

# Aoba-Japan International School Kanazawa Rising Local Expectations for Global Education Ahead of Summer 2027 Opening

Hosting a Summer Program Where Children Discover the Joy of  
Self-Expression Through English and Inquiry-Based Learning

September, 2026

Aoba-Japan International School (A-JIS), a member of Aoba-BBT Worldwide, Inc. (Headquartered in Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; Iwao Shibata, CEO), hosted a two-week summer program for children aged 4 to 3rd grade ahead of the anticipated opening of Aoba-Japan International School Kanazawa (A-JIS Kanazawa) in the summer of 2027.



Celebrating its 50th anniversary, A-JIS organized this initiative to share its distinctive educational model—built upon a long-standing tradition of International Baccalaureate (IB) philosophy and proven academic excellence—in a spirit of openness with the local community prior to its official launch. The program garnered extraordinary interest and high expectations across the region even before its commencement; applications flooded in immediately upon opening, yielding an application rate approximately 2 times its capacity and welcoming a total of 69 young participants across two sessions.

**Fostering Authentic Self-Expression Through Two Weeks of Inquiry**  
Through engaging, hands-on activities such as slime crafting, 3D art, and water play, the program cultivated an IB-inspired inquiry-learning environment where children naturally asked "Why?" and "How?", taking the initiative to think critically and collaborate with peers. Alongside

seasoned educators, **three A-JIS alumni—all holding IB Diplomas (IBDP)—voluntarily stepped forward as teaching assistants to lend their support to their alma mater’s new milestone.** Leveraging the values instilled through their own A-JIS education, these alumni provided compassionate guidance, empowering the younger generation to express themselves in English with newfound confidence.

### **Cultivating High Parent Satisfaction and Mutual Trust**

Following each day’s activities, comprehensive progress reports complete with photographs were distributed daily to families. Coupled with open-classroom visitation days and educational briefing sessions, these efforts inspired deep understanding and heartfelt appreciation from participating parents regarding the school’s educational philosophy.

#### ***Parent Testimonials:***

- *“The daily photo reports were deeply moving; they clearly captured my child vibrantly communicating their thoughts in English and cooperating with friends.”* — Parent of a Kindergarten student
- *“I feel immense reassurance and anticipation knowing that Kanazawa will now offer A-JIS’s inquiry-based education, which nurtures not only English language proficiency but also empathy and self-motivation.”* — Parent of a 2nd Grade student
- *“I witnessed firsthand how remarkably my child bloomed in such a warm, encouraging environment where ‘it is completely fine to make mistakes.’”* — Parent of a 1st Grade student

### **Four Major Media Outlets Coverage:**

Advancing Global Education Hand-in-Hand with the Region

To share the vibrant classroom atmosphere and the children’s engaging learning journey with local residents, a dedicated “Media Day” was held during the program. Four prominent local news outlets—including two television networks and two newspapers—visited the campus to cover the event. The broadcasted features and published articles showcasing the joyful learning environment and parent interviews generated widespread enthusiasm, resulting in a surge of inquiries regarding future enrollment.

A-JIS Kanazawa aspires to be far more than a provider of English language instruction. Honoring Kanazawa’s rich cultural heritage and historical legacy, the school remains committed to collaborating closely with local residents and educational leaders to contribute to the region’s internationalization and the development of future global leaders.

Leading up to the grand opening in the summer of 2027, the school will continue to proactively create opportunities for the local community to visit the campus and experience its “open, high-quality educational environment.”

### **Upcoming Autumn Events and Community Participation**

To continue fostering direct connections with the local community ahead of the grand opening, A-JIS Kanazawa will participate in several upcoming autumn events, including a dedicated booth at a local Kanazawa community event and participation in the campus festival at our partner institution, Hokuriku Gakuin University.

These engagements will provide a casual and welcoming opportunity for families who attended the summer program, as well as prospective parents and local residents, to visit us once again and experience A-JIS' s educational philosophy firsthand. Further details and schedules will be announced sequentially on our official website.

#### **[Overview of Aoba-Japan International School Kanazawa Campus]**

- Scheduled Opening: Summer 2027
- Location: Mitsukoji-machi, Kanazawa City, Ishikawa Prefecture (On the premises of Hokuriku Gakuin University)
- Target Ages: K3 (Kindergarten/Age 4) through 3rd Grade *\*(To be progressively expanded to Middle and High School levels)*
- Educational Approach: Inquiry-based international education incorporating the philosophies of the International Baccalaureate (IB)
- Admissions: Applications for 2027 enrollment are now open
- Special Financial Aid: Information on the Tuition Reduction Program (Up to 50% OFF) is now available