

preschool kindergarten
Tspace

Preschool and Kindergarten

The Super Bugs Book



The Super Bug Programme

... a cut above the rest!

One of Kspace's greatest treasures, the Super Bugs is open to a select group of students aged 5 to 6 years old. Super Bugs is an exclusive focus group, with an extraordinary combination of ingredients that make it pack a punch in education! With all the tailor-made perks of a small classroom like attentive tutoring and personalised service, we still manage to offer the students a **'big school feel'**.

Super Bug children enjoy all the group interaction, friendships and disciplines they would benefit from in a larger school, **without any chance of their talents being overlooked!** This final year programme is our 'finishing school' - preparing them beautifully for a no-stress transition to elementary school.

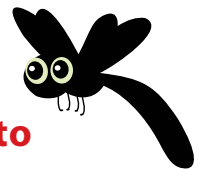


Super Bugs are walked step-by-step to success. This is an incredibly exciting time for our Kspace ambassadors as they reach the 'top' and take on more responsibilities.

Included in this brochure you will find some information about our theme-studies, teaching method and our curriculum – but seeing is believing!

Come along and spend some time with our happy Super Bugs and find out exactly what the buzz is about!

Our team take your child's education and their integration into higher schooling very seriously. Please make an appointment with our staff to talk about your child's future and give them a head start.



The Buzz About Super Bugs

Super Bug receives overwhelming support and praise from parents, educators and our students

Thank you all for the best start for my children. We have settled into our new life in Hong Kong. Looking around schools in HK was disappointing and even the very best was not a patch on Kspace! I was a little worried but the children settled immediately. I know we were completely spoilt in the Super Bugs and we will never again get the chance for them to experience such close contact with teachers who really understand them. If we could turn back the clock I would like to repeat the year over and over again.

Super Bug Parent, now in Hong Kong



Super Bugs is extraordinary! Truly dedicated amazing teachers, and I'm speechless at how much work and effort they put into everything they do. I feel so lucky that my son is in Super Bugs this year. I love all the teachers and staff at K-space, but Super Bugs is just extra special!

Super Bug Parent, 2009

I like Bugs because when I want to talk about something nobody laughs at me and the other kids listen too. The teachers let me make a truck that moves and then we all made it as a project. They don't treat us like kids and listen to our ideas

Super Bug Student, 2007



My best part is when I sit down with the teacher and read. At home it's a bit tricky because my brother wants to get in my way because he's big and noisy, but at school the teacher knows what to do. She is kind and funny and tells me I am clever. I think I am clever, even though my brother tells me I am not. My friends at school are all clever too. I want to stay in this class all the time

Super Bug Student 2008, now at Nishimachi

International School (and happy!)



Super Bugs is effectively the icing on the cake! Attention to detail like this is almost impossible to achieve in regular school programmes but Kspace pulls it off! There isn't any way that you could conceive a syllabus that is so beautifully structured and executed in the day-to-day running of a larger school, or with less talented teachers. I am more than impressed with the curriculum - which exceeds anything I have seen in a kindergarten setting in twenty years experience. I wish my children had benefitted from such a wonderful opportunity to enjoy and learn!

Dr. Irene Broadley, Chartered Educational Psychologist, Ofsted and Early Years Assessor and Director of Positive Parenting Publications (and mother of four sons)



What Makes the Super Bugs Magic!

Personal Attention = Maximum Development

Assessment, feedback and documentation feature heavily in both the students' and teachers' roles and support is extremely important. Every student has a beautifully collated portfolio that we spend a great deal of time reviewing, to ensure that all studies are being aimed at a level that will stimulate and stretch each individual.

Guest teachers and your child's key worker meet regularly to discuss their findings and we build a picture of skills, strengths and support areas based upon many expert opinions.

Our excellent teacher:student ratio allows us to offer highly personalized tutoring, with the addition of;

- One-to-one tutor package for advanced reading skills, with superb phonics comprehension package.
- Weekly homework packs designed individually for your child's needs.
- Regular teacher-to-parent support counseling and feedback.
- Guest speakers and specialist teachers for workshops, physical education, creative and performance arts.



✂ Tailor-made writing activities and modules that optimize your child's chances of enjoyment and success in literacy.

✂ Step by step review of progress with maths, science and academic subjects, that checks understanding and retention at every step of the way.



Excellent Study Package = Best Education Available

In order to develop full understanding of the subjects that they study our Super Bugs dissect two topics per month, tackling each new theme like little investigators. Each month the classroom transforms into a full scale exhibition site, which is added to as all aspects of the subject come to life. A huge event at the end of the theme, involving parents, brings together all the pieces of the jigsaw beautifully.

We study a range of fascinating subjects that cover a lot of ground and give the children excellently rounded knowledge of their world. Multi-media tools allow us to turn each subject inside-out and this is a period when we have time to ensure that all learning to this point has



fully sunk in! Through the activities in our theme studies we focus on reading, writing and penmanship, maths, geography, history, science and social studies. All areas are explored in fun, original, practical / comprehensible chunks that make sense to this age group, and are thus retained to memory.

Super Bugs have resources at their fingertips that many schools only offer at a much later stage: we integrate information from a wide variety of sources

including; internet, photo libraries, sophisticated books, magazines, educational movies and the world's very best learning aids and materials.

Empowered Students = Captivated Learners & Responsible Individuals



In Super Bugs we use an approach that completely involves the child; stopping to listen to their views, ideas and observations at every step of the way. As well as enjoying an outstanding curriculum the children feel empowered as they set targets for themselves, and are part of the driving force behind the direction of each theme.

They use sophisticated methods like story-boarding and role-play to make concepts three dimensional, and the ideas that they put forward are amazing! We hear them openly communicate their dreams and think BIG!

The children grow close in this class and forge strong relationships with everyone around them. They are given so many opportunities to happily affect each other's lives that the disciplinary problems that are common in larger schools are simply not an issue. The children want harmony and work hard to keep balance, and they really care about the feelings of their peers. Negative dialogue and moods are low as the atmosphere is incredibly upbeat. The children say "I want to help..." and "I want to study..."; "Lets find out about this" often throughout the day and parents notice the profoundly positive effect that being part of this programme has on their child.





Super Bugs are Winners

Our aim is to guide your child to recognize their full potential. We show children how to enjoy every aspect of school life and we know how to draw out all talents and more importantly, have great fun in the discovery process!

Each child leaves us with a head full of memories of happy days, great events and trips and wonderful projects. They have an enormous amount of confidence and sense of self-worth and all Super Bugs graduates gain coveted places at superb schools. Our team is always there to support and counsel our parents in their choices, and offer referrals to schools when necessary.



Placing your child in our school not only gives them the most perfect educational foundation, but can also be a guarantee for success for the future. Graduates who leave us following their Super Bug's year have received the closest personal tuition available at any school in Tokyo and our alumni in Japan are now enjoying school life at;

American School in Japan (ASIJ)
Tokyo International School (TIS)
British School in Japan (BSIT)
Yokohama International School
Nishimachi International School
St. Mary's International School, Tokyo
Sacred Heart, Tokyo

(As well as many other elite facilities here and around the world)

Recognition for Kspace

The uniqueness of the Kspace approach has been applauded by many Elementary Schools in Tokyo, and our children have wonderful choices when they graduate. We have forged excellent bonds with schools and earned a glowing reputation – with our curriculum and teaching techniques winning tremendous praise from professional educators. Kspace is officially one of the few schools in Tokyo that

the British School in Tokyo has awarded a much sought after seal of approval.

We are one of a select number of preschools to be included in the 'Early Years Network'; an association of the best International Schools in Tokyo, dedicated to the ongoing pursuit of excellence in education.

Kspace is also one of the very few International Preschools in the whole of Japan to have gained official licensing and recognition by the government. This is an incredibly difficult achievement for non-Japanese schools and relies upon continuous assessment of standards to remain within the guidelines. We are extremely proud to have this accolade, which is further proof of the care and attention we apply to all aspects of school management; including safety, hygiene, facility development, student numbers and the caliber/background of our staff.

Super Bugs Daily Timetable

Discussion Time	9:00
Learning words	9:20
Peer Massage	9:35
Literacy and Quiet Reading Time	9:45
Gourmet Snack from our fabulous Kiwi Kitchens	10:25
Geography/ Science/ Nature Studies (Mathematics focus on Tuesdays and Thursdays)	10:45
Reading - Comprehension Check	11:20
Japanese Language and Culture Studies	11:30
Gym Time	11:50
Lunch and Structured Free Play	12:15
Maths games	13:10
Creative Movement/Yoga/Theme Studies/Art	13:40
Theme Studies & Role Play	13:40
Literacy Awareness/Story Time	14:00
What Have We Learnt Today?/ Fruit & Snack	14:25
	14:45

The day for Super Bugs begins from the moment they arrive and they we get straight down to business! As Super Bugs are our oldest children at the school they need less time to settle and arrive a little later than their younger friends, the Big Bugs. Whilst Big Bugs are having a light Circle Time our Super Bugs are full swing in conversation about their day head.

Once we have discussed the day's plan we decide as a group if there are any special tasks that need carrying out and the children regularly get extra responsibilities within their groups. Each week we choose 'Super Bugs of the Week', who have their own roles, but we also decide as a team the many small chores that need carrying out in preparation for project and theme work. Each child is given an area to take care of. The Super Bugs grow gradually used to increased responsibility. After the end of the first term we see them working as a team and they really understand how their role affects everyone else around them. They begin taking on extra jobs if they finish up quickly and generally become extremely supportive of their teachers and class mates. There is a strong element of cooperation and empathy when children are in Big Bugs and we find that unfortunately this can get pushed aside if the children leave to go to larger schools. When faced with less one-to-one time with teachers, and more competition in big classes, the children need to push and shove to be seen and heard. This is a great shame and so we really work hard in this final year to show each child their strengths as individuals and amongst their buddies!

At this level the children's academic studies are extremely important and they are eager for us to give them that extra little push of encouragement! The Super Bugs schedule includes extra sessions daily to learn/reiterate new vocabulary, word games and take part in fun competitions. They also enjoy an increase in the frequency, level and intensity of subjects like mathematics, sciences, knowledge and understanding of the world and literacy. Parents whose children have enjoyed a year in Big Bugs will notice the change in the approach to teaching and the classroom environment, which in Super Bugs takes on a slightly more serious air and far more emphasis on details, accuracy and really exploring each child's capabilities.

In order to achieve the very best results the Super Bugs' time is split between large scale theme/group project work, with a lot of their week set aside for dedicated study periods. These take place in very small focus groups, where they focus is on the children learning academic subjects inside out, at their own pace. We have seen amazing results with all of our Super Bugs graduates and with our support they learn more in this final year than they could ever possibly hope to in larger schools. Super Bugs children have increased games/puzzle time included in their 'free play' which encourages their powers of deduction and reasoning.

To ensure the day is still fun from beginning to end (and not too much of a big jump up from Big Bug life initially!) the Super Bugs enjoy daily doses of Peer Massage which relaxes them physically and mentally prepares them for some special time in the 'Reading Zone'. Physical Education includes many activities that relate to our theme studies, and we design the PE section of the course to improve balance, coordination and strength.

Creative and Performance Arts add the icing on the cake really for our 'big kids' and dance and drama have a special place in the Super Bugs' week. The children take part in some very sophisticated shows and performances, and they are also instrumental in writing scripts, deciding roles and allocation of the many jobs that make up a great show! They have great fun creating their own props and stage designs, and all art projects tackled at this stage are ongoing, intricate and of an incredibly high standard.

After the children have enjoyed their art-time they move back on to 'desk-based' work. Super Bugs have a little less time for 'Free Reading' than their younger peers. 'Free Reading' is a term that we use for children to take a book of their choice and sit quietly looking at the pictures and words, and reading (sometimes aloud) to themselves. Super Bugs have books that they must work through in our Fitzroy Readers reading scheme. Our Fitzroy Reading

scheme has been praised by educators throughout Tokyo and is a truly V.I.P service. In preparation for elementary education, this unique reading programme offers children exclusive one-to-one time with our specialist assessor. At the beginning of term each child is giving a thorough reading assessment and from that point we carefully tailor in-class studies, personal reading plans, homework and monitored activities, in order that they go from strength to strength. We keep an accurate log of progress and liaise closely with parents, to ensure the children are working at home too. We support parents at every step of the way and naturally have many options for children who are not native English speakers. Children work at their own-pace, and receive a massive amount of support and encouragement. We are very proud of this unique feature of Super Bugs which has nurtured lots of little ones to become enthusiastic book worms!

In addition to all the extra modules that Super Bugs children enjoy they are also given a slightly longer period than Big Bugs following lunch for structured free play; where they can return to unfinished projects or read. They are also given more responsibilities at lunch time and are encouraged to help a great deal and given specific jobs. All children in Bugs enjoy a great deal of time for continuity with their theme work and have a special extra period daily for theme studies. Due to their increased awareness of situations the Super Bugs are able to learn a great deal via role-play and this too is incorporated into their weekly routine.

The Super Bugs' day winds down with an opportunity to review their day – which gives the teachers chance for a chat with the children and parents.