

Community Newsletter

KOHO HIKONE



October 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
- Hello Work Hikone
- 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
- Hikone City Hospital

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! 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

Tips for Reducing and Recycling Waste: Recycling Used Pens

In Hikone, used pens are collected under the Used Pens Recycling Program, regardless of brand. Collection boxes are available on the 1st floor of Hikone City Hall, at the Hikone Living Environment Division, and at the branch offices of Hikone City Hall.

Items Collected

Ballpoint Pens, Mechanical Pencils, Markers, Replacement Pen Refills, Correction Tape, Lead Cases, Plastic Packing Materials

Items Not Collected

Pencils, Rulers, Pencil Cases, Glue (including glue tape), Erasers, Writing Instruments Made of Metal or Other Non-Plastic Materials, Whiteboard Erasers, etc.



Applications for City-Run Affordable Housing Begin

- Hida Danchi: Room No.5
- Daito Danchi Block No.2: Room No. 101 (for a family)
- Serikawa Danchi Block No.1: Room No. 302 (for a single-parent household)

[Application Period]

Oct 5 (Mon) – 19 (Mon)

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 mid-December 2026.

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

Applications Begin for Fiscal Year 2027 After School Childcare Service

[Application Period]

October 1 (Wed) to 30 (Fri)

*Please submit your application through the online platform by scanning the QR code.

[Service Fees]

8,000 yen monthly

*August (summer break) only: 13,000 yen

*Optional Saturday Service Use: extra 2,000 yen per month



Contact Information: Hikone Life-long Learning Division, Tel. 0749-24-7974

Applications Begin for Fiscal Year 2027 Childcare Service (Nursery School)

[Application Periods]

- First Period: October 1 (Thu) to 15 (Thu)
- Second Period: November 2 (Mon) to December 4 (Fri)

[Application Methods]

- Online Application Platform
 - *Please scan the QR code to access the online application platform.
- In person at the Hikone Early Childhood Division (2F, Hikone Welfare Center)



[Important Note]

- For more information such as available spots at each childcare facility, please visit Hikone City's official website or contact the relevant division at the number below.

Contact Information: Hikone Early Childhood Division, Tel. 0749-23-9597

Local Child-raising Support Group: Hodo Hodo

This group provides reused children's clothing and school supplies, runs soup kitchens for children, and offers places for them to play. They are also involved in the following activities.



- Baby and Kids' Item Reuse Event: Kaekoto
(The next event is scheduled for Sunday, October 11.)
- Reused Item Collection Warehouse: "Hodo Hodo Nanamagari"
(The warehouse has not only clothing for children up to junior high school age, but also school supplies.)
- Reused Item Collection Spots: Each elementary and junior high school and each community center in Hikone.

Nov 15 (Sun): Hikone City Hall Open for My Number Card Procedures

Date and Time: Nov 15 (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 calling the number below.

*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 photo ID.

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



Students Wanted! – Techno College Maibara

Techno College Maibara is now accepting applications for the following vocational training program for beginners.

[Eligibility] Job seekers

[Program Name and Capacity] Home Renovation Course, 10 students

[Application Deadline] Friday, November 13

[Where to Apply] Hello Work (Public Employment Service) Office



For more information, visit the official website by scanning the QR code or contact Techno College Maibara directly.

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

Increase in Shiga Prefecture's Minimum Wage

Starting Saturday, October 3, the minimum wage in Shiga Prefecture will increase to 1,136 yen per hour.

This increase applies to all workers, regardless of job type or employment contract.

Please scan the QR code for more information.

Contact: Hikone Labor Standards Inspection Office, Tel. 0749-44-8013



Temporary Suspension of Emergency Center Operations at Hikone City Hospital

Due to scheduled electrical maintenance at the Emergency Center of Hikone City Hospital, emergency center operations will be temporarily suspended as follows.

[Power Outage Period]

October 18 (Sun): 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM

[Emergency Center Operation Suspension Period]

October 18 (Sun): 10:00 AM to 3:30 PM

Contact: General Affairs Office, Hikone City Hospital, Tel. 0749-22-6050

Upcoming Events & Fun News

5th Hikone Culture Festival: October 12

There will be stage performances, food trucks, and other fun events during the festival.
In case of severe weather, the festival will be cancelled, except in the event of light rain.

[Date and Time] October 12, Monday

[Venue] Mt. Kojin Park (Hikone, Hinatsu-cho)



Contact: Hikone City Promotion Committee Office, Email: hikoneiro.bunkasai@gmail.com

2026 Regional Mascots Festival: Oct 17 and 18

- Festival Schedule: October 17 (Sat) and 18 (Sun), 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
- Venue: Yume Kyo Bashi Castle Road



[Pedestrian-Only Streets During the Festival]

- Yume Kyo Bashi Castle Road: 7:00 AM to 4:30 PM
- On the Premises of Hikone Castle: 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM



[Important Notes]

- Heavy traffic congestion is expected around the festival venues on both October 17 and 18.
- We strongly encourage visitors to use public transportation or walk to the festival.
- Kyobashiguchi Parking Lot will be closed from October 16 to 18.

Contact Information: Regional Mascots Festival Hikone Management Office, Tel. 0749-22-1130

Shiga University Festival

Laser tag is available for walk-in participants on the day.
Please come and enjoy the festival with your family and friends!

[Date and Time]

- October 24 (Sat), 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM
- October 25 (Sun), 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM



@SHIDAISAI

[Venue]

Shiga University Hikone Campus

Hikone Morning Market

October 18 (Sun) 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: Osue-cho, Gokoku Shrine

With the three key elements of "Food Safety," "Local Production for Local Consumption," and "Handmade," you can find and purchase 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 price!

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

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



Contact: Yumebatake Organizing Committee, Tel: 090-1224-3782

Email: yumebatakehikone@gmail.com

J3 Soccer Matches at Heiwado HATO Stadium

[Reilac Shiga FC VS SC Sagamihara]

Kickoff: 2:00 PM on October 18

[Reilac Shiga FC VS Zweigen Kanazawa]

Kickoff: 2:00 PM on October 25



Contact: Hikone J League Promotion Office, Tel: 0749-22-5955

October Hikone Castle Light-up for Breast Cancer Awareness

To raise awareness for early detection and treatment of breast cancer, Hikone Castle will be illuminated in pink as follows.

Date and Time: October 10 (Sat) and 11 (Sun) from sunset until 10:00 PM.

Consultation Services

Consultation Service	Schedule	Location	Telephone Number
Legal Consultation	October 23 (Fri), 13:00 – 16:00 *5500 yen per person *Reservations available from Oct 14.	Hikone Community Development Promotion Division	0749-30-6117
Akiya Bank (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] November 4(Wed), 13:30 –15:30 *Offered by reservation only. [Support for Continuing to Work] October 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 Center (Hirata-cho)	0749-26-8282
Language Development Consultation	Mon – Fri, 8:30 – 17:15 *Offered by reservation only.		
Traffic Accident Consultation	Tue • Thu 9:00 – 12:00, 13:00 – 16:00	Koto Joint Government Building	0749-27-2230
Consumer Affairs Consultation	Mon – Fri 9:00 – 12:00, 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	0749-26-0994
Consultation for Women (Domestic Violence, etc.)	9:00 – 16:45 on weekdays	"Hikomaru"	0749-49-2251
Counselling Hotline Kokoron Dial	• Mon – Fri, 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM • Weekends and Holidays, 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM		0120-0-78310

[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.)

Labor Consultation: Shiga Labor Association

The Shiga Labor Association will hold a labor consultation to provide advice and assistance with labor-related issues, such as resignation, dismissal, harassment, and other workplace concerns.

[Date and Time] October 10 (Sat) at 1:30 PM *45 minutes per group

[Venue] Hikone Kinro Fukushi Hall

[Capacity] Three Groups

[Application Deadline] October 8 (Thu) at 12:00 PM

[How to Apply] Please call the number below or apply online.

Contact: Shiga Labor Association, Tel. 077-528-4473

Health and Wellness Information

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

Infectious Disease Prevention

Influenza, COVID-19, and other infectious diseases begin to spread during autumn and winter.

Please take the following three precautions to minimize the risk of infectious diseases, especially when visiting crowded places, adult day care facilities, etc.

- Wash your hands thoroughly and regularly.
- Wear a face mask and practice good cough etiquette.
- Let fresh air in from time to time.

November 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	18 (Wed)	Children born between December 16, 2025 and January 15, 2026.
1 and ½ years olds	13 (Fri)	Children born in 2025, April.
	20 (Fri)	
2 and ½ years olds	5 (Thu)	Children born in 2024, April.
	19 (Thu)	
3 and ½ years olds	9 (Mon)	Children born in 2023, April.
	16 (Mon)	

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