

広報ひこね (英語版)

Community Newsletter

KOHO HIKONE



August 2023

- COVID-19 Vaccination (P. 2)
- A List of Support Programs for Single Parents (P. 4)
- Hikone Afternoon/Evening Market (P. 5)
- Yukata Festival (P. 5)



(Hikone English Facebook Page)



(Official Hikone Website)

Contact Us	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
- Hikone City Hospital
- TRAIAL Hikone
- Mega Don Quijote Toyosato
- Inaechiku Kominkan

Interpreting Services (Available in English, Portuguese, Chinese, 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 Opening Hours: Weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.

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

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



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

Japanese Language Classes in Hikone



Day	Time	Location	Organization Name	Cost
Wednesday ※Closed in August Restart in September	7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Kokusai Kouryu SALON	Hikone International Friendship Association Tel: (0749)-22-5931 E-mail: hikone-il@za.ztv.ne.jp *Japanese classes we offer are suitable for those who have never studied Japanese and beginners.	2,000 yen (Total 10 classes) *Ticket System
Friday ※Closed in August Restart in September	2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.			
Saturday ※Closed in August Restart in September	2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Naka-chiku Kouminkan	Hikone Kokusai Kouryu-kai VOICE Katsurada-San Tel: 090-5156-6916	100 yen per lesson
Monday to Friday *closed on holidays	① 9:30 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. ② 11:00 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. ③ 1:30 p.m. to 2:50 p.m. ④ 3:00 p.m. to 4:20 p.m. ⑤ Online Classes	Innovation Office NAYASHICHI, Shiro-machi1, 7-16	Smile Mizuno-San Tel: 070-5661-7345	200 yen per lesson
1 st , 3 rd , 4 th Saturday	10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Higashi Chiku Community Center	Hikone UNESCO Association, Japanese Language Class “JUMP” Learning Japanese as a foreign language educational support for children Tel: 090-2384-9760	Free

Information

☆ COVID-19 Vaccination

COVID-19 booster shots are scheduled to be offered free of charge to all people aged 5 and older, starting this September.

Further details will be provided at a later date, so please stay abreast with the latest information by visiting the website of Hikone (scan the QR code) regularly or phoning the call center at the number given at the bottom. The primary series of COVID-19 Vaccination is still available for anyone above 6 months old.



QR Code of
Hikone City Website

[Vaccine Tickets]

If you have your unused vaccine ticket for a booster jab, you can use it. Those who received a booster shot between May and August can expect their new vaccination ticket to be mailed. If you are not sure whether you are required to apply for your vaccine ticket, please phone the call center. It is easier for anyone who want to apply for a vaccine ticket to do so online (scan the QR code).



For Vaccination Ticket
Information, Such As Its
Application, etc.

[Notes]

It is not compulsory for anyone to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

If you are on the fence, trying to decide whether to get jabbed or not, please seek advice from your family doctor.

Inquiries: Hikone Health Promotion Division, Tel:0749-24-0816 Hikone Call Center, Tel: 0120-152-811

☆ Beware of COVID during Summer Time

COVID-19 has been downgraded to the type 5 infectious disease. Nonetheless, the nature of this virus has not changed. At this moment, whether to put preventative measures against COVID-19 into action is up to each individual and business, please be reminded that the following measures are believed to be effective to mitigate spread of the virus.

- Letting a fresh air in (simply opening a window) and ventilating a room (turning on a ventilator or using an air purifier) on a regular basis.

- Hand washing and hand sanitizing

- Mask wearing (It is recommended especially to persons with underlying conditions)

- *When visiting a health facility, adult daycare facility, etc.

- *When using a public transportation, such as a train and bus, packed with other users.



If you have any subjective symptoms, please avoid going out for unnecessary reasons. In case you absolutely need to go out, be sure to wear a mask and stay away from crowds.

☆Application for Certified Kodomo-ens

[ABC English Preschool]

Target Age: 3 years olds

A Number of Vacant Slots: Around 5

Application Due Date: September 29 at 5:00 PM

Tel: 0749-23-2000

[Kodomo-en Hikarino Mori]

Target Age: 3 years olds

A Number of Vacant Slots: Around 5

Application Period: September 4 through 15

Tel: 0749-47-3237

☆Replacement of a Water Meter

Please note that during the following period of time, some water meters need to be replaced due to reaching their lifespan set under the Weights and Measures Law.

Water Meter Replacement Period: August through December

[Important Points]

- There is no need to be present at your place while the water meter is being replaced.
- If your water meter is required to be replaced, the replacement work will be done by a licensed technician.
- No costs related to replacing a water meter are born by the customer.

Inquires: Hikone City Customer Service Center for Water and Sewer, Tel: 0749-27-2802

☆Issuance of My Number Cards on Sundays

Date: August 6 and 27

Time: 9:30 - 12:30 on each date

Location: Hikone City Hall



Inquiries: Hikone Lief Service Division, 0749-30-6151

☆[Local Safety News]

Here is a compilation of crimes reported between January and May in the areas of Hikone and Inukami,

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| • Bicycle Theft: 92 | • Burglary: 16 | • Scam: 6 |
| • Car Break-in: 27 | • Shoplifting: 62 | • Other: 120 |
| • Car Part Theft: 5 | • Vandalism: 27 | |

A Total Number of Reported Criminal Offenses: 355

☆National Children's Human Rights Week

Otsu District Legal Affairs Bureau workers and human rights committee members will be providing consultation services via telephone to families with children in elementary up to high school who have concerns and questions regarding children's human rights during the following period.

Date and Time: August 23 - 29, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM *During the weekend, between 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM

Telephone Number: 0120-007-110 *Toll free

Inquiries: Otsu District Legal Affairs Bureau, Tel: 077-522-4673

Human Rights Consultation in Foreign Languages Tel: 0570-090-911 *Toll free

☆ Moment of Silence for the Victims of Atomic Bombs and World Peace

Please take a moment of silence at home, workplace, school, etc. to pray for world peace and offer respect for those who perished in the atomic bombs dropped in Hiroshima and Nagasaki Cities on the following days and times when the a-bombs destroyed these cities.

[Hiroshima] August 6 (Sun) at 8:15

[Nagasaki] August 9 (Wed) at 11:02

Inquiries: Hikone General Affairs Office, Tel: 0749-30-6100

A List of Support Programs for Single Parents

There are various programs to assist single-parent families. Each program has its own eligibility criteria, so please contact the relevant division of the Hikone City hall for further details. In case, you wish to seek advise and inquire before filing for divorce, a consultation service is provided by the Hikone Child Rearing Support Division. Ensure to make a booking for the consultation service in advance.

The following programs and services are provided by the Hikone Child Rearing Support Division

- A consultation service for trouble and concerns in relation to childrearing.
 - Legal help to obtain the agreement regarding child support from a former spouse.
 - Support for single parents to find a job.
 - Support for single parents to obtain qualifications and skills.
 - Student loans for children from single-parent families who want to seek higher education.
 - Child rearing benefits (Jido Fuyo Teate, not Jido Teate) for single parents or someone who is looking after a child on behalf of his/her parents.
 - A cash handout program (50,000 yen per child) for single-parent families.
- *For more details, please contact the relevant division.
- Places for children in junior-high and high-school to interact with university students and volunteers.

Hikone Child Rearing Support Division,

Tel: 0749-26-0994

The following program is offered by the Hikone Insurance and Pension Division

- Financial assistance for medical expenses.

Hikone Insurance and Pension Division, Tel: 0749-30-6136

The following system is offered by the Hikone Tax Division

- Tax deduction for single parents.

Hikone Tax Division
Tel: 0749-30-6140

Event

☆Hikone Afternoon/Evening Market

With the three key elements of “Food Safety”, “Local Production Local Consumption” and “Handmade”, you can find and purchase locally grown produce, tofu, fish dishes, handmade accessories, and more at Hikone Afternoon/ Evening Market!

Date and Time: August 20 (Sun), 3:00 PM until 8:00 PM

Location: Shiga Gokoku Shrine (Hikone, Osue-cho)

Inquiries: Hikone Morning Market Committee, Tel:0749-24-4461

☆Children's Class: Soap Making

Together with teachers from the Hachiman Technical High School, participating children will be making their own soap.

Date and Time: August 22 (Tue), 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Target Age: Children in elementary and junior-high school

Capacity: 15

Fee: 500 Yen per Child

Application Period: August 2 - 8

Inquiries: Hikone Kodomo Center, Tel: 0749-28-3645



☆Yukata Festival



Date and Time: August 6 (Sun), 5:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Location: Hikone Yumekyobashi Shopping Street
(Honmachi 1-chome)

Inquiries: Hikone Yukata Festival Committee, Tel: 0749-22-4551

☆37th Hikone City Marathon

Date: November 5 (Sun)

[Entry Details]

Eligibility: Anyone aged above an elementary-school age

Capacity: 3,000 runners (800 for a 3 kilo marathon, 600 for 5 kilo marathon, 1,600 for a 10 kilo marathon)

Marathon Area: Heiwado HATO Stadium and roads surrounding Hikone Castle.

Fee: 1,700 - 4,500 yen

Entry Period: August 1 through September 8 *Please apply online by scanning the QR code.



[Volunteers Wanted]

Application Period: August 1 through 31

How to Apply: Please make a call at the number given below.

Inquiries: Hikone City Marathon Committee Office, Tel: 0749-22-5955

☆Hikone City Disaster Preparedness Drill

[Drill Sites and Details]

• Hikone Junior-High School

Evacuation drill, Fire Extinguishing Training, First Aid Training, Training for Rescuing Injured People, Recovery Operation of the Utility System, etc.

• Takamiya Elementary School

Evacuation Drill, Preparations and Management of Emergency Shelters, etc.

[Important Notes]

- We ask for your understanding towards sirens, sounds of engines and a helicopter, etc. during the drill.
- No drinking water will be provided to participants, so be sure to bring something to drink to stay hydrated.

Inquiries: Hikone Disaster Management Division, Tel: 0749-30-6150

Consultation

Legal Consultation	August 25 (Fri) 13:00 – 16:00 ※5500 yen per consultation (Reservations available from August 16)	Hikone Community Development 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 August 2 (Web), 13:30 – 15:30 (Offered by reservation only) Support for Continuing to Work August 16 (Wed), 13:30 – 15:30 (Offered by reservation only)		
Child and Family Consultation	Mon – Fri 8:30 – 17:15	Consultation Room for Children (Welfare Centre)	0749-23-7838
Child Development (Disability) Consultation	Mon – Fri ①8:30 – 17:15 (Offered by reservation only)	Development Support Division (<i>Hirata-cho</i>)	0749-26-8282
Language Development Consultation	Mon – Fri ①8:30 – 17:15 (Offered by reservation only)		
Human Rights Consultation in Foreign Languages	Mon – Fri 9:00 – 17:00		0570-090-911
Bullying Consultation Hotline	Mon – Fri 9:00 – 17:00	School Support • Human Rights • Anti-Bullying Measures Division	0749-24-7977
General Consultation for Children and Youths (social withdrawal, etc.)	Mon – Fri 8:30 – 17:15	Child and Youth Consultation Desk (Hikone Welfare Centre)	0749-26-6880
Consumer Affairs Consultation	Mon – Fri ①9:00 – 12:00 ②13:00 – 16:15	Consumer Affairs Center	0749-30-6144
Road Accident Consultation	Tue & Thu ①9:00 – 12:00 ②13:00 – 16:00	Traffic Accident Consultation Center, Hikone Office	0749-27-2230

Information from the Hikone Health Promotion Division
Tel: 0749-24-0816, Fax: 0749-24-5870

☆Health Check-ups for Infants and Young Children

Location: Kusunoki Center (Hassaka-cho)

September

Target Age Group	Date	Eligibility
4 months olds		To have a 4-month-old baby checked, parents are now required to do so at a medical facility. Please contact the Hikone Health Promotion Division for more details.
10 months olds	6 (Wed)	Children born from November 1 to 14, 2022.
	13 (Wed)	Children born from November 15 to 30, 2022.
One and a half years olds	15 (Fri)	Children born from February 1 to 16, 2022.
	22 (Fri)	Children born from February 17 to 28, 2022.
Two and a half years olds	14 (Thu)	Children born from February 1 to 13, 2021.
	21 (Thu)	Children born from February 14 to 28, 2021.
Three and a half years olds	11 (Mon)	Children born from January 28 to February 13, 2020.
	25 (Mon)	Children born from February 14 to 29, 2020.

Notes

- * No reminder will be mailed. Therefore, make sure to check further details on the website of Hikone City.
- * As a general rule, only one parent/guardian is permitted to accompany the baby/child during the check-up.
- * For 3 and a half years olds, a urine test will be conducted. For this, do not forget to take a urine sample on the morning of the checkup and bring it in a sanitized glass container, etc.

Inquiries: Hikone Health Promotion Division, Tel: 0749-24-0816

☆Childhood Immunization

Vaccines against measles and rubella can be administered to children only for one year prior to enrolling in elementary school. There are some other vaccines that can be administer during a certain period of time. It is advisable for parents/guardians to make the most of summer vacation to have their children to get a Japanese encephalitis or HPV jab.