

広報ひこね (英語版)

Community Newsletter *KOHO HIKONE*



June 2026

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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 speak with our English interpreter by phone at the 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 City Hospital
- Hikone City Library
- Hikone City Hall (1F)
- AEON TOWN Hikone
- Nakachiku Kominkan
- Inae Branch Office
- “Gyomu Super” (Toga-cho)
- Beisia Hikone
- Inae-chiku Kominkan
- Mega Center TRAIAL Hikone
- Mega Don Quijote Toyosato
- Don Quijote Hikone
- 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 Organization Before Attending.**

Japanese Language Classes in Hikone



Day	Time	Location	Organization Name	Fee
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	Free
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
Please contact the institute for details about the days and times of its Japanese language courses.		Ohmi Furusato Hall (Kaidema-cho 1351-3)	Mother Lake Nihongo Gakuin (Japanese Language Institute) Tel: 0749-47-3447	Please contact the institute for details about the lesson fees.
1 st , 3 rd , 4 th Saturday	10:00 AM to 11:30 AM	Higashi-chiku Community Center (Daito-cho 1-26)	*This class is available for children only! Hikone UNESCO Association, Japanese Language Class “JUMP” Learning Japanese as a foreign language educational support for children Tel: 090-2384-9760	200 yen per lesson

Public Notices & Information

Applications for City-Run Affordable Housing Begin

- Inae Nishi Danchi, Room No. 107
- Okamachi Danchi, Room No. 4 (for families)
- Nakayabu Danchi, Building No. I, Room No. 403 (for families)
- Serikawa Danchi, Building No. I, Room No. 302 (for single-parent families)

[Application Period]

June 5 (Fri) – June 19 (Fri)

Applications must be submitted in person to the relevant division by the deadline.

[Important Notes]

- Eligibility requirements vary depending on the applicant. For details regarding eligibility for city-run affordable housing, please contact the relevant division.
- Applications must be submitted either by the applicant or by a family member who will move into the apartment if selected.
- Successful applicants are expected to move in around late August 2026.

Contact: Hikone Housing Division, Tel: 0749-30-6123

Hikone City Cost-of-Living Support Coupon Program

The coupons will be mailed together to all eligible members of each household via Japan Post's Yu-Pack service.

The coupons must be handed directly to a household member by a Japan Post delivery worker.

If no one is at home, the delivery worker may place the package containing the coupons in a parcel box.

[How to Use Coupons]

The coupons can be used either digitally or in paper form starting Wednesday, July 1. To use them digitally, you will need to scan the QR code — which will be available on Tuesday, June 23 — using your smartphone or another compatible device, load the coupons into a dedicated mobile app, and present them at a participating store. If you prefer to use them in paper form, simply use them as issued.

*If you have questions about how to use the coupons, the dedicated mobile app, or other related matters, please visit the website of Hikone City Hall or contact the call center for the Hikone City Cost-of-Living Support Coupon Program between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on weekdays, excluding national holidays.

Contact: Call Center for Hikone City Cost-of-Living Support Coupon Program, Tel: 0570-033-242

Be Sure to Enroll in the National Pension System After Turning 20

All residents of Japan between the ages of 20 and 60, regardless of nationality, are required to enroll in the National Pension System. A notice of enrollment will be mailed by the Japan Pension Service to individuals who have recently turned 20.

[Pension Contribution Exemption for Students]

Students whose previous year's income was below a certain threshold may apply for an exemption from monthly pension contributions. If approved, pension contributions from April of the current year through March of the following year will be exempted. Applications may also be submitted retroactively for up to two years and one month.

To apply, please visit a Pension Office, the Hikone Insurance and Pension Division, or any branch office of Hikone City Hall to complete the necessary procedures. Please bring your student ID card or certificate of enrollment when applying.

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

July 12: Temporary Opening at Hikone City Hall for My Number Card Procedures

Date and Time: July 12 (Sun) from 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Location: Hikone City Hall, 1F



* Appointments can be made in advance by scanning the QR code or by calling the number below.

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

June 15: Closure of the Hikone Seiso Center for Maintenance and Repairs

Please be notified that the Hikone Seiso (garbage incineration and recycling) center will undergo maintenance and repairs on Monday, June 15. For this reason, no garbage will be accepted on that day.

For more details, please scan the QR code or contact the center by phone.



Contact: Hikone Seiso Center, Tel: 0749-22-2734

June 20: Bulky Waste and Small Household Appliance Collection

Date and Time: June 20 (Sat): 8:00 – 11:00

Location: Hikone Seiso (Garbage Incineration and Recycling) Center

[Important Points]

- Please have your photo ID ready and present it at the gate of the center to prove that you are a Hikone resident.
- Only bulky waste and small household appliances will be accepted.
- Bulky waste can only be disposed of for a fee, while appliances measuring less than one meter in length, width, and depth can be collected free of charge.
- Unbroken fluorescent tubes and light bulbs will also be accepted.
- Certain appliances, such as televisions, air conditioners, refrigerators, freezers, washing machines, and clothes dryers, cannot be accepted at the center under the Japan Recycling Act.
- Make sure to follow instructions given by center staff to help traffic flow smoothly.

Contact: Hikone Seiso Center, Tel: 0749-22-2734

Tips for Reducing and Recycling Waste: Reduction in Food Loss and Kitchen Waste

According to research conducted in FY2024, 11.7% of household kitchen waste consisted of perfectly edible food.

[Key Points]

- To reduce food loss and kitchen waste, it is important to be mindful of the appropriate amount of food for yourself and your family when purchasing groceries, preparing meals, and dining out.
- If a store-bought meal is too large to eat alone, share it with your family members. If there are leftovers, store them in the refrigerator or another cool place and eat them as soon as possible.



Upcoming Events & Fun News

Hikone Morning Market

June 21 (Sun) 8:00 AM – Noon

Location: Osue-Cho, Gokoku Shrine

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

Hikone Eco Market “Yumebatake”

This market is a flea market. You may be able to find something special at a great value!



Date and Time: June 21 (Sun), 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Location: Ohtemae Second Preserved Land (Hikone City, Konki-cho)

Fun Classes for Children

[The Microscopic World Through a Microscope]

Participating children will observe blood circulation in medaka embryos using a microscope.

Date and Time: June 27 (Sat), 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Eligibility: Elementary and junior high school students

*Elementary school children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Capacity: Up to 15 children

*First come, first served.

Fee: 500 yen per child

Application Period: June 12 (Fri) – June 20 (Sat)

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

[Miniature Wooden Chair Making]

Participating children will make a small wooden chair with assistance from students of Hikone Technical High School.

Date and Time: July 11 (Sat) 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Eligibility: Elementary and junior high school students

*Elementary school children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Capacity: Up to 15 children

*First come, first served.

Fee: 1,200 yen per child

Application Period: June 26 (Fri) – July 4 (Sat)

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

Family Concert at Hikone Kodomo Center

The Hikone Children's Choir will perform on the following date and time.

Date and Time: June 6 (Sat) at 2:00 PM



Summer Activity Event for Kids

During this event, participating children will learn about traditional Japanese paintings and calligraphy by making a mini hanging scroll and participating in other activities.

Date and Time: Saturday, August 1

- Morning Session: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM (for 4th to 6th graders)
- Afternoon Session: 1:30 AM – 3:30 PM (for 1st to 3rd graders)

Eligibility: Elementary school children who reside or attend school in Hikone

Capacity: Up to 20 children per session

Fee: 500 yen per child

Application Period: June 1 to July 6

How to Apply: Please scan the QR code or call the division in charge to apply.

Location: Hikone Castle Museum



Contact: Hikone Castle Museum Cultural Materials Division, Tel: 0749-22-6100

Shiga University: Afterschool Paly Area Project

The ground at Shiga University will be open free of charge for children to play freely on the following dates and times. Play equipment will be available for children.

Date and Time: June 11 (Thu), July 2 (Thu), July 23 (Thu)

5:00PM – 6:00PM on each day

Venue: Shiga University Hikone Campus Ground

Eligibility: Preschool and elementary school children

*Preschoolers must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Capacity: Up to 30 children each day

*First come, first served basis

How to Apply: Please scan the QR code or call the university to apply.



Contact: Shiga University (Ogura-san), Tel: 090-9537-4365

The 28th University of Shiga Prefecture Summer Campus Festival

Date and Time: June 13 (Sat), 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Location: The University of Shiga Prefecture Campus (Hikone, Hassaka-cho)

Contact: Shiga Prefecture University Festival Committee, Tel: 0749-28-8614

Hikone Cultural Art and Activity Event 2026

[Exhibition]

Date and Time: June 5 (Fri) to June 7 (Sun), 9:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Venue: Hikone Bunka Plaza (Hikone, Nose-cho)

[Stage Performances]

Date and Time: July 7 (Sun), 1:00 PM

*The venue will be opened at 12:30 PM.

Venue: Echo Hall, Hikone Bunka Plaza (Hikone, Nose-cho)

[Fee]

Free except Matcha tea offering (300 yen per serving)

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

Consultation Services

Consultation Service	Schedule	Location	Telephone Number
Legal Consultation	June 26 (Fri), 13:00 – 16:00 *5500 yen per person *Reservations available from June 17.	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] July 1 (Web), 13:30 – 15:30 *Offered by reservation only. [Support for Continuing to Work] June 17 (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 Center (Hirata-cho)	0749-26-8282
Language Development Consultation	Mon – Fri 8:30 – 17:15 *Offered by reservation only.		
Traffic Accident 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 – 16:45	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

July 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 'Boshi Mo (母子モ).' If you visit the Kusunoki Center without an appointment, you may be asked to return after making one.



Target Age Group	Date	Eligibility
10 months olds	14 (Tue)	Children born between 2025, August 22 and September 14.
1 and ½ years olds	17 (Fri)	Children born in 2024, December.
	24 (Fri)	
2 and ½ years olds	9 (Thu)	Children born in 2023, December.
3 and ½ years olds	13 (Mon)	Children born in 2022, December.
	27 (Mon)	

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

Beware of Food Poisoning

Please be aware of the risk of food poisoning, especially during Japan's rainy season, when temperatures and humidity rise toward summer.

Beware Of Heatstroke!

By putting the following preventive measures into practice, please stay safe in extreme heat.

- Stay hydrated by drinking fluids even if you are not thirsty.
- Use air conditioning to keep indoor temperatures comfortable.
- Wear a cap or hat, or use a UV-blocking umbrella, and take breaks regularly when you are outside.
- Wear comfortable clothing made from breathable materials.



When the risk of heatstroke is expected to be particularly high, the public in each prefecture will be urged to take the necessary precautions under the Heatstroke Special Alert System.

Please scan the QR code above to visit the alert system website. When an extreme heat warning is issued, take as many preventive measures as possible.