

広報ひこね（英語版）

Community Newsletter **KOHO HIKONE**

May 2025



- Financial Support Program for Pregnant Women (P. 2)
- Children's Class: The Amazing World of Orizome (P. 5)
- About Hikone Urgent Care Office (P. 7)
- World No Tobacco Day (P. 7)



[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

General Information

Financial Assistance for Free School Expenses

Hikone City provides financial assistance to parents/guardians whose children attend non-traditional schools, known as “free schools” in Japanese, to help cover part of the related expenses.

[Eligibility Criteria] Parents/guardians in Hikone who meet all the conditions for the Child Allowance Program, as established prior to the revision.

[Amount of Financial Assistance] 50% to 100% of School Expenses (up to a maximum of 40,000 yen per month)

[Application Period] Applications must be submitted once every three months – in June, October, January, and April.

[Note] Please submit your application to the Hikone School Support, Human Rights, Anti-bullying Management Division on the 3rd floor of Hikone City Hall.

**Contact Information: Hikone School Support, Human Rights,
Anti-bullying Management Division, Tel. 0749-24-7978**

Financial Support Program for Pregnant Women

The name of the existing financial benefit program has been changed to “Ninpu no Tame no Kyūfukin”, which is translated as the Financial Support Program for Pregnant Women in English.

In addition to this name change, the amended program has expanded its eligibility to include miscarriage, stillbirth, and induced abortion.

Contact Information: Hikone Mother and Child Health Division, Tel. 0749-24-3931

Hikone Renovation Subsidy Program

To qualify for this subsidy, the renovation work must be carried out by a company whose registered office is located in Hikone or by an individual business registered in Hikone that provides renovation services.

Please note that terms and conditions apply, please be sure to contact the relevant division in advance.

[Subsidy Amount] 10% of the renovation cost (up to 100,000 yen)

*Any amount under 1000 yen is rounded down (discarded).

[Application Deadline] July 31 (Thu)

*Applications must be submitted online via Hikone City’s official application webpage.

[Notes] Before starting any renovation work, please contact the relevant division at Hikone City Hall to confirm your eligibility, as terms and conditions apply.



Contact Information: Hikone Regional Economy Promotion Division, Tel. 0749-30-6119

Kei-Car Tax Reduction System for People with Disabilities

[Where and How to Apply]

After receiving your Kei-car tax bill by mail, please submit your application to the Hikone Tax Division or the Inae Branch Office by the due date indicated on the tax bill.

[Important Notes]

- This tax reduction system can be applied to up to one Kei-car per person with disabilities.
 - The amount of the tax reduction, or whether you are eligible for it, is listed on the back of the Kei-car tax bill.
- If you need further clarification, please feel free to contact the relevant division either in person or by phone.

Contact Information: Hikone Tax Division, Tel: 0749-30-6140

Japan National Pension System

It is compulsory for all residents of Japan aged 20 to 60 to be enrolled in the Japan National Pension System.

Please note that if either of the following applies to you, you must be enrolled in the Japan National Pension System as soon as possible:

- After leaving the company you worked for.
- After losing No. 2 insured person status due to divorce, salary increase, etc.

[Pension Contribution Exemption System for the Prenatal and Postnatal Periods]

Pregnant women can apply for this exemption system from 6 months before their due date until a certain point after childbirth. Once your application is accepted, monthly pension contributions will be counted as paid for the accepted exemption period.

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

Sunday Opening for My Number Card Procedures

The city hall will be open as follows for certain My-Number-related services, such as picking up a My Number card, updating a My Number card, resetting passwords, and so on.

Date and Time: May 11 (Sun), 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Location: 1F, Hikone City Hall

Notes: • You can make a reservation to pick up your My Number card by phone or online (please scan the QR code.)
• If you would like to know what to bring, please inquire with the relevant division at the number below.

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

Rabies Vaccination Promotion Campaign – April to June

Owners of dogs older than 91 days are legally responsible for having their dogs vaccinated against rabies once a year. A notification regarding the rabies vaccination requirement and Hikone's mass rabies vaccination schedule will be sent by mail to all registered dog owners.

If you do not receive a rabies vaccination notice for your dog(s), it likely means that your dog's registration with the city has not yet been completed.

Under the Rabies Prevention Act, it is illegal to keep an unregistered dog, as rabies is a disease that can spread to humans and has a nearly 100% fatality rate once symptoms appear.

Contact Information: Hikone Living Environment Division, Tel. 0749-30-6116

Students Needed! – Techno College Maibara

Techno College Maibara is now accepting applications for its vocational training programs, which are set to start in July.

[Target] Job Seekers

[A Maximum Number of Students]

- Electrical Energy Installation Course: 15
- Home Renovation Course: 10
- Production System Installation Course: 10



[Tuition] Free *Textbooks and workwear (coveralls) must be purchased at your own expense.

[Application Deadline] May 8 (Thursday)

For more information, visit their official website by scanning the QR code.

Please note that one of the requirements is the ability to speak and read at least day-to-day Japanese.

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

Events and Activities

Spring Music Festival – May 18 (Sun)

[A List of Participating Groups]

- | | | |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Hikone Jido Gasho Dan | 2. Afumi Vocal Ensemble | 3. Utagoe Club Ra Ra Ra |
| 4. Inae Shonen Shojō Gasho Dan | 5. Hikone Konsei Gasho Dan | 6. Hikone Gasho Club |
| 7. Hikone Shimin Gasho Dan Fill Harmonic Shiga | | 8. Shiga Kenritsu Daigaku Orchestra |
| 9. Hikoneshi Shonen Shojō Brass Band | 10. Hikone Brass Band | 11. Shiga Kenritsu Daigaku Brass Band |

[Start Time] 1:30 PM *The venue opens at 1:00 PM.

[Venue] Grand Hall, Hikone Bunka Plaza (Hikone, Nose-cho)

[Note] The music festival will be broadcast live on YouTube.

Please scan the QR code.



Contact Information: Hikone Culture Promotion Division, Tel: 0749-23-7810

Beautiful Firefly Viewing Event

[Date and Time] May 31 (Sat), 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

[Location] Minami Chiku Community Hall (Kanro-cho, 1321-1)

[Capacity] 40 *First-come, first-served basis.

[Fee] 100 yen per person *Free for children younger than preschool age.

[Application Period] May 1 to 17 *Please call the community hall to apply.

[Tel] 0749-26-0510

[Note] The event will be canceled in case of rain or unfavorable weather.

Hikone Eco-Market

Date and Time: May 25 (Sun), 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Location: Otemae Park, Konki-cho

Hikone Morning Market

May 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 the Hikone Morning Market!

Children's Class: The Amazing World of Orizome

Orizome is a Japanese art technique where washi paper is folded and dip-dyed.

Come and have fun making your very own Orizome!



[Date and Time] May 24 (Sat), 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

[Target Age Group] Children in Elementary and Junior-high School

*Children in elementary school must be accompanied by their parents.

[Capacity] 10

[Fee] 300 JPY per child

[Application Period] May 9 (Fri) through May 17 (Sat) *Please apply by phone.

Contact Information: Hikone Kodomo Center, Tel. 0749-28-3645

Consultation Services

Consultation Service	Schedule	Location	Telephone Number
Legal Consultation	May 23 (Fri) 13:00 – 16:00 *5500 yen per consultation *Reservations available from May 14.	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 May 7 (Web), 13:30 – 15:30 *Offered by reservation only. Support for Continuing to Work May 21 (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.		
Human Rights Consultation in Foreign Languages	Mon – Fri 9:00 – 17:00		0570-090-911
Consumer Affairs Consultation	Mon – Fri ① 9:00 – 12:00 ② 13:00 – 16:15	Consumer Affairs Center	0749-30-6144

Health and Wellness Information

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

June Health Check-ups for Infants, Toddlers and Preschoolers

Location: Kusunoki Center (Hassaka-cho)

Starting with the health check-ups for infants and young children in April 2024, you are required to make an appointment in advance via a 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 with one.



June

Target Age Group	Date	Eligibility
10 months olds	11 (Wed)	Children born between 2024 July 16 and 31
	17 (Tue)	Children born between 2024 Aug 1 and 15
1 and ½ years olds	13 (Fri)	Children born in 2023 November.
	20 (Fri)	
2 and ½ years olds	19 (Thu)	Children born in 2022 November.
3 and ½ years olds	16 (Mon)	Children born in 2021 November.
	23 (Mon)	

Contact Info: Hikone Health Promotion Division, Tel. 0749-24-3931

About Hikone Urgent Care Office

Operating Days and Hours: Sundays, Holidays, the Year-End/New Year Holiday Period

10:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Available Medical Departments: Internal Medicine, Pediatrics

Tel: 0749-22-1119

Important Notes: • Be absolutely sure to call the number above to make an appointment first.
• Without an appointment, you will not be able to see a doctor.
• Refrain from using this urgent care service for minor injuries, common colds, and similar cases.

World No Tobacco Day – May 31 (Sat)

This yearly campaign was initiated by the World Health Organization with the aim of informing the public about the health risks of smoking, promoting smoking cessation activities and preventing secondhand smoke exposure.

As part of this global campaign, Hikone Castle will be lit up in yellow-green as scheduled below.

Days: May 30 (Fri) – June 1 (Sun)

