

Kwassui's first student, the only student when the school opened on December 1st, 1879, was Ms. Noh Kanbai. She was 23 years old, the daughter of the administrator of the foreign settlement and the Higashi-yamate area, and the granddaughter of a scholar of Chinese classics, calligrapher, and high-ranking official translator. By 1881, the number of students had grown to 14, and work had begun on the construction of school buildings on the present site in Higashi-yamate. There were a number of ideas for a name for the school, but the final decision was to call it "Kwassui Girls' School." "Kwassui" is the "living water" of John 4:10.

In 1885 Ms. Gheer left Kwassui and went to Fukuoka where she founded Fukuoka Eiwa Girls' School, which has become the present-day Fukuoka Jo Gakuin University.

Soon, in 1887, Kwassui education was organized into various levels, with a 3-year Basic Course, a 3-year Intermediate Course, a 2-year Advanced Course, a 4-year Theology Department, and an Industrial Department, and school regulations were established. A Music Department was established in 1888, and in 1889 an Art Department was started. With the further establishment in 1897 of a 2-year Introductory Course as a level below the Basic Course, and the addition of a 6-year Needlework Course (Japanese and Western), the foundations of the Girls' School were laid.