# **International Classes Program**

## 1 What are "International Classes"?

In order to provide a variety of educational experiences for foreign students, the ESC (English Support Course) was established. Classes for ESC students are conducted in English while being part of a regular class. This program has been offered at Higashimachi Elementary School since 2012. From 2017, Nanzan Elementary School began offering the program for first grade. (The course will be offered to new first grades each year.)

**Target Students** Children of foreign residents of Minato (must hold foreign nationality) who have English ability

- O Japanese who have returned from abroad or who have dual nationality are not eligible.
- An English ability test will be given before enrolment in the program. If the level is not appropriate, the student may not be able to join the program.

### Features of ESC classes

- ♦ Classes that are in the ESC have both Japanese and foreign students enrolled.
- ♦ An EST (English Support Teacher) is placed with the ESC. ESC students are supported in English so that they are able to feel comfortable in their school life.
- ♦ Both Japanese and foreign students come in contact with diverse cultures and values.

Number of Students Accepted Limited to 10 students per grade

#### < Please Note These Points >

- The International Classes Program is not aimed for teaching Japanese students English.
- The board of education is strictly enforcing conditions of residence in order to ensure appropriate enrollment of students. They may conduct home visits and may request to see lease agreements.

## 2 How "International Classes" Are Implemented

- Where there are 2 or more classes in a grade level, all ESC students will be placed in 1 class. (Other classes in the same grade will be made up of only Japanese students.)
- An EST is placed with the ESC students to support classes in English (1 person per grade).
- General school life (morning/afternoon meetings, school lunch, etc.), social studies, science, life studies (grades 1/2), music, art, PE, and home economics classes (grades 5/6) ⇒ will be conducted by both the Japanese homeroom teacher and an EST. ESC students and Japanese students will learn in the same room.
- lacktriangle Language Arts, Mathematics, social studies  $\Rightarrow$  ESC students will receive instruction in English from an EST, in a separate room from Japanese students.

