

広報ひこね (英語版)

Community Newsletter

KOHO HIKONE

February 2024



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(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
- Mega Center TRAIAL Hikone
- Mega Don Quijote Toyosato
- Inaechiku Kominkan
- Hikone City Hospital

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	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	2,000 yen (Total 10 Classes) <u>*Ticket System</u>
Friday	2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.		*Japanese classes we offer are suitable for those who have never studied Japanese before and beginners. <u>*To check our opening schedule, please scan the QR code on the left or contact us by phone or email directly.</u>	
Saturday	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	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. ⑤Online 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 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

★Tax Return for Income Tax, etc.

Taxpayers are obligated to file an income tax return annually so that the government can determine their tax obligations. If taxpayers fail to do their tax returns during the tax return season or file a false tax return, they will be subject to delinquent taxes, additional taxes, etc.

[Tax Return Site for Income Tax, etc. and Opening Schedule]

Date and Time: February 16 (Fri) until March 15 (Fri)

Weekday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Site: Hikone Chamber for Commerce and Industry, 4F

(Hikone, Chuo-cho, 3-8)

[Important Notes]

- *Forms necessary for filing a tax return are not available at the Hikone Tax Office.
- *If you have your own plastic My Number card, please bring the card to the tax return site.
- *Depending on how crowded it is, the site could be closed earlier than the scheduled close time.
- *In order not to create unnecessary crowds inside the tax return site, ticket numbers are given to each individual.
- *Submission of an employee's withholding certificate, etc. is no longer needed upon filing a tax return; however, each individual is now required to fill in all the necessary information on a tax return form. Ensure to check whether you have filled out your tax return form properly or not prior to filing it.

Inquiries: National Tax Agency, Tel: 0570-00-5901
e-Tax Telephone Assistance; Tel: 0570-01-5901

★Tax Return for Municipal and Prefectural Inhabitant Tax

[Tax Return Site And Its Opening Schedule]

The city hall of Hikone and other temporary tax return sites are expected to get packed with people doing their taxes during the tax return season; increasingly so towards the end of it.

Date	Site	Opening Hours
Feb 20 (Tue)	Mizuho Bunka Center	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Feb 21 (Wed)	(Hikone, Tawara-cho, 11)	
Feb 22 (Thu)		
Feb 29 (Thu)	Takamiya Bunka Center (Hikone, Takamiya-cho, 2311)	
Mar 8 (Fri)	Toriimotochiku Komin-kan (Hikone, Toriimoto-cho, 1491-6)	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Date	Site	Opening Hours
February 16 (Fri) through March 15 (Fri)	Special Tax Return Site (Hikone City Hall, 1F)	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Inquiries: Hikone Tax Division, Tel: 0749-30-6140

☆Be Aware of Due Date of Procedures to Change Kei-car/Motorbike Ownership

Kei-car (light vehicle) tax is invariably imposed on Kei-car owners on April 1 every year. For this, all Kei-car and motorbike owners are reminded to complete the necessary paperwork to change ownership of a Kei-car/motorbike or scrap it by April 1 if need be.

*Procedures vary from model to model, so please contact the one of the following authorities if you have any questions.

- **Regular-size vehicles and motorbikes 126cc or bigger:** Shiga Branch, Kinki Unrin Kyoku Tel: 050-5540-2064
- **Kei-cars:** Shiga Office, Kei Jidousha Association Tel: 050-3816-1843
- **Motorbikes 125cc or smaller, and special small vehicles:** Hikone Tax Division Tel: 0749-30-6140
- **Kei-car tax:** Hikone Tax Division Hall Tel: 0749-30-6140

☆Paying Into Your Pension By Direct Debit

If you pay into your pension by direct debit or with your credit card, you will be able to get a small discount.

- Discount for paying in advance

If you pay your pension contribution payment one month in advance by direct debit, 50 yen will be discounted each month.

- A larger discount can be offered if you make a lump-sum payment for your pension contributions, such as for six months, one year, and two years in one single payment instead of monthly payments.

If you want to make the most of this offer, please get a direct debit request form at a bank of your choosing, and complete and submit the form with an official seal stamped on it to your nearest Japan Pension office by mail or in person by February 29 (Thu).

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

☆On-Site My Number Card Application Support Services

At the locations listed in the table below, temporary My Number card application booths will be set up to help Hikone residents apply for their plastic My Number cards by offering the necessary ID photo shoot at no cost.

For those who cannot visit any of the listed locations or the city hall, at their request, the city can dispatch its public worker or two to their places to help them apply for a My Number card. If you want to take advantage of this special service, please call the Hikone City My Number Card Application Appointment Center.

[Hikone City My Number Card Application Appointment Center]

Tel: 0120-654-049 (9:00 to 5:00 on the weekday)

[Locations and Dates of On-site My Number Card Application Support Services]

Date	Location	Time
February 1 (Wed)	Minamichiku Komin-kan (Community Center)	9:30 AM – 4:00 PM
February 2 (Fri)	Toriimotochiku Komin-kan (Community Center)	9:30 AM – 4:00 PM
February 6 (Tue) and 9 (Fri)	Viva City Hikone	1:00 PM – 7:00 PM
February 15 (Thu) and 22 (Thu)	Asahinomorichiku Komin-kan (Community Center)	9:30 AM – 4:00 PM
February 16 (Fri) and 20 (Tue)	Friend Mart Inae	12:30 PM – 7:00 PM
February 19 (Mon)	Maruzen Super Hikone	12:30 PM – 7:00 PM
February 29 (Thu)	Nakachiku Komin-kan (Community Center)	9:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Inquiries: Hikone Life Service Division, Tel: 0749-30-6151

☆Sunday Issuance of My Number Cards

Date: February 11 (Sun)

Time: 9:30AM – 12:30 PM

Location: Hikone City Hall, 1F

Inquiries: Hikone Life Service Division, Tel: 0749-30-6151

☆Free Useful Tool To Remove Water Out Of Kitchen Waste

A simple act of removing water out of kitchen waste can contribute to reducing the cost of waste disposal and extending the lifespan of a waste incineration facility.

For this, the city offers a simple, yet very useful tool called *Mizukiri* in Japanese to anyone who wants it free of charge starting on February 5 (Mon). Please note that no more than one *Mizukiri* can be provided to each household, and once we run out of stock, this free distribution of *Mizukiri* ends.

Location: Hikone Living Environment Division (Hikone City Hall, 2F)

Notes: • First come, first served.

- You will be asked to fill out a questionnaire in exchange for *Mizukiri*.



Inquiries: Hikone Living Environment Division, Tel: 0749-30-6116

Event

☆Hikone Morning Market

February 18 (Sun) 8:00 AM – Noon

Location: Osue-Cho, Gokoku Shrine

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

☆Handicraft Class for Children – Simple Wooden Musical Instruments

Date and Time: February 17 (Sat), 10:00 AM – 11:30 PM

Target Age Groups: Children in elementary and junior-high school

*Elementary-school-aged children must be accompanied by their parents/guardians.

Capacity: 10 *On a first-come, first-served basis.

Fee: 400 JPY per child

Application Period: February 3 (Sat) – 13 (Tue)

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

☆Welfare Job Fair in Hikone

To support job seekers who are living in the Koto area and interested in welfare-related jobs, the welfare job fair is set to be hosted on the following day in Hikone.

Date and Time: February 22 (Thu) 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

Location: Proceed Arena HIKONE

Inquiries: Aisho-cho Welfare Division, Tel: 0749-42-7691

☆Job Fair Hosted By Shiga Prefecture

Anyone who wants to work in the field related to welfare or adult day care is welcome to this job fair hosted by Shiga Prefecture.

Date and Time: February 17 (Sat), 10:00 – 12:30, 13:30 – 4:00

Location: AL Plaza Hikone, 4F

How to Apply: Please call the number below, or scan the QR code to apply online.



Inquiries: Shiga Prefecture Human Resources Center Hikone Office, Tel: 0749-21-6300

Consultation

Legal Consultation	February 22 (Fri) 13:00 – 16:00 *5500 yen per consultation (Reservations available from Feb 14)	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 February 7 (Web), 13:30 – 15:30 (Offered by reservation only) Support for Continuing to Work February 21 (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 8:30 – 17:15 (Offered by reservation only)	Development Support Division (<i>Hirata-cho</i>)	0749-26-8282
Language Development Consultation	Mon – Fri 8:30 – 17:15 (Offered by reservation only)		
Human Rights Consultation in Foreign Languages	Mon – Fri 9:00 – 17:00		0570-090-911
Bullying & Social Withdrawal 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 ① 9:00 – 12:00 ② 13:00 – 16:15	Consumer Affairs Center	0749-30-6144
Road Accident Consultation	Tue & Thu ① 9:00 – 12:00 ② 13:00 – 16:00	Traffic Accident Consultation Center, Hikone Office	0749-27-2230

★Labor Law Consultation

For those who are going through difficult times due to a hostile work environment, such as harassment, unfair treatment, etc., labor law consultation services are offered by a lawyer.

Date and Time: February 22 (Thu), 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

*30 minutes per person

Capacity: Three Persons

*On a first-come, first-served basis

How to Apply: Please call 0749-30-9228.

*Application will open on February 1, Thursday at 9:00 AM.

Location: Proceed Arena HIKONE

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

★March Health Check-ups for Infants and Young Children

Location: Kusunoki Center (Hassaka-cho)

March

Target Age Group	Date	Eligibility
4 months olds	To have a 4-month-old baby checked, parents are 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 between May 1 and 15, 2023
	12 (Tue)	Children born between May 16 and 31, 2023
1 and ½ years olds	8 (Fri)	Children born between August 1 and 15, 2022
	15 (Fri)	Children born between August 16 and 31, 2022
2 and ½ years olds	14 (Thu)	Children born between August 1 and 15, 2021
	21 (Thu)	Children born between August 16 and 31, 2021
3 and ½ years olds	11 (Mon)	Children born between August 4 and 16, 2020
	18 (Mon)	Children born between August 17 and 31, 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

★Affordable Cancer Screening

The following cancer screening tests are available for certain people who meet conditions for each cancer screening. All the following cancer screening tests can be offered until March 31 (Sun) 2024.

[Cervical Cancer Screening]

It is available for those who have received a free coupon for cervical cancer screening during the fiscal year of 2023. To schedule your appointment or ask for more details, please get in touch with an authorized clinic/hospital directly.

[Breast Cancer Screening]

It is available for those who have received a free coupon for cervical cancer screening during the fiscal year of 2023. To schedule your appointment or ask for more details, please get in touch with an authorized clinic/hospital directly.

[Stomach Cancer Screening]

It is available for people over 50 years old as of March 31, 2024 and whose age is an even number. To schedule your appointment or ask for more details, please get in touch with the Hikone Health Promotion Division. A stomach cancer screening test fee is 4,000 yen.

☆COVID-19 Vaccines (Publicly Funded) Information

Please note that COVID-19 vaccines that have been administered nationwide at no cost are expected to end on March 31 (Sun). If you are thinking of getting a primary series of the vaccines or a booster shot, please schedule your appointment at your earliest convenience. In order to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, a vaccine ticket is a must, and therefore, if you do not have or have lost your ticket, make sure to call the Hikone COVID-19 Appointment Center or apply online.

[Appointments of Booster Shots for People Over 12 Years Old]

- For the month of February: Currently Available
- For the month of March: Will Be Available on February 8 (Thu) at 8:30

[How to Schedule an Appointment]

Please call the Hikone COVID-19 Appointment Center at 0120-152-811 between 8:30 and 5:00.
(Closed on weekends, national holidays and a year-end and New Year holiday period)

☆Pneumococcal Vaccination for the Senior Population

A free pneumococcal vaccination shot can be administered to qualifying seniors until the end of March 2024, and after this period the pneumococcal vaccination will no longer be administered for free to those who are older than 66 years old.

[Eligibility Criteria]

Those who have never received the 23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine before and fall under either category.

- A the age of 65,70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95 or 100 years old
- Aged between 60 and 65 years old with underlying conditions such as heart disease, kidney disease, respiratory illness and immunodeficiency

A pre-vaccination questionnaire for the pneumococcal vaccination was mailed around April last year to eligible people.

While the pneumococcal vaccination for the senior population is publicly funded, once you fail to book your vaccine by the deadline, you will be required to bear the cost out of your own pocket. If you have lost your pre-vaccination checklist, please contact the Hikone Health Promotion division at 0749-24-0816.

☆Publicly Funded HPV Vaccines

It has been reported that diagnosis of cervical cancer is relatively high among young people compared to other types of cancer. For this, it is important to get screened for cervical cancer every two years after turning 20 years old. The HPV vaccine is really effective in preventing cervical cancer.

Target Age Group: Females born between 1997 April 2 and 2012 April 1.