

広報ひこね（英語版）

Community Newsletter **KOHO HIKONE**



October 2025

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[Official Hikone Website] [New Facebook Page!]

Contact Info	Telephone Number
Hikone City Hall	0749-22-1411 (Switch Board)
Human Rights Policy Division (To Speak to Our English Interpreter, Please Call the Number on the Right.)	0749-30-6113
FACEBOOK	http://www.facebook.com/hikone.eng

You can talk to our English interpreter via phone at the given number above or in person at the Hikone city hall.

This English Version of *Koho Hikone* Is Issued Monthly.

This Foreign-Language Community Newsletter Is Available At:

- Hikone Fukushi Centre
- Hikone Bunka Plaza
- Hikone City Library
- Hikone City Hall (1F)
- AEON TOWN Hikone
- Nakachiku Kominkan
- Shiga Bank (Ohyabu Branch)
- “Gyomuyou Super” (Toga-cho)
- Beisia Hikone
- Inae-chiku Kominkan
- Mega Center TRAIAL Hikone
- Mega Don Quijote Toyosato
- Don Quijote Hikone
- Hikone City Hospital

Interpreting Services (Available in English, Portuguese, Chinese, and Vietnamese)

Onsite Foreign-Language Interpreting Services Are Available At The Hikone City Hall!

Please say “*eigo tsuuyaku onegai shimasu*” at the information desk of the city hall.

“えいご つうやく おねがいします”

City Hall Operating Schedule: Weekdays between 9:00 a.m. and 4:45 p.m.

*Please note that the availability of our English interpreter is subject to change.



***Please Contact Each School Before You Attend.**

Japanese Language Classes in Hikone



Day	Time	Location	Organization Name	Cost
Saturday	2:00 PM to 4:00 PM	Naka-chiku Community Center (Oyabu-cho, 2610)	Hikone Kokusai Kouryu-kai VOICE Katsurada-San Tel: 090-5156-6916	100 yen per lesson
Monday to Friday *Closed on holidays	① 9:30 AM to 10:50 AM ② 11:00 AM to 12:20 PM ③ 1:30 PM to 2:50 PM ④ 3:00 PM to 4:20 PM ⑤ Online Classes	Innovation Office Nayashichi (Shiro-machi 1-7-16)	SMILE Mizuno-San Tel: 070-5661-7345	200 yen per lesson
1 st , 3 rd , 4 th Saturday	10:00 AM to 11:30 AM	Higashi-chiku Community Center (Daito-cho 1-26)	Hikone UNESCO Association, Japanese Language Class “JUMP” Learning Japanese as a foreign language educational support for children Tel: 090-2384-9760	Free

Public Notices & Information

2025 National Census

As of October 1 Wednesday, the national census is taking place across Japan to gather statistical information of its population and demographics. Every household receives a census form and must answer it, preferably online, by October 8, Wednesday.

Scam Alert!!

There have been recent reports of suspicious visits, phone calls, and emails from individuals pretending to be national census workers. If you receive any suspicious calls or visits, please contact your local police immediately.

*Remember: Legitimate census workers always introduce themselves politely, show their official name tags, and never ask for money or enter your home without permission.

Contact Information: Hikone Planning Division, Tel. 0749-30-6105

Hike in Shiga Prefecture's Minimum Hourly Wages

Starting Sunday, October 5, the minimum hourly wage in Shiga Prefecture will increase to 1,080 yen. This increase applies to all workers, regardless of job type or employment contract. Please scan the QR code for more information.

Contact Information: Hikone Labor Standards Inspection Office, Tel. 0749-22-0654



Sunday Opening of Hikone City Hall for My Number Card Procedures

Date and Time: November 9 (Sun), 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Location: Hikone City Hall, 1F



Contact Information: Hikone Life Service Division, Tel: 0749-30-6151

Temporary Closure of Hikone Water and Sewer Customer Service Center

Closing Day: November 1 (Sat)

*The center is scheduled to resume its services on November 2 (Sun)

Contact Information: Hikone Water and Sewer Division, Tel. 0749-22-2722

Temporary Halt in Operation of Emergency Center at Hikone City Hospital

Due to regular electricity maintenance in the emergency center of Hikone City Hospital, the center's operation will be put on temporary halt as follows.

[Date and Time for Temporary Halt]

October 19 (Sun): 10:00 AM to 3:30 PM

Contact Information: General Affairs Office, Hikone City Hospital, Tel. 0749-22-6050

Applications to Begin for After School Childcare Services



[Application Period]

October 1 (Wed) to 31 (Fri)

*Please submit your application through the online platform by scanning the QR code.

[Service Fees]

8,000 yen monthly

*August (summer break) only: 13,000 yen

*Optional Saturday use: extra 2,000 yen per month

Contact Information: Hikone Life-long Learning Division, Tel. 0749-24-7974

Applications to Begin for School Year 2026 Nursery Schools



[Application Periods]

- First Period: October 1 (Wed) to 15 (Wed)
- Second Period: November 4 (Tue) to December 5 (Fri)

[Application Methods]

- Via the Online Application Platform *Please scan the QR code to access the online application platform.
- Submitting your application in person at the Hikone Early Childhood Division (2F, Hikone Welfare Center)







*For more information, please visit Hikone City's official website or contact the relevant division.

Contact Information: Hikone Early Childhood Division, Tel. 0749-23-9597

Tips for Reducing and Recycling Waste

Plastic waste can be divided into different types, and depending on the type, the way it should be disposed of differs even though all of it is made of plastic.

Here's some helpful information on how to separate and dispose of plastic waste properly.

- Caps of Plastic Bottles: Dispose of as recyclable plastic waste. 
- Snack Bags and Plastic Wraps: Rinse or shake off stains and residue, then dispose of as recyclable plastic waste.
- Fruit Sleeves and Styrofoam: Dispose of as recyclable plastic waste. 
- PP (Polypropylene Plastic) Straps: Dispose of as landfill waste. 
- Trigger Pumps of Plastic Containers (Detergent, Shampoo, etc.): Dispose of as recyclable plastic waste. 
- Plastic Gloves and Zipper Bags: Dispose of as landfill waste. 
- Plastic Dry Cleaning Bag: Dispose of as landfill waste. 



[Important Points]

- As a quick rule of thumb, plastic containers and wrappers can be recycled.
- If it is difficult to remove stains or residue, dispose of them as burnable waste.
- The “プラ” mark indicates that the item can be recycled.



Upcoming Events & Fun News

2025 Regional Mascots Festival: Oct 18 and 19

- Festival Schedule: October 18 (Sat) and 19 (Sun), 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
- Venue: Yume Kyo Bashi Castle Road and Yon Ban Cho Square

[Pedestrian-Only Streets during the Festival]

- Yume Kyo Bashi Castle Road: 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM
- On the Premises of Hikone Castle: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM



[Important Note]

Extreme traffic congestion is expected around the venues of the festival on both the 18th and the 19th. We strongly encourage visitors to use public transportation or walk to the festival.

Contact Information: Regional Mascots Festival Hikone Management Office, Tel. 0749-22-1130

Bell Road Halloween Festival

[Festival Events]

- Dance Performance by Children
- Music Performance
- Costume Contest
- Food Stalls
- Fun Raffle Event

[Date and Time]

October 30 (Thu), 5:00 PM to 8:15 PM

[Venue]

Parking Lot of Hikone Bell Road Housing Expo (Hikone, Oyabu-cho, 21-7)

[Important Note]

No parking will be available for this festival. Please use public transportation or walk to the venue.

Contact Information: Bell Road Shopping Street Management Office, Tel. 0749-24-2928

Hikone Culture Festival: Oct 11 at Mt. Kojin

Schedule: October 11 (Sat), 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Venue: Mt. Kojin Park (Hikone, Hinatsu-cho, 4769)



*In the event of severe weather, the festival will be canceled. However, light rain or drizzle will not affect the schedule, and the festival will take place as planned.

Contact Information: Hikone City Promotion Strategy Office, Tel. 0749-30-6143

Hikone Eco-Market “Yumebatake”

Hikone Eco-Market is a flea market where household items that are no longer needed will be displayed for sale. Please note that the market will be canceled in case of rain or severe weather.

Date and Time: October 26 (Sun): 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Venue: Ohtemae Dani-2 Preserved Area

Hikone Morning Market

October 19 (Sun) 8:00 AM – Noon

Location: Osue-Cho, Shiga Gokoku Shrine

With a focus on three key elements — ‘Food Safety,’ ‘Local Production for Local Consumption,’ and ‘Handmade’ — the Hikone Morning Market offers locally grown produce, tofu, fresh fish dishes, handmade accessories, and more!

National Sports Festival for People with Disabilities

This year’s national sports festival for people with disabilities, casually called Sho Spo, is scheduled to take place between October 25 (Sat) and 27 (Mon) across Shiga Prefecture. Hikone City will host the following sports, so please visit each venue to watch representatives from each prefecture compete against one another.

[Track and Field]

- Schedule: October 25 (Sat) to October 27 (Mon)
- Venue: Heiwado HATO Stadium



[Bowling]

- Schedule: October 25 (Sat) and October 26 (Sun)
- Venue: LAPYUTA BOWL Hikone (inside Viva City Hikone)



[Badminton]

- Schedule: October 18 (Sat) and October 19 (Sun)
- Venue: Proceed Area HIKONE



Contact Information: Hikone Koku Spo and Sho Spo General Affairs Office, Tel. 0749-30-6141

October Hikone Castle Light-up for Breast Cancer Awareness

To raise awareness for early detection and treatment of breast cancer, Hikone Castle will be illuminated in pink as follows.

Date and Time: October 11 (Sat) and 12 (Sun) from sunset until 10:00 PM.



Consultation Services

Consultation Service	Schedule	Location	Telephone Number
Legal Consultation	October 24 (Fri) 13:00 – 16:00 *5500 yen per 30-minute consultation *Reservations available from Oct 15.	Hikone Community Development Promotion Division	0749-30-6117
<i>Akiya Bank</i> (Vacant House) Telephone Consultation	Mon – Fri 10:00 – 18:00	<i>Akiya Bank</i> Office	0749-23-2123
Consultation for Recovery from Cancer	Mon – Fri 9:00 – 16:00 *Priority given to people who have an appointment.	Municipal Hospital Cancer Support Center	0749-22-6050
Consultation for Working During Cancer Treatment	[Support for Finding a Job] October 15 (Web), 13:30 – 15:30 *Offered by reservation only. [Support for Continuing to Work] November 5 (Wed), 13:30 – 15:30 *Offered by reservation only.		
Child Development (Disability) Consultation	Mon – Fri 8:30 – 17:15 *Offered by reservation only.	Development Support Division (Hirata-cho)	0749-26-8282
Language Development Consultation	Mon – Fri 8:30 – 17:15 *Offered by reservation only.		
Consumer Affairs Consultation	Mon – Fri ① 9:00 – 12:00 ② 13:00 – 16:15	Hikone Consumer Affairs Center	0749-30-6144

Health and Wellness Information

Hikone Health Promotion Div. Tel: 0749-24-0816, Fax: 0749-24-5870

November Health Check-ups for Infants, Toddlers and Preschoolers

Location: Kusunoki Center (Hassaka-cho)

Starting with health check-ups for infants and young children from April 2024, you are required to make an appointment in advance via the mobile app “母子モ (Boshi Mo).” If you come to the Kusunoki Center for your child’s check-up without an appointment, you may be asked to return after making one.



November

Target Age Group	Date	Eligibility
10 months olds	12 (Wed)	Children born between 2024 December 16 and 31
	18 (Tue)	Children born between 2025 January 1 and 15
1 and ½ years olds	14 (Fri)	Children born in 2024 April.
	21 (Fri)	
2 and ½ years olds	13 (Thu)	Children born in 2023 April.
	20 (Thu)	
3 and ½ years olds	10 (Mon)	Children born in 2022 April.
	17 (Mon)	

Contact Info: Hikone Mother and Child Welfare Division, Tel. 0749-24-3931

Prevention Tips for Infectious Diseases

Infectious diseases, such as influenza and Covid-19, tend to spread in fall and winter times.

Here are the three basic, but effective preventions to fend off these infectious diseases.

- Frequent Hand Washing
- Wearing a Facial Mask and Practicing Cough Etiquette
- Regularly Ventilating Rooms

It is important to wear a facial mask and take other precautions when visiting a healthcare facility or crowded places to protect yourself from infectious diseases.