

広報ひこね（英語版）

Community Newsletter *KOHO HIKONE*

November 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 by phone at the given number above or in person at Hikone City Hall.

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

This Foreign-Language Community Newsletter Is Available At:

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

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

Onsite Foreign-Language Interpreting Services Are Available At 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 Attending.** 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)	<u>*This class is available for children only!</u> 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

Revisions to the Annual Income Threshold for Municipal and Prefectural Taxes

	Municipal and Prefectural Inhabitant Taxes (Resident Tax)	Income Tax
Effective Fiscal Year	FY 2026 Municipal and Prefectural Inhabitant Taxes	FY Income Tax

Details of Each Reform	Employment Income Deduction Reform	If the annual income is below JPY 1.90 million, the minimum employment income deduction threshold will be raised by JPY 100,000 from JPY 550,000 to JPY 650,000.	Same as municipal and prefectural inhabitant taxes
	Amendment to the Income Requirements for Dependents	The income threshold for claiming the dependent deduction and other similar tax deductions will be raised by JPY 100,000 from JPY 480,000 to JPY 580,000	Same as municipal and prefectural inhabitant taxes
	Introduction of the Special Deduction for Specified Relatives	This applies to specific dependents aged 19 to under 23 whose annual income is more than JPY 580,000 and up to JPY 1.23 million	Same as municipal and prefectural inhabitant taxes *The deduction amount differs.
	Basic Tax Deduction Reform	N/A	The basic tax deduction will be raised by JPY 480,000 up to JPY 950,000.

[Important Points]

1. If your annual income is under JPY 1.03 million (adjusted income amount: up to JPY 380,000), you will be exempt from paying resident tax.
2. If your annual income is under JPY 1.60 million (adjusted income amount: up to JPY 950,000), you will be exempt from paying income tax.
3. You can claim dependents whose adjusted income amount is JPY 480,000 or less (or JPY 580,000 for employment income earners) on your tax return.
4. For individuals aged 19 to 23, if their annual income exceeds JPY 580,000 but is JPY 1.23 million or less, the new “Special Deduction for Specified Relatives” applies. This allows them to benefit from the deduction system even if they exceed the regular dependent income limit, and they will not be counted as a dependent.

Sunday Opening of Hikone City Hall for My Number Card Procedures

Date and Time: December 14 (Sun), 9:30 – 12:30

Location: Hikone City Hall, 1F



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

Students Wanted: Techno College Maibara

Techo College, a vocational training school, is now accepting applications for the following course which begins in January, 2026.

[Eligibility Criteria] Those who are currently engaging in job seeking activities.

[Capacity and Course Name] Up to 10 People for Home Renovation Training Course

[Application Due Date] November 6 (Thu)



For more details, such as how to apply, please visit the website by scanning the QR code or contact Techno College Maibara by phone.

Contact Information: Techno College Maibara, Tel. 0749-52-5300

FY 2026 Kindergarten Applications To Begin

Application Period: November 10 (Mon) – 20 (Thu)

Application Methods: Please apply online through the application platform (by scanning the QR code) or in person at the Hikone Early Childhood Division.



Note: If you want to see what kindergartens have vacancies, how many vacancies are available, details of each kindergarten, and other related information, please visit Hikone City's website or contact the division in charge.

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

Public Sewage System: **Scam Alert**

There have been increasing reports that non-city-designated construction companies carry out shady residential sewage pipe construction, which often leads to trouble later on.

If you are unsure which company is legitimate and city-designated, please feel free to contact Hikone City or visit the website.

Contact Information: Hikone Water and Sewer Services Division, Tel. 0749-22-5458

Tips for Reducing and Recycling Waste

There are a lot of recyclable paper waste other than newspapers, magazines, and cardboard boxes. Here's some helpful information on how to recycle paper waste and what paper waste can be recycled.



[Recycle Paper Waste]

- **Copy paper, brochures, paper bags, and envelopes:**



- *Bundle them together with the magazines and tie everything with string.
- *Please ensure all plastic components are removed, including envelope windows.

- **Thick paper materials (snack boxes, tissue boxes, etc.):**

- *Place them together with cardboard boxes and tie the bundle with string.
- *Please remove metal fittings as much as possible.



- **Milk cartons and other paperboard containers for juice:**



- *Rinse the inside of each container and let it dry completely. Once dry, bundle them together and tie with string.
- *If you see the recycling symbol shown on the right, it means paperboard containers are recyclable.



[Non-Recyclable Paper Waste]

- Paper materials soaked with fragrances for incense sticks, detergents, and similar products.
- Paper materials stained with food products, such as pizza boxes.
- Paper cups, paper plates and other paper materials with waterproof coating.
- Invoices and receipts due to the difficulty removing special inks.



[Important Points for Recycling Paper Waste]

- Metal and plastic parts must be removed.
- All paper waste must be without stains or food residues.
- Paper waste must be bundled and tied with string according to type/category.

Upcoming Events & Fun News

Panel Exhibition on Hikone's Sister City: Ann Arbor, Michigan

Exhibition Period: November 18 (Tue) to December 3 (Wed), 9:00 AM – 4:45 PM

*Except for November 23 (Sun), 24 (Mon), 25 (Tue), 29 (Sat) and 30 (Sun)

Location: Kokusai Koryu Salon (Hikone, Chuo-cho, 2-26)

Contact Information: Kokusai Koryu Salon, Tel. 0749-22-5931

Sports and Culture Exchange Festival

Date and Time: November 16 (Sun), 9:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Venues: Proceed Arena Hikone and Jonan Elementary School

*If you have any questions, please contact the relevant division at the telephone number below.

Contact Information: Hikone Sports Promotion Division, Tel. 0749-22-5955

Soccer Match: Reilac Shiga FC VS Yokogawa Musashino FC

Date and Time: November 23 (Sun), 1:00 PM

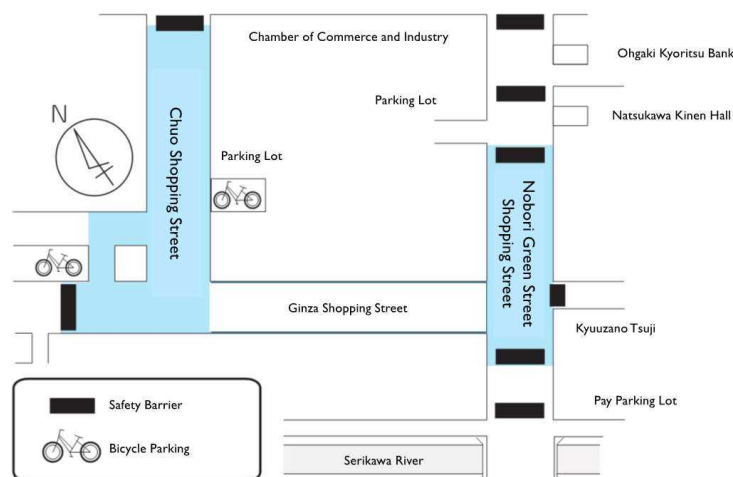
Venue: Heiwado HATO Stadium

*Please download free tickets by scanning the QR code.

Contact Information: Hikone J League Promotion Office, Tel. 0749-23-2660

Ebisuko Market Festival and Traffic Control: Nov 22 and 23

During the Ebisuko Market Festival on November 22 (Sat) and 23 (Sun), certain streets and roads will be restricted for pedestrians only as shown on the map. Please be informed that some public buses will take a detour to avoid the controlled streets and roads on these days.



[Areas and Traffic Control Time]

- Ginza Shopping Street: 10:30 AM – 5:30 PM (7:00 PM on the 23rd)
- Chuo Shopping Street, Nobori Green Street Shopping Area: 10:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Contact Information: Hikone Shopping Streets Association Office, Tel. 0749-22-7303

Craft Class for Children: A Natural Nuts and Seeds Wreath

Participating children will create their original wreath by using natural nuts and seeds they collect at Mt. Kojin.

Date and Time: November 22 (Sat), 10:00 – 11:30

Target Age Group: Elementary and junior-high school children

*Elementary school children must be accompanied by a parent.

Capacity: 15 children (first come, first served)

Fee: 300 yen per child

Application Period: November 7 (Fri) to 15 (Sat)

Location: Hikone Kodomo Center (Hinatsu-cho, Hikone)

*To register for this craft class, please call 0749-28-3645.

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: November 16 (Sun): 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Venue: Ohtemae Dani-2 Preserved Area

Hikone Morning Market

November 16 (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!

Baby and Kid’s Items Reuse Event: Kaekoto

Date and Time: November 2 (Sun), 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Venue: Minami District Community Hall (1321-1 Kanrocho, Hikone)

Fee: 300 yen

*Please scan the QR code to see the organizer’s Instagram account for more information.



Genkyu Garden Autumn Light-up

Date and Time: November 22 (Sat) – December 7 (Sun), 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Address: 9-3 Konkicho, Hikone

Admission Fees: 900 yen for Adults, 450 yen for Children in Elementary and Junior-high School

*Hikone Castle Autumn Market will be held on November 22 and 23 from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

Contact Information: Hikone Tourism Association, Tel. 0749-23-0001

Hikone Castle Light-ups (Sunset until 10:00 PM)

[Purple for Elimination of Violence against Women]

The castle is scheduled to be lit up purple on November 12 (Wed) as part of the campaign to eliminate violence against women, starting from November 12 through 25.



[Orange for Child Abuse Prevention]

The castle is scheduled to be lit up orange on November 13 (Thu) as part of the Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Campaign.



[Blue for World Diabetes Day]

The castle is scheduled to be lit up blue on November 14 (Fri) to participate in the internationally recognized diabetes day.

Consultation Services

Consultation Service	Schedule	Location	Telephone Number
Legal Consultation	November 28 (Fri) 13:00 – 16:00 *5500 yen per *Reservations available from Nov 19.	Hikone Community Development Promotion Division	0749-30-6117
Akiya Bank (Vacant House) Telephone Consultation	Mon – Fri 10:00 – 18:00	Akiya Bank 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] November 5 (Web), 13:30 – 15:30 *Offered by reservation only. [Support for Continuing to Work] November 19 (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.		
Traffic Control Consultation	Tue · Thu ① 9:00 – 12:00 ② 13:00 – 16:00	Koto Joint Government Building	0749-27-2230
Consumer Affairs Consultation	Mon – Fri ① 9:00 – 12:00 ② 13:00 – 16:15	Hikone Consumer Affairs Center	0749-30-6144
Human Rights Consultation for Foreigners	9:00 – 17:00 on weekdays		0570-090-911
Bullying Hotline	Mon – Fri 9:00 – 17:00	School Support, Human Rights, and Anti-Bullying Division	0749-24-7977
Consultation for Children and Adolescents (Social Withdrawal, Abuse, etc.)	9:00 – 16:45 on weekdays	Hikone Children and Family Center “Hikomaru”	0749-26-0994
Consultation for Women (Domestic Violence, etc.)	9:00 – 16:45 on weekdays		0749-49-2251

[Hotlines for Domestic Violence]

- Hikone Children and Adolescents Support Division: 0749-49-2251, Weekdays, 9:00 – 16:45
- Hikone Children and Families Consultation Center: 0749-24-3741, Weekdays, 8:30 – 17:15
- Chuo Children and Families Consultation Center: 077-564-7867, Every day, 8:30 – 22:00
- Shiga Gender Equality Center: 0748-37-8739, Tue–Sun, 9:00 – 12:00, 13:00 – 17:00 (*Until 20:30 on Thursdays)

[Hotlines for Child Abuse]

- National Consultation Hotline for Children: 189, 24 hours, 7 days a week
- Hikone Children and Adolescents Support Division: 0749-26-0994
- Hikone Children and Families Consultation Center: 0749-24-3741
- Child Abuse Hotline: 077-562-8996, 24 hours, 7 days a week

*In case of emergency, do not hesitate to call the police at 110 or 0749-27-0110.

Health and Wellness Information

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

December Health Check-ups for Infants, Toddlers and Preschoolers

Location: Kusunoki Center (Hassaka-cho)

Starting in April 2024, appointments for health check-ups for infants and young children must be made in advance through 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.



December

Target Age Group	Date	Eligibility
10 months olds	10 (Wed)	Children born between 2025 January 1 and 31
	23 (Tue)	Children born between 2025 February 1 and 20
1 and ½ years olds	12 (Fri)	Children born in 2024 May.
	19 (Fri)	
2 and ½ years olds	11 (Thu)	Children born in 2023 May.
	18 (Thu)	
3 and ½ years olds	15 (Mon)	Children born in 2022 May.
	22 (Mon)	

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

Availability of Subsidized Hepatitis Testing

[Testing Availability Periods]

- At medical facilities: until November 29 (Sat)
- On a testing bus: until November 26 (Wed)

[Eligibility Criteria and Test Fees]

To be eligible for hepatitis testing, you must meet either Criterion No.1 or No.2.

- ① People aged exactly 41 who have never been tested for hepatitis before in Hikone City.

*Hepatitis testing is available at no cost.

- ② People aged over 41 who have never been tested for hepatitis before in Hikone City.

*1,300 yen for hepatitis testing at a medical facility.

*700 yen for hepatitis testing on a testing bust.

[Important Note]

Hepatitis testing tickets and other related documents have already been mailed to those who meet Criterion No. 1 and No.2. Please visit Hikone City’s website or contact the Hikone Health Promotion Division at 0749-24-0816 for further details, including how to schedule your appointment and other related matters.

Contact Information: Hikone Health Promotion Division, Tel. 0749-24-0816

Reminder: Cancer Screening Availability

The following cancer screening tests are available at medical facilities.

- Colorectal Cancer (available until December 20, 2025)
- Breast Cancer (available until March 31, 2026)
- Cervical Cancer (available until March 31, 2026)

For more details, please visit Hikone City’s website or contact the relevant division at the telephone number below.

Contact Information: Hikone Health Promotion Division, Tel. 0749-24-0816