

広報ひこね（英語版）

Community Newsletter *KOHO HIKONE*



August 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
- Inae Branch Office
- “Gyomu Super” (Toga-cho)
- Beisia Hikone
- Inae-chiku Kominkan
- Nakachiku Kominkan
- Mega Don Quijote Toyosato
- Don Quijote Hikone
- Hikone City Hospital
- Hello Work Hikone
- Mega Center TRAIAL Hikone
- Hikone City Library
- Hikone City Hall (1F)
- AEON TOWN 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 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 (1 hour each in the afternoon and evening)	Innovation Office Nayashichi (Shiro-machi 1-7-16)	Weekday Japanese Language Class 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

Support Programs for Single-Parent Households

Various support programs are available for single-parent families. Each program has its own eligibility requirements. For more information, please contact the relevant division of Hikone City Hall. If you would like advice before filing for divorce, the Hikone Children and Youth Support Division offers consultation services.

Please make an appointment in advance.

[Programs and Services Provided by the Hikone Children and Youth Support Division]

Tel: 0749-26-0994

- Consultation services for child-rearing concerns and other related issues.
Regional Single-Parent and Child Welfare Promotion Commissioners provide consultations.
- Legal assistance in obtaining child support agreements from a former spouse.
Financial assistance is available to cover the costs of preparing a notarized agreement regarding child support and filing for family court mediation. Please apply within six months after the notarized agreement is prepared or the mediation is concluded.
- Employment support for single parents.
Support for finding or changing jobs is provided in cooperation with relevant organizations.
- Financial support for single parents to obtain qualifications and job skills.
Financial assistance is available to cover part of the cost of job training courses and programs leading to qualifications such as nurse, social worker, and childcare worker.
- Student loans for children from single-parent families who wish to pursue higher education.
Student loans are available for children from single-parent households who enter high school or university.
- Monetary benefits for single-parent households with children (called Jido Fuyo Teate, not Jido Teate) are available for single parents or those raising a child on behalf of the child's parents.
- Places where junior high and high school students can interact with university students and volunteers through educational support and soup kitchen programs.

[Program Provided by the Hikone Insurance and Pension Division]

Tel: 0749-30-6136

- Financial assistance with medical expenses.
This program covers out-of-pocket medical expenses for medical care covered by health insurance.

[Program Provided by the Hikone Tax Division]

Tel: 0749-30-6140

- Tax deductions for single parents.
Single parents whose previous year's income is below a certain threshold and who are raising a child in the same household may be eligible for an income tax or resident tax deduction or exemption.

Hikone Childrearing Information Guidebook (2026 Edition)

This guidebook contains information about places where children can play in Hikone, organizations providing support for childrearing families, financial assistance programs, and consultation services.

[Where to Get the Hikone Childrearing Information Guidebook]

Hikone City Hall, Kusunoki Center, Children and Youth Support Division (2F, Fukushi Center), Regional Childrearing Support Center, Community Halls, City Library

[Availability of Translated Versions]

Hikone Childrearing Information Guidebook will be translated and uploaded to Hikone City official website as they become available. Available languages are English, Portuguese, Vietnamese, and Chinese.

Contact Information: Hikone Children and Youth Support Division, Tel: 0749-49-2251

National Children's Rights Consultation Week

Legal Affairs Bureau staff and Human Rights Commissioners will offer free telephone consultations on bullying, corporal punishment, school attendance issues, and other issues related to children's rights. Consultations are free, and personal information and consultation details will be kept strictly confidential.

[Free Telephone Consultation Period and Time]

- August 28 (Fri) to September 3 (Thu)
- 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on weekdays, and 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekends

[Telephone Consultation Number]

0120-007-110

Contact Information: Otsu Regional Legal Affairs Bureau, 077-522-4673

Applications for Toriimoto Gakuen for the 2027 School Year Begin

Toriimoto Gakuen is an integrated elementary and junior high school.

[Eligibility]

Children whose addresses are registered in Hikone and will enter the first or seventh grade in the 2027 school year.

[Capacity]

20 students each for elementary and junior high school.

[Application Period]

December 1 (Tue), 2026 until January 21 (Thu), 2027

[School Tours]

- September 16 (Wed), 17 (Thu), and 18 (Fri)

[Information Session for Parents and Guardians]

- September 18 (Fri), 2:45 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.
- Venue: Toriimoto Junior High School
- Please visit the Hikone City official website for more information, including how to apply.

Contact Information: Hikone School Education Division, 0749-24-7973

Moment of Silence for A-Bomb Victims and World Peace

Please observe a moment of silence for the victims of the atomic bombings and pray for world peace on the following dates and times when the atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima City and Nagasaki City.

[Time and Day]

- Hiroshima City: Thursday, August 6 at 8:15 a.m.
- Nagasaki City: Sunday, August 9 at 11:02 a.m.

*The website of Hikone City has information to help you learn about the atomic bombings and the importance of peace.

Contact Information: Hikone General Affairs Office, Tel: 0749-30-6100

September 13: Hikone City Hall Open for My Number Card Procedures

Date and Time: September 13 (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.

*If you want to collect your newly issued My Number Card, you must make an appointment in advance online or by phone.

*Please do not forget to bring your identification.

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

Hikone Water and Sewer Customer Service Center Temporary Closure: Aug. 29

Please note that the Hikone Water and Sewer Customer Service Center will be closed on Saturday, August 29.

If you need to start or stop public water and sewer services, pay your water bills, or make an inquiry by phone, please do so on or after Sunday, August 30.

Contact Information: Hikone Water and Sewer Operation Division, Tel: 0749-22-2722

Water Meter Replacement (August to December)

Water meters that are due for replacement under Japan's Measurement Act will be replaced by the city.

Please note that water meters installed by property owners are not covered by this replacement program.

[Important Points]

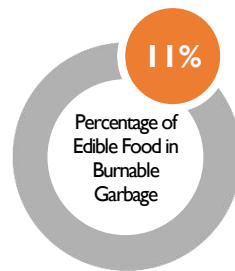
- You do not need to be at home for the replacement unless the water meter is located inside your home or building. However, the replacement worker will need access to your property to carry out the work.
- All water meter replacement workers are authorized by Hikone City and carry an ID card marked “量水器取替業務従事者 (Authorized Water Meter Replacement Worker).”
- There is no charge for the replacement work.

Contact Information: Hikone Water and Sewer Customer Service Center, Tel: 0749-27-2802

Tips for Reducing and Recycling Waste

According to statistics from 2024, 11.7% of the burnable garbage collected in Hikone consisted of edible food.

You can help reduce food waste by putting the following tips into practice.



1. Be aware of the difference between the "Best By" and "Use By" dates.
2. Avoid buying more food than you need.
3. Use up leftovers and unused ingredients.

- ・賞味期限 (Shomi Kigen) means “Best By” in English.
- ・消費期限 (Shohi Kigen) means “Use By” in English.



Upcoming Events & Fun News

39th Hikone City Marathon: November 8 (Sun)

[Participation Details]

- Those who wish to participate in the marathon must be older than elementary school age.
- The capacity for each course is up to 800 runners for the 3 km course, 600 runners for the 5 km course, and 1,600 runners for the 10 km course.
- The marathon will be held at Heiwado HATO Stadium, Hikone Castle, and the surrounding area.
- Participation fees range from 1,900 to 4,800 yen, depending on the course, etc.
- Applications will be accepted on July 15 (Wed) and close on September 4 (Fri) on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Please apply online by scanning the QR code.



**All participants will
get an original
Hikonyan T-shirt!**



[Volunteers Wanted!] *Minors are not permitted.

The Hikone City Marathon Committee Office is looking for volunteers to help host the event.

If you are interested in volunteering, please apply online or call the committee office at 0749-22-5955 from July 15 (Wed) to August 31 (Mon).



**All volunteers will get
an original Hikonyan
cap!
(Check the design on**

[Up-to-date Information on Instagram]

For the latest updates and information about the marathon, please follow us on Instagram.



@HIKONECITYMARATHON

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

Professional Japanese Soccer League Matches at HATO Stadium

August 9, Sunday

**Reilac Shiga FC
VS
FC Gifu**

Kickoff: 6:30 PM

August 30, Sunday

**Reilac Shiga FC
VS
Gainare Tottori**

Kickoff: 6:30 PM



Shiga Lakes Professional Basketball Preseason Games in Hikone

[Schedule]

- August 29 (Sat) at 2:05 p.m. : Shiga Lakes VS Fukui Blowinds
- August 30 (Sun) at 2:05 p.m. : Shiga Lakes VS Ryukyu Golden Kings

[Venue]

Proceed Arena HIKONE (Hikone, Koizumi-cho)

*Please call the number to buy tickets, and visit the Shiga Lakes official website for more information.



Contact Information: Shiga Lakes Ticket Section, Tel: 0120-976-509

Hikone Afternoon and Evening Market

August 23 (Sun) 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

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 Afternoon and Evening Market!

Children's Class: Original Soap Making

Let's make your own transparent soap together with high school students from Hachiman High School!

[Date and Time] August 19 (Wed), 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

[Target Age Group] Elementary and junior high school students

*Elementary school students must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

[Capacity] 15 participants (first come, first served)

[Fee] 500 yen per participant

[Application Period] August 4 (Tue) to 12 (Wed)



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

Story Time in English

Picture books will be read and songs will be sung in English for participating children and parents/guardians.

[August 22 (Sat)]

• First Session: 10:20 – 11:00

• Second Session: 11:10 – 11:50

*The same content in both sessions.

[Target Age Group]

Children aged 4 to elementary school age who reside in Hikone.

*Parents or guardians are required to accompany their child.

[Capacity]

Up to 10 families (up to 3 members per family)

*First come, first served.

[How to Apply]

Please call the number below or apply directly at Hikone City Library, starting August 8 (Sat).

Contact Information: Hikone City Library, Tel: 0749-22-0649

Shiga Job Fair 2026 Summer

60 companies in Shiga Prefecture will participate in this job fair.

[Day and Time] August 5 (Wed), 10:00 a.m. – 4:20 p.m.

[Venue] Kusatsu Estopia Hotel (Kusatsu City)

[Target Participants] University students expected to graduate, university graduates, job seekers under 35 years old.

Contact Information: Shiga Job Park, Tel: 077-563-0301

Welfare Industry Job Fair

Information sessions about workplaces and individual consultation booths will be provided by office staff to support those seeking jobs in the welfare field.

[Day and Time] August 27 (Thu), 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

[Venue] Proceed Arena HIKONE (Hikone, Koizumi-cho)

[Target Participants] Those seeking jobs in the welfare field in the Koto Area (Hikone, Aisho, Toyosato, Kora, and Taga)

Contact Information: Hikone Welfare Promotion Division for Seniors, Tel: 0749-24-0828

Consultation Services

Consultation Service	Schedule	Location	Telephone Number
Legal Consultation	August 28 (Fri), 13:00 – 16:00 *5500 yen per person *Reservations available from August 19.	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] September 2(Wed), 13:30 – 15:30 *Offered by reservation only. [Support for Continuing to Work] August 19 (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

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	8 (Tue)	Children born between October 16, 2025 and October 31, 2025.
	16 (Wed)	Children born between November 1, 2025 and November 15, 2025.
1 and ½ years olds	11 (Fri)	Children born in 2025, February.
	18 (Fri)	
2 and ½ years olds	10 (Thu)	Children born in 2024, February.
	17 (Thu)	
3 and ½ years olds	7 (Mon)	Children born in 2023, February.
	14 (Mon)	

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

Take Advantage of Summer Break to Get Vaccinated

Please check whether your child is eligible for any vaccinations, such as the Measles and Rubella (MR) vaccine (available only during the year before entering first grade) and the second booster dose of the Diphtheria and Tetanus (DT) vaccine (for sixth-grade students).

Parents and guardians are also encouraged to have their child receive the Japanese Encephalitis and HPV vaccines during summer break if eligible.