

広報 ひ こ ね (英訳版)

Community

Newsletter

Koho

HIKONE

No. 1459-60

Published by:

Translated by:

Proofread by:

Edited by:

Issue Date: March 1st, 2021

Hikone Human Rights Policy Div.

VOICE Trans. Group

Satoru Yamakawa

Martin Hawkes

Hikone Human Rights Policy Div.

2021.03



• COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout (P. 3)

• Extension of Tax Return Season (P. 4)

• Traffic Control around Hikone Castle (P. 6)

• March Infant Check-ups (P. 10)



(Facebook) <http://www.facebook.com/hikone.eng>

(Website of Hikone) <https://www.city.hikone.lg.jp/eng/index.html>

Contact Us	Telephone Number
Hikone City Hall	0749-22-1411 (Switch Board)
Human Rights Policy Division (To Talk an English Interpreter)	0749-30-6113 (Direct Number)
FACEBOOK	http://www.facebook.com/hikone.eng

You Can Request Our On-Site English Interpreter Services at the Information Desk of the Hikone City Hall or Can Talk to Our Language Interpreter Via Phone. (The contact number given above.)

Please Say “EIGO TSUYAKU ONEGAI SHIMASU (English Interpreter Please)”

● The Foreign Language Version of *Koho* Hikone Is Issued Every Month.



This Foreign-Language Newsletter Is Available At:

- Shiga, Shiga Prefecture, and Seisen University
- Hikone Bunka Plaza
- Hikone City Library
- Hikone City Hall 3F
- AEON TOWN Hikone
- Hikone Fukushi Centre
- Shiga Bank (Oyabu Branch)
- “Gyomu Super Market” (Toga-cho)
- Beisia Hikone
- Hikone City Hospital

Interpretation Services

•On-Site Interpreters Are Available At The City Hall Of Hikone.

Please say “*eigo-tsuuyaku-onegai-shimasu*” at the information desk.

「えいご つうやく おねがいします」

Hikone City Hall: Weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

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



(Facebook) <http://www.facebook.com/hikone.eng>



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



Japanese Language Classes

***No Classes will be conducted by “Kokusai Kyoukai” during the month of March due to COVID.**

Day	Hour	Location, Place	Organization Name to Contact	Cost
Wednesday 水曜日	7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Shimin kaikan 市民会館	Hikoneshi Kokusai Kyoukai 彦根市国際協会 Tel. (0749)-22-5931 (Not available in Aug. and Dec. to Feb.)	100yen / lesson 100 円 / 1 回
Saturday 土曜日	2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Naka-chiku Kouminkan 中地区公民館	Hikone Kokusai Kouryu-kai VOICE ひこね国際交流会 VOICE かつらだ さん (KATSURADA) TEL: 090-5156-6916	100yen / lesson 100 円 / 1 回
Sunday 日曜日	10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Nishi-chiku Kouminkan 西地区公民館	Volunteer Nihongo Kyoshitsu SMILE ボランティア日本語教室スマイル よしおか さん (YOSHIOKA) Tel. (0749)-24-7241	100yen / lesson 100 円 / 1 回
Monday to Friday (Except for holidays)	①9:30 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. ②11:00 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. ③1:30 p.m. to 2:50 p.m. ④3:00 p.m. to 4:20 p.m.	Innovation Office “NAYASHICHI” Shiro-machi1-7-16	“Smile Satellite”(Weekday Class) NAYASHICHI Tel: 0749-46-5377 or みずの さん (MIZUNO) Tel: 070-5661-7345	200yen / lesson 200 円 / 1 回
げつようび～きんようび				
Tuesday 火曜日 Friday 金曜日	9:00 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.	Asahinomori- Chiku Kouminkan	Smile みずの さん (MIZUNO) Tel: 070-5661-7345	200yen / lesson 200 円 / 1 回
Thursday 木曜日	5:30 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.			

INFORMATION



★Information on a COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout

As of now, preparations for Japan's COVID-19 vaccine rollout are being made in Hikone with the aim that all residents of Hikone can receive their doses in a safe and effective manner.

The following information on the COVID-19 vaccine rollout was issued as of February 18 (Thu). Please stay informed on the COVID-19 vaccine rollout in Hikone by regularly checking the official website of Hikone, the foreign-language Facebook page, and the newsletter.

Vaccination Timetable

Any details on a concrete start date of the COVID-19 vaccines have not been fully decided yet.

The COVID-19 vaccines will be administered in different phases at different times.

At the moment, COVID-19 vaccine priority groups are listed as follows from top (1) to bottom (4).

- 1, Healthcare Workers (Scheduled for around March)
- 2, Seniors Age 65 and Older (Scheduled for around April)
- 3, People with Underlying Health Conditions and Adult Day-care Workers
- 4, Remaining Members of the Public

Doses of the COVID-19 Vaccine

The COVID-19 vaccine requires two doses to fully inoculate an individual.

The second dose will be shot 3 to 4 weeks after the first dose.

Vaccination Fees

The COVID-19 vaccines will be distributed for all free of charge.

Vaccination tickets are scheduled to be mailed out according to different phases and tiers.

Vaccination Sites

The city is now working with medical facilities in Hikone and public facilities (Kusunoki Center, etc.) to carry out the city-wide vaccination rollout.

Frequently Asked Questions

- Can Children or Pregnant Women Get Vaccinated?

At the moment, the central government of Japan is reviewing COVID-19 vaccine eligibility for all age groups.

The approved COVID-19 vaccine is manufactured by Pfizer and available for people age 16 and older.

It is possible for pregnant women and women who are breastfeeding to get vaccinated; however, please make your decision based on the facts about efficacy and safety of the vaccine.

- Can I Receive the Vaccine Outside Hikone?

As long as you are listed on Hikone's basic resident registration, you are required to receive the vaccine in Hikone.

Only with a special reason, could you be permitted to receive the vaccine in the city where you live now.

- I Am Living in a Nursing Home Outside Hikone. What Should I Do?

You can get your vaccine administered by a doctor of the nursing home or at a medical facility of your current city.

- How Should I Schedule My Vaccine Appointment?

All vaccination appointments can be made via a call centre or the Internet.



Inquiries: Hikone COVID-19 Vaccination Management Office Tel: 0749-240816

★Garbage Collection Calendar to be Distributed

The Hikone Garbage Collection Calendar of the fiscal year 2021 will be distributed along with Hikone Community Newsletter in Japanese. Foreign-language versions (English, Chinese and Portuguese) are available at the Hikone Sanitation Centre, the Hikone Living Environment Division, and each branch office of the Hikone city hall.

★Disposal of Large-size Garbage: 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., Sunday, March 28

- A Please wait at the parking lot of Hikone Bunka Plaza. The staff will lead you.
- B You cannot take garbage directly to the Sanitation Center.
- C To reduce traffic congestion, please do not come before 8:00 a.m.
- D The designated collection time is irregular this time.
- E Please show your identification, such as a driver's license or residence card to show your address.
- F The disposal of large-size garbage is charged. However, household small appliances under one meter in length, width and depth are not charged.
- F Unbroken light bulbs and florescent tubes will be accepted.
- G TVs and other products subject to the Home Appliance Recycling Act are not accepted.

Inquiries: Hikone Sanitation Center Tel: 0749-22-2734, Fax: 0749-24-7787

★Relocation of the Designated Landfill Site

Please be informed that the designated landfill site, "Nakayama Touki Jo" will not be available after March 31, 2021. After that date, please take your landfill waste to the landfill site "Koyagi Chuukei Kichi" for a fee (5 kg or 11 lbs / ¥50). The address is 19 Koyagi-cho, Higashi Ohmi City. Be sure to apply for a landfill permit in advance.



Inquiries: Hikone Echi Inukami Koiki Gyoseikumiai (Wide Area Administrative Union)

Tel: 0749-35-0015, FAX: 0749-35-4711

Hikone Living Environment Tel: 0749-30-6116, FAX: 0749-27-0395

★The Extension of the Tax Return Season

Due to the on-going pandemic, the National Tax Agency Japan has announced the extension of the tax return season. Normally each year's tax return season is a month-long event from mid-February to mid-March; however, this year, the end of the tax return season has been extended to mid-April. Please refer to the schedule below and contact the Hikone Tax Division if you have any questions.

Extended Schedule	Location	Hours
March 16 (Tue) to 31 (Wed)	4F, Tax Return Site, Hikone City Hall	9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
April 1 (Thu) to 15 (Thu)	3F, Tax Division, Hikone City Hall	8:30 a.m. – 5:15 p.m.

*You can file your tax return for municipal and prefectural taxes.

*For more details, please read the February issue of the community newsletter.

☆Sunday Opening of the City Hall

The month of March and April is a busy time for people to move out of or in to the city.

To ease possible long wait time and crowdedness, the city hall of Hikone is scheduled to open on March 14 (Sun), 28(Sun) and April 11(Sun) between 9:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m..

Services available on Sundays at the City Hall

- apply for government-issued certificate such as a residence and family registry certificate.
- do your moving-in/our procedures and change addresses within Hikone.
- register your *Inkan* and apply for an *Inkan* registration certificate.
- receive a plastic My Number card or update your plastic My Number card.

*Please note that there are a few services unavailable, and no English or other language interpreters will be stationed during the Sunday opening.

Inquiries: Hikone Citizens' Affairs Division, Tel: 0749-30-6111

☆My Number Card and Health Insurance Card

From the month of March, your plastic My Number card can also hold information of your health insurance coverage.

Depending on the type of your health insurance coverage, you may not be able to use this My Number card feature.

For more information, please call 0120-95-0178.

Benefits of Inputting Your Health Insurance Info into Your Plastic My Number Card

1. You Can Use Your My Number Card As Your Health Insurance Card

You will no longer have to wait for your new social insurance card to be issued after getting employed, changing jobs, moving to a different city and so on.



2. Wait Time at a Medical Facility Can Be Shortened

By having your My Number card scanned by a card reader at a reception desk of a medical clinic or pharmacy, your health insurance information will be smoothly processed and your whole wait time can be shortened.



3. No Need to Make a Temporary Payment for the Amount That Exceeds the Maximum Co-payment Amount

Even without a *Gendogaku Tekiyo Ninteisho* (Certificate of Eligibility for Reduced Co-Payments), your My Number card enables you to not cover the amount that exceeds the maximum co-payment amount.

Easy Application!

To register your health insurance information in your My Number card, please apply via Myna Portal.

You need your My Number card and your smart phone which can scan the card.



☆Child Medical Support Program (Hospitalization)

This support program provides subsidies for hospitalization expenses (for the self-pay expenses of insurance coverage costs) for fourth grade students in elementary school up to third grade students in junior high school. The medical expenses are paid you back after paying the fee at the medical institution and applying for a refund at a municipal office. Please contact us for further information.

- ※No notice issued. The period you can apply is within 5 years from the next day you paid.
- ※There are some exceptions, such as the meal expenses during hospitalization, that insurance doesn't cover.
- ※This program gives priority to the support program for single parent families and the disabled.

Things you need to apply

The original receipt, Hanko (a name seal), a bankbook, health insurance certificate of the child, a notice of *Kougaku Iryou* (High-cost medical care benefit) or other related letter, etc.

Place to apply

- ▶Health Insurance and Pension Division (3F, Hikone City Hall)
- ▶Inae branch office and other branch offices of Hikone City.

Application & Inquires: Health Insurance and Pension Division

Tel: 0749-30-6136, Fax: 0749-22-1398

☆Spring Traffic Campaign for New School Children & Seniors: Mon March 15 – Thu April 15

- A In spring the number of the traffic accidents relating to new school children will increase; if you see a child along a street while you are driving, go slowly or stop for him/ her.
- B Stop street parking.
- C Check risky points with your children and advise them to be careful.
- D When you approach a pedestrian crossing and see someone crossing or trying to cross the road, stop and make way for him/ her.

Inquiries: Hikone Traffic Management Division Tel: 0749-30-6134, Fax: 0749-24-5211

☆Traffic Control in The Hikone Castle Area, Saturday, March 27 - Thursday, April 15

- Traffic Restriction
During the Sakura festival season, Hikone Castle and the neighbouring areas are expected to be crowded with a great number of visitors. To prevent possible traffic accidents from occurring, traffic restriction will be imposed on the premises of Hikone Castle.
- Traffic Regulation Area & Time
 - *The north intersection of the stable - Kuromon gate:
During the festival between 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. (Pedestrians only)
 - *Irohama avenue - Hikone Higashi High School
When the cherry blossoms are in full bloom: between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p. m. (Pedestrians only)
- The time of traffic restriction is subject to change depending on the traffic condition.
- Be advised to use public transportation rather than drive to Hikone Castle during the festival season.
- Do not park on the roadside lest you disturb the local residents.
- When you see the cherry blossoms, wear a mask and avoid the “ three C’s “ (closed spaces, crowded places and close-contact settings), and refrain from holding a party, to prevent the further spread of COVID-19.
- For more information of traffic restrictions, the cherry blossom forecast, etc., please visit the website of Hikone Tourism Association (<https://www.hikoneshi.com>).



Tourism Association
Website

Inquiries: Hikone Tourism Association, Tel: 0749-23-0001, Fax: 0749-26-1919

Hikone Tourism Planning Division, Tel: 0749-30-6120, Fax: 0749-24-9676

EVENTS

☆“HIKONE DE ASAICHI” (The Fresh Morning Market in Hikone)

Selling local fresh vegetables, bean curd, local fresh fish and shellfish from the lake, and handcrafted general goods - under the concepts of "Reliable sourced food" "Local production for local consumption" and "Handmade".

If you want to open your own stall at this event, please contact us.

Date & Time: Sunday, March 21 8:00 - 12:00

Place: GOKOKU- JINJYA (shrine) (Osue- cho)

Inquiries: “HIKONE DE ASAICHI” Executive Committee

Tel: 0749-24-4461, Email: hikonedesaichi55@gmail.com

Consultation

☆March is Reinforcement Month for Suicide Prevention Policy

“You can do something to prevent suicide”

Please call us to solve its trouble

Inquiries: City Disabled People’s Welfare Division Tel: 0749-27-9981 Fax: 0749-30-9231

Consultation Center	Tel	Reception Date & Time
Shiga Suicide Countermeasures Promotion Center	077-566-4326	Every day 9:00 ~ 21:00
Telephone Counseling ‘Shiga Inochi no Dennwa’	077-553-7387	Every Fri. ~ Sun. 10:00 ~ 22:00
‘Kokoro no Dennwa’	077-567-5560	Every Mon. ~ Fri. (exc. Holidays) 10:00 ~ 12:00 / 13:00 ~ 21:00
Hikone Health Center	0749-21-0283	Every Mon. ~ Fri. (exc. Holidays) 8:30 ~ 17:15
Disabled People’s Welfare Division	0749-27-9981	
Community Activity Support Center ‘Mana’	0749-21-2192	Every Mon. ~ Fri. 9:30~ 17:00 Every Sat. 9:30 ~ 13:00 (exc. Holidays)
Inochi-no-denwa for Suicide Prevention	0120-783-556	From 8:00 on the 10th of every month to 8:00 on the 11 th

☆Individual Consultation for Parents/Guardians of Infants, Toddlers and Pre-K Children

Day and Time: March 22 (Mon) 9:30 -11:00

Location: Kusunoki Center

Contents: Concerns about childrearing, weaning, etc.

Contact: Hikone Health Promotion Division at 0749-24-0816

*Please make a reservation via phone from March 1 (Mon).

	Date & Time	Contact Information	Tel
Law Consultation	March 26 (Fri) 13:00 ~ 16:00 ※5500 yen per consultation (reservation possible from March 17)	Community Relations Division (AL PLAZA Hikone 3F)	0749-30-6117
Vacant House Telephone Consultation	Every Mon ~ Fri 10:00 ~ 18:00	<i>Akiya</i> Bank Secretariat	0749-23-2123
Medical Consultation and Working Consultation for Cancer Patients	Every Mon ~ Fri 9:00 ~ 16:00 (Reservation Priority)	Municipal Hospital Cancer Support Center	0749-22-6050
Child・Family Consultation	Every Mon ~ Fri 8:30 ~ 17:15	Consultation Room for Children (Welfare center)	0749-23-7838
Developmental Disorder Consultation	Every Mon ~ Fri ①8:30 ~ 12:00 ②13:00 ~ 17:15 (by reservation)	Development Support Division (<i>Hirata-cho</i>)	0749-26-8282
Language Consultation	Every Mon ~ Fri ① 8:30 ~ 12:00 ②13:00 ~ 17:15 (by reservation)		
Human Rights Consultation by Foreign Languages	Every Mon ~ Fri 9:00 ~17:00		0570-090-911
Bullying Consultation / Hot Line	Every Mon ~ Fri 9:00 ~ 17:00	School Support ・ Human Rights ・ Bullying Measures Division	0749-24-7977
General Consultation for Children & Youth (social withdrawal problem, etc.)	Every Mon ~ Fri ①10:00 ~ 12:00 ②13:00 ~ 17:00	Child & Youth Consultation Center (Welfare center)	0749-47-3001
Consumer Life Consultation	Every Mon ~ Fri ①9:00 ~ 12:00 ②13:00 ~ 16:15	City life Environment Division (AL PLAZA Hikone 3F)	0749-30-6144
Traffic Accident Consultation	Every Tue & Thu ①9:00 ~ 12:00 ②13:00 ~ 16:00	Traffic Accident Consultation Center Hikone Branch	0749-27-2230
<i>Shinpaigoto</i> Consultation	Every Wed & Fri ①10:00 ~ 12:00 ②13:00 ~ 16:00	Hikone Council of Social Welfare	0749-22-0294

※All offices closed on holidays

☆Support of German Measles Vaccination Expenses

People who already received a German measles antibody test by Shiga prefecture can get support.

Time limit: March 31 (Wednesday)

Eligibility (Those who meet all of the following)

1. Those who have had a German measles antibody test between March 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021.
2. Those who have been advised by their doctor to have a German measles vaccination after the antibody test.
3. Those who have had a German measles vaccination between April 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021 after the antibody test

The amount of support: half of the amount of the charge is supported (maximum 5,000 yen)

Time limit: March 31 (Wednesday)

※Please apply to the Health Promotion Division Tel: 0749-24-0816 Fax: 0749-24-5870

German measles antibody test

Target: Women who want to have a baby, and their partners

Place: Corporation Medical Institution

Time limit: March 31 (Tuesday)

Cost: Free

Inquire: Shiga prefecture pharmaceutical and infectious disease prevention office Tel: 077-528-3632

☆Support of Infertility Treatment Expenses

Support of specific infertility treatment expenses

Eligibility (Those who meet all of the following)

- Husband and wife who live in the city at the time of medical treatment and application, and are legally married
- Those who have received Shiga specific infertility treatment expense support
- Husband and wife who are not behind with municipal tax

The amount of support : Specific infertility treatment expenses is supported.

The amount of support is limited to 50,000yen. Please don't overlap with the Shiga specific infertility treatment subsidy.

In the following cases, 25,000 yen will be supported.

*Embryo transplantation by using frozen embryos

*When treatment is stopped because patients cannot get egg in spite of ovulating.

The age of wife at the first treatment	The times of support
Under 39 year old	Maximum of 6 times
40~42 year old	Maximum of 3 times
Over 43 year old	Not covered

* If your treatment is postponed to prevent coronavirus, the age limit is relaxed

*We are planning to expand this program by removing the income limit and increasing the amount of subsidy for those who have completed treatment on or after January 1, 2021.

Application limit: within 3 months from the date of the Shiga prefecture decision

Support of artificial insemination expenses

Eligibility (Those who meet all of the following)

- Husband and wife who live in the city at the time of a medical treatment and application, and are legally married
- Husband and wife's income in the last financial year is less than 7,300,000 yen.
- Husband and wife who are not behind with municipal tax

The amount of support : Half of the amount of the charge is supported.

For a total of two-years, the amount of money is a maximum of 50,000 yen.

Time limit: March 31 Wednesday, 2021

If you get the treatment in March, you can apply until April 30 Friday 2021.

Application and determination: please apply to The Health Promotion Division.

※Please ask for details. Tel: 0749-24-0816 / Fax: 0749-24-5870

☆March Infant Check-ups

Location: Kusunoki Center (Hassaka-cho)

Reception Hours: Please visit the official website of Hikone or get in touch with the Hikone Health Promotion Division to know what time reception hours will start.

Target Age Group	Date	
One and 1/2 Years Old	12(Fri)	Born between July 25, 2019 and Aug 5, 2019
	16(Tue)	Born between Aug 11, 2019 and Aug 18, 2019
	19(Fri)	Born between Aug 19, 2019 and Aug 31, 2019
Three and 1/2 Years Old	8(Mon)	Born between July 28, 2017 and Aug 11,2017
	10(Wed)	Born between Aug 12, 2017 and Aug 20, 2017
	15(Mon)	Born between Aug 21, 2017 and Aug 31, 2017
Four Months Old		For a check-up for four-month-old babies, parents/guardians are required to take their baby to one of the designated local children's clinics.

Notes

*No reminder will be mailed to your address.

*Please bring a toothbrush and a face towel for infant check-ups for 1½ years old, and 3½ years old.

*For the 3½ years old check-up, please bring your child's first morning urine sample stored in a sanitized container.

*On the day of an infant check, please take the body temperature of your baby and anyone who accompanies him/her. And if you suspect that your child is sick, please contact the Health Promotion Division.

Infant check-ups for 10-month-old babies and 2½ -year-old children have been cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Instead of the infant check-ups, there is a child development consultation with a public health worker available for guardians. If you are interested, you need to make a booking in advance by calling the Health Promotion Division. Please check the schedule of the child development consultation below.

- **For 10-month-old babies: March 17 (Wed)**
- **For 2½-Years-old children: March 18 (Wed)**

☆Vaccination for Children Week March 1- March 7

Has your child received every vaccination?

Please check your maternity passport if you have forgotten to receive any vaccinations for your child before entering school or kindergarten. You can make a reservation for a vaccination as early as possible in order to have resistance to illnesses and to prevent becoming ill.

You check the eligible age and make a reservation in advance for individual regular vaccinations such as Hib Vaccine, Pediatric Pneumococcal Vaccine, Hepatitis B Vaccine, DPT-IPV, BCG, MR, Chicken Pox, Japanese Encephalitis, and DT.

Fee: Free of charge (It costs you when you are over the recommended age)

Things to bring: Maternity passport, medical questionnaire.

Notice

The 2nd term of MR (Measles and German measles)

Eligibility: pre-school children (For those born between April 2, 2014 and April 1, 2015)

The 2nd term of DT (Diphtheria and Tetanus)

Eligibility: 6th grade students (For those born between April 2, 2008 and April 1, 2009)

Those eligible have already notified and received the documents.

※Vaccination period is up to March 31, 2021.

Japanese Encephalitis (free of charge)

1, Those born before April 1, 2007 and under 20 years old can get the remaining number of mandatory shots.

2, Those born between April 2, 2007 and October 1, 2009 can get a missing shot according to their vaccination record.