## **Consistent and Continuous Education Backed by Solid Philosophy**

One particular characteristic of Jiyu Gakuen is that it provides a continuous and consistent education from kindergarten through elementary, junior and senior high schools up to college. This, however, is not for the purpose of making it easier to advance to higher levels by cramming, as often seen in some other Japanese private schools.

We believe that in order to realize our kind of truly humanistic education it requires a fair amount of time. Some children join Jiyu Gakuen from age four (kindergarten), others at ages seven, thirteen, or sixteen. Whatever the age they join the school from, we aim to understand and value each student's individual personality. That is why the teacher-to-student ratio at our school is much higher than that found at many other private schools.

Students learn and accumulate experiences according to their stages of growth, while teachers aim to understand the students' efforts and provide consistent education, from which students can develop their own foundation of human qualities.

According to their levels of ability and maturity, students share responsibilities to manage themselves and the school society to which they belong. In the dormitory, for example, upper and lower grade students share daily life and cooperate in order to learn from each other.

Our founder once said, "Those who have good fellowship with others are the best educated." In such environment where generations of people from kindergartenage children to full-grown adults interact, students can have different perspectives and ideas from their own, and that is where new learning takes place.

The final stage of our continuous education is Jiyu Gakuen College (Saiko Gakubu). Only the graduates of our high schools (Girls and Boys Departments) can enter this college. This is because the education at the college is firmly based on what students have learned during the previous stages of our education here. At the college, we aim to solidify the ability that students have accumulated throughout their school life to the level that they can use it to contribute to society in the real world.

