s) or guardian(s) in Kumamoto Prefecture as their place of residence. (Temporary residence in Kumamoto Prefecture is not accepted.)
・For applicants who live outside of the prefecture, etc., please submit a certificate of expected relocation by the parent(s)/guardian(s) (Letter of Confirmation for Change of Address form) at the time of application.
(4) In principle, applicants must be able to walk or take public transportation to school from their place of residence within 50 minutes.
※ For children who have returned to Japan, the applicant must meet all of the following conditions.
① Those who have Japanese nationality and have lived abroad for one or more years in a row.
② Those who return to Japan between April 1, 2026, and March 31, 2027.

3. School orientation for the parent(s)/guardian(s) of applicants

(1) Date: Wednesday, November 11, 2026

〇Reception 2:00 PM-2:30 PM

〇Information session (including lesson observation) 2:30 PM-3:30 PM

(2) Venue: International Wing, 3rd Floor at Elementary School Attached to the Faculty of Education, Kumamoto University

(3) Notice:

① If you wish to attend, please register in advance through the school website via the online application system. (https://www.educ.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/kokusai/)

② Entry after 2:30 PM is not permitted. Please be punctual.

③ Up to two parent(s)/guardian(s) are required for the event. Please refrain from bringing the applicant or other children to the orientation.

④ Please prepare indoor shoes.

⑤ Lesson observation will be held after the information session.

As it is an important opportunity to deeply understand our educational principles and practices, please be sure to attend the school orientation. In principle, application documents for admission will be distributed during the orientation. However, in case if you are not able to attend on the orientation, please contact us in advance between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM (excluding 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM) from Monday, October 26 to Friday, October 30 only). If you are currently living outside of Japan, and cannot come in person, arrangements can be made to view the orientation online. Please contact us by e-mail by Friday, October 30. (Email: kyo-kokusai@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp)

4. Application procedures

(1) Submission of the application documents:

Between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM (excluding from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM) from Wednesday, November 18, 2026 to Friday, November 20, 2026. (On Friday, November 20, applications will be accepted until 12:00 p.m.)

※ Applicants from Kindergarten Attached to the Faculty of Education, Kumamoto University, may apply only from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Friday, November 20.

(2) Required documents:

① Application for Admission

② Route Assignment Notification

③ Certificate of Residence (Juminhyo, original document issued within three months)

④ Examination Fee: 3,300 Japanese yen (non-refundable , cash only)

⑤ Additional Requirements:

(i) For foreign children:

・A copy of the passport, both sides (front and back) of the residence card issued by the Japanese government (Minister of Justice), or a copy of another official documents showing foreign nationality.

※The documents must be valid at the time of application and include information: the applicant's name, photo, date of birth, nationality, ID number, etc. (For residence cards, the period of stay must also be included.)

※The original passport, residence card, and other official documents must be presented in person at the application counter to verify the information. If you are still waiting for a new or renewed residence card, notify the school at the time of application. Then, bring both a copy of the new card and the original card to the school on the examination day.

(ii) For returnee children:

・A copy of the passport or other official documents showing the length of stay abroad.
※It must include the period of overseas residence (dates of departure and arrival) of the applicant taking the examination.
※The passport should clearly show the entry and exit dates of the applicant taking the examination. It must also include the applicant's name, photo, date of birth, nationality, and passport number. The passport must be valid at the time of re-entry into Japan or the time of the submission.
※If the passport does not show the entry/exit stamps (e.g. due to using an automated facial recognition gate), you must request a record disclosure from the Immigration Services Agency of Japan. Since this process takes time, please begin preparations early.
※When submitting the Application for Admission, present the original passport at the counter to verify the contents.
※If it is difficult to submit, please contact us in advance.

(3) Submission documents

Please submit the application documents by hand to the office of the school before the deadline.

※ Reception slip (uketsukehyo) and receipt will be issued after the submission.

※ If you are living overseas and cannot submit the application in person, we can accept applications online. Please contact us by e-mail (kyo-kokusai@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp) by Friday, November 13 for more details regarding this.

5. Entrance examination

【For Applicants Applying ONLY to the International Course】

(1) Date: Tuesday, January 5, 2027

(2) Venue: Elementary School Attached to the Faculty of Education, Kumamoto University (Reception: Elementary School Gymnasium)

(3) Test Details: While considering the unique characteristics of our school, the applicant's ability to think and listen comprehensively in English will be examined. Along with applicants' testing, the parent(s)/guardian(s) are also interviewed to confirm the intent of a child's enrollment at our school (Interviews are either in English or Japanese).

(4) Method: Successful applicants will be decided by their examination results.

(5) Schedule:

Tuesday, January 5, 2027 — All examinations conducted in English

Reception	8:40 AM～9:10 AM（Be punctual）
Orientation	9:15 AM～
Examination 1	9:45 AM～10:15 AM
Examination2 (Interview & Group Activities)	10:30 AM～12:30 PM（scheduled）
Parents/Guardians Interview (In English or Japanese)	9:45 AM～

(6) Notice:

①Each applicant should be accompanied by either one parent or one guardian.

② Please bring:

- The reception slip (uketsukehyo) which was issued during the submission procedure of the

application.

- Indoor shoes (Applicants should bring shoes that do not have their name written on them.)
- Water bottle (If necessary).

③ Please present your reception slip at the reception. You will be given an examinee number.

④ The reception will be closed at 9:10 AM. Please understand that an applicant who arrives late will not be permitted to take the examination.

【For Applicants Applying to Both the General Class and the International Course】

(1) Date: Monday, January 4 and Tuesday, January 5, 2027

(2) Venue: Elementary School Attached to the Faculty of Education, Kumamoto University (Reception: Elementary School Gymnasium)

(3) Test Details: While considering the unique characteristics of our school, the applicant's ability to think and listen comprehensively in English will be examined. Along with applicants' testing, the parent(s)/guardian(s) are also interviewed to confirm the intent of a child's enrollment at our school (Interviews are either in English or Japanese).

(4) Method: Successful applicants will be decided by their examination results.

(5) Schedule:

Monday, January 4, 2027— All examinations conducted in Japanese

Reception	8:40 AM～9:10 AM（Be punctual）
Orientation	9:15 AM～
Examination	9:45 AM～
Lunch	12:00 PM～
Examination	1:00 PM～3:00 PM（scheduled）

Tuesday, January 5, 2027 — All examinations conducted in English

Reception	8:40 AM～9:10 AM（Be Punctual）
Orientation	9:15 AM～
Examination 1	9:45 AM～10:15 AM
Examination2 (Interview & Group Activities)	10:30 AM～12:30 PM（scheduled）
Parents/Guardians Interview (In English or Japanese)	9:45 AM～

※ Dismissal will occur after all child and parent interviews have concluded.

(6) Notice:

①Each applicant should be accompanied by either one parent or one guardian.

② Please bring:

- Reception Slip (Uketsukehyo) issued at the time of application submission
- Examination Admission Ticket (issued on the first examination day; required on January 5)
- Indoor shoes (Applicants should bring shoes that do not have their name written on them.)
- Water bottle (If necessary). Lunch (Only on January 4)

③ Please present your reception slip at the reception. You will be given an examinee number.

④ The reception window will be closed at 9:10 AM. Please understand that an applicant who arrives late will not be permitted to take the examination.

※ The process will be finished after all interviews of applicants and parent(s)/guardian(s) are completed.

6. Acceptance notice and enrollment procedures

(1) Date: Thursday, January 7, 2027

※ The results can be confirmed on the school's website from 11:00 AM. (https://www.educ.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/elem/)

(2) Venue: Elementary School Attached to the Faculty of Education, Kumamoto University

○ Announcement of successful applicants	3:00 PM
○ Enrollment formalities	3:15 PM
○ Information session	3:30 PM - 4:00 PM

※ It is necessary for (up to 2) parent(s) / guardian(s) of the applicants who pass the entrance examination to attend the enrollment procedure. (If parent(s)/ guardian(s) of the applicant who passes the entrance examination does not attend this meeting, it is assumed that he/she does not intend to enroll.)

※ If you will be overseas and it is difficult to participate at the time of this day, please contact us by phone or email in advance.

7. Issuance of Enrollment Certificates and the New 1st Grade Parents' Orientation

(1) Date: Friday, February 19, 2027

(2) Venue: the school's Gymnasium (Taiikukan)

(3) Schedule

○Reception time	1:30 PM - 2:00 PM
○Issuance of Enrollment Certificates	2:10 PM - 2:30 PM
○Information session	2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

※ Admission will be granted upon completion of **"6. enrollment procedures"** and **"7. Issuance of Enrollment Certificates"**. If the parent(s)/ guardian(s) of the applicant who passes the entrance examination does not attend this orientation, it is assumed that he/she does not intend to enroll. (Up to two parent(s)/guardian(s) parent/guardian can attend the orientation.)

※ If you will be overseas and it is difficult to participate at the time of the orientation, please contact us by phone or email in advance.

8 . Others

・The qualification of the submission is invalid if false or misleading information is included in the application documents.

・The school will take responsibility for the disposal of any documents with personal information after the examination.

・Any time you visit the school, please do not use your own vehicle. Please come by public transport. Parking in the school or areas near the school is prohibited.

・For announcements about the change of examination day schedule due to traffic disruptions caused by natural disasters or bad weather, please confirm the information on the school's website (https://www.educ.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/elem/) that will be updated before 6:10 AM on the day of the examination. Direct information requests by phone call, etc. is not available.

・When necessary, the communication between staff of the admission office and parent(s)/guardian(s) of the applicant will be in English or Japanese.

・All dates and times stated in this guideline are in Japan Standard Time (UTC+9).