

# **CHILD and EDUCATION**

**Important Information in Education** 



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**Asian Women's Empowerment Project** 

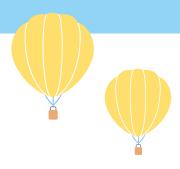
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### **Preface**

This booklet summarizes all essential and relevant laws and information necessary for international students to live a safe and progressive life in Japan. This is a collection of excerpts from various books that have been translated into English. The purpose of this book is to educate readers about children and their experiences as students. Additionally, all necessary information is provided to assist mothers of foreign descent who work tirelessly to support their children's educational journeys. Since 1995, during the Great Hanshin Awaji Earthquake disaster, AWEP, or Asian Women's Empowerment Project, has been sharing information and providing consultation to women of foreign descent via telephone. However, as a result, we observed a gap in the dissemination of information between Japanese and foreigners, particularly Asians. One of the first significant barriers to information exchange is the Japanese language, written in Kanji.

There are now more translated guidebooks than there were in the past.

Additionally, information is available on the internet, but not everyone has access to it. Every individual, regardless of nationality, has a right to





information that it should be widely distributed and widely used. This is a comprehensive summary of all vital information about children and education. The majority of data was gathered via questionnaire, personal interaction, and actual telephone consultation, all written in simple Japanese. After the overwhelming response to the booklet's Tagalog version, we created an English version. We hope to reach more women of foreign descent to disseminate information about children's education effectively. This booklet is intended for all mothers of foreign descent who wish to gain practical knowledge about their children's education. It is more colorful and educational, making reading a more pleasurable experience. Our mission is to assist all women by granting them access to accurate information and the freedom and authority to make certain decisions on their independently. Most importantly, it is to make information widely accessible and consumable.

Asian Women's Empowerment Project

# CHILD and EDUCATION Important Information in Education

#### **Admission to Kindergarten**



Children aged 3 - 5 years old may enroll in a local kindergarten unless they are already enrolled in another kindergarten. Visit the Kindergarten of your choice and complete an application.

#### **Entering Elementary and Junior High School**

In April, a child who turns six years old is eligible to enroll in elementary school.

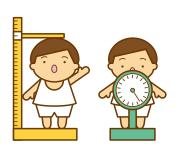
Elementary education is compulsory for six years. Children of foreign descent enrolled in elementary and junior high school may receive language assistance from multi-cultural volunteers who speak their native tongue. Additionally, there are classes for children with special needs. Tuition or matriculation fees are waived at all public elementary and junior high schools; however, lunch, or 'kyushoku,' must be paid. You may seek financial assistance if necessary. Inquire at your municipality's ward office or at the school where your child is enrolled.



# Admission Procedures for Elementary, Junior HS, Senior HS and College.

#### **Elementary**

1) If a child is of the right school age in April, he/she will receive an Enrollment Notification to Elementary School in September of the previous year at the address where he/she is registered. There is a requirement to apply for compulsory education in Japan because some foreigners do not wish to enroll their child in a Japanese school. After submitting your application, you will receive notification in October



regarding a pre-enrollment health examination. Attend the health check on the scheduled date. You will receive enrollment information in February. By April, you may participate in your child's school's Entrance Ceremony.

2) A child of any nationality may attend a Japanese school. He/She can join and learn together with children of the same age. Simplyapply at `Shimin-ka` or Citizen Service Section or at the Board of Education in your city.

#### **Requirements for Enrollment**

If you are enrolling your child in a Japanese School, you must bring certain documents from your home country, such as a Certificate of Enrollment and Transcripts. This will be discussed in order to make the child's school-life easier.

- Student's Full Name
- Date of Birth
- Current Address
- Family Information
- Commutation to School Process
- Person to Contact in Case of Emergency (or in the case of the need of a translator)
- Student and Family's Language Ability
- Educational Background
- Expected Length of Stay in Japan
- Grade Level in Home Country (years of schooling)
- Health Condition (in case of chronic illnesses, visual and hearing impairment, medical dietary restrictions or religious and cultural dietary customs and allergies)

#### **Junior High School**

In general, there is no special requirement for a student who is in the sixth grade at the Elementary School to enroll in Junior High School. However, some cities require children of foreign descent to be admitted by the Board of Education. For additional information, contact your neighborhood Junior High School or municipal office.

# Senior High School

Children who have graduated Junior High School or have studied 9 years in another country may enroll in a Senior High School in Japan. However, this does not mean that they accept students who graduated from a NON-Japanese Junior High School because they may not be eligible to take the Senior High School entrance exam. On the other hand, there are Prefectures allowed by the Board of Education that permits student to take the Entrance Examination. Consult the Board of Education concerning this. If the student passes the examination to get the "Certification of Graduation in Junior High School", then they may take the Entrance Examination to study in Senior High School.

# Difference between Junior High School and Senior High School

#### Junior High School vs. Senior High School

The main difference between Junior High School and Senior High School is that it is more challenging to earn a passing grade in the latter. Junior High School is mandatory. Each student is required to complete it. However, in Senior High School, if the grades are too low, failing or not attending the school regularly will fail to graduate on time.

#### **Merits in Graduating Senior High School**

After graduating from Senior High School, students may appear for entrance exams to universities, junior colleges, and technical/vocational schools.

Additionally, they may be qualified to find employment. Certain employers require employees to possess a Senior High School diploma.



#### DOWNLOAD

Visit the homepage of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports, Science and Technology and download the Guidebook for Foreign Children and Students to start school in Japan in Seven languages namely, English, Korean, Vietnamese, Filipino, Chinese, Portuguese, and Spanish.



http://www.mext.go.jp/a\_menu/shotou/clarinet/003/1320860.htm

### College

#### Requirements for entering College.

- Graduated from a Senior High School in Japan.
- Graduated from a Senior High School in other countries.
   Reminder: Even if a student graduates from an International School in Japan, it is not a guarantee that he or she will be eligible to take the College Entrance Exam.
- Passed the College Entrance Examination.
- Graduated from a Japanese Institution in another country (High School for Japanese) duly recognized by Ministry of Education.
- Graduated from a Foreign School in Japan that has an International Baccalaureate (IB) accreditation or have received a qualification for ARBITUR System.





# **System to Assist the Students**

#### Interpreter or Language Supporter

An interpreter service is available to assist the children of foreign descent, already enrolled in a Japanese School. Inquire at the School or in the Board of Education to have a language supporter that speaks your dialect. The Language Supporter



assists in studies. Additionally, they assist in life and school to foster better communication between teachers and parents. This service is available for three years.

In Hyogo-Ken, Consultations about Education for Children of Foreign Descent are available. Call and Ask for a Language Supporter if needed.

Children's Multicultural Center (Kodomo Tabunka Kyousei Center) at telephone numbers 0797-35-4537.

Open from Mondays to Fridays, 9am to 5pm.

#### **Financial Support**

A student may apply for exemption from paying elementary and junior high school matriculation, but school lunch/kyushoku must be paid. If financially unable to pay, request an application for exemption. Fill out the

form along with the required documents and submit it to the school. Wait for the reply of the Board of Education after a thorough check on your financial status.



#### **Educational Support of Kobe City**

In Kobe, students who are unable to pay their matriculation fees may apply for a scholarship.



# Exemption or Matriculation Reduction for Kobe Municipal Kindergarten.

Kindergarten will give information on the application three times a year; First in June, Second in November, and Third in February.



Assistance for the First payment and Matriculation in a Private Kindergarten.

The kindergarten itself will give information on this.



Assistance for school supplies and other educational materials and school lunch in the Municipal Elementary and Junior High School.

A student with a financial problem in a public school in Kobe may receive financial assistance for school lunch or kyushoku, books, etc. Ask for the application in the school where your child is enrolled and apply for assistance.



#### **Educational Support for Senior High School**

From 2014, Matriculation needs are paid by the parents according to their salary bracket. If the salary is relatively low, the student may apply for the Senior High School Educational Support System which will reduce the matriculation payment. The school may request and submit an application. The school will receive funding directly from the government. The child is not obliged to make a payment.



#### Matriculation Reduction System or Exemption for Municipal Vocational High School.

Students from Kobe City Senior High School and Vocational High School who did not benefit from the Educational Support for High School can still apply for matriculation reduction. Apply to your High School.



#### **Scholarship**

There are several types of scholarships and loan programs available to financially disadvantaged students, in addition to a government loan. Students who excel academically will be awarded a special scholarship. In general, the University will guide students in April and explain the intricate details of the various types of scholarships.

#### Kobe City Senior High School Scholarship

Kobe City has established the "Kobe City Scholarship System" to assist financially disadvantaged students in pursuing higher education. Scholarship applications will begin in November of last year in Junior High School.

Inquire at the school in which you are enrolled.

#### Kobe City College Scholarship

Application for Kobe City College Scholarship is open every last Sunday until the end of January. Make sure to ask your Senior High School or your Vocational High School.

Other scholarships are available in Hyogo Prefecture. Consult your present High School. To apply for a loan to cover other expenses prior to entering high school, contact the school to which you wish to apply. Hyogo Prefecture Scholarship Fund

- Hyogo Prefecture Scholarship Fund
- Tuition Reduction Exemption for Hyogo Prefectural High School Students
- Private High School Matriculation Loan
- Tuition Reduction / Exemption for Private High School Students

Other kinds of Scholarship are available through individual schools. Approach and inquire at your child's school.

- 日本政策金融公庫 Japan Finance Corporation(JFC) http://www.jfc.go.jp/n/english/index.html
- 日本学生支援機構 Japan Student Services Organization http://www.jasso.go.jp/index\_e.html
- あしなが育英会 ASHINAGA Scholarship Association.http://www.ashinaga.org/en/



# Warning and Advisory for Calamities and Natural Disasters

"KEIHO" and "Chuiho" during Earthquakes, Typhoon and other Disasters

If the weather is quite bad, watch the TV or listen to the radio to ensure the safety of the child. Call 117 for the latest news or the weather condition.



If there is KEIHO in your region, town, or city when the child needs to go to school at (AM), it is strictly warned that the child stay home.

Regions	Name of town or city
Northern Tajima	Toyooka, Kami, Shin-onsen
Southern Tajima	Yabu,Asago
Hokuban Tamba	Nishiwaki, Taka, Tamba,Sasayama
Hanshin Kobe	Kobe, Amagasaki, Nishinomiya, Ashiya, Itami, Takarazuka, Kawanishi, Inagawa, Sanda
Northwestern Harima	Kamikawa, Ichikawa, Fukusaki, Sayo, Shiso
Southeastern Harima	Akashi, Kakogawa, Takasago, Inami, Harima, Miki,Ono, Kasai, Kato
Southwestern Harima	Himeji, Ako, Aioi, Kamigori, Tatsuno, Taishi
Awaji Island	Sumoto, Awaji, Minami-Awaji

- If there is "KEIHO" after school, children are asked to stay in school or the teacher will bring them home to ensure their safety.
- If "KEIHO" is reduced to "Chuiho" or lifted before (AM), the class will start as usual. Make sure that the weather is good and safe before allowing the child to go to school. (The school itself will contact to inform that the child may come to school)
  - \*Tuloy ang klase kapag "CHUIHO" o paalala sa lagay ng panahon lamang ang lumabas.
- If "KEIHO" is lifted before (AM), classes will be suspended the whole day. Even if "KEIHO" was lifted after this, there is no need to send the child to school.

#### Others

- If there is a Natural Disaster and the Child is not safe to send to school, stay home. In this case, there is a need to call the school.
- After the Earthquake, it is still not safe to send the child to school, and it is advisable to stay home because of other danger that goes after this.



### **Annual School Calendar for Elementary**

(some school varies)

#### First Term (April – July)

#### **April**

#### Shigyoushiki

Start of the First Term
 And also, for the 2nd and 3rd term

#### Nyugakushiki

- Welcome Ceremony for the new students.
- Parents of the incoming students will come to attend.

#### Shintai Kensa

- Measuring Height and Weight
- Physical check up, dental, eyesight, urine tests etc.

#### Jugyou Sankan

 Parents attend to witness the school life.

#### Gakkyu Kondankai

 The Homeroom teacher and the parents will come to school to discuss about the current issues.

#### Ensoku

 Students go outside the school to visit other places to gain experience.
 Bring Obento

or lunch pack.

#### Katei Houmon

 The homeroom teacher will visit the student's home to have a discussion with the student's parent.

#### **July**

#### **Swimming**

 In Summer, students have swimming for the P.E. class.

#### Kobetsu Kondan

 Each parent meet with their child's homeroom teacher to discuss study performance and school life.

#### Shugyoushiki

- End of the first term
- Grade reports are handed out
- Also, in the 2nd and 3rd term.

#### Natsu Yasumi

 Approximately 40 days break (starting around July 20th until August 31st)

# Second Term (September- December)

#### **September**

#### Undoukai

 Student's compete in races, relays, dance and others.



#### **Bousai Kunren**

 Student's prepare for disasters such as earthquakes and fires.

#### Ongakukai

 Student's perform by singing and playing different musical instruments.

#### **December**

#### Fuyu Yasumi

 Approximately 14 days break (from December 24th to January 7th)

#### **Third Term (January- March)**

#### **January**

#### Taikan Kunren

 Students run around the schoolyard in morning or other times throughout the day within a specific time to build stamina and prepare their bodies for the cold winter season.

#### March

#### Sotsugyoushiki

 Parents attend the Graduation Ceremony.

#### Haru Yasumi

Approximately 14 days break.

#### **MEMO**



# Pista Opisyal / National Holiday

January 1 New Year's Day	May 5 Children's Day
<b>2nd Monday January</b> Coming-of-Age Day	<b>3rd Monday July</b> Marine Day
February 11 National Foundation Day	August 11  Mountain Day
February 23 Emperor's Birthday	3rd Monday September Respect for the Aged Day
Around March 20 Vernal Equinox	Around September 23 Autumnal Equinox
April 29 Showa Day	2nd Monday October Health and Sports Day
May 3 Constitution Memorial Day	November 3 Culture Day
May 4 Greenery Day	November 23 Labor Thanksgiving Day

# **List of Words**

Kyushoku	Lunch prepared in school			
Keiho	Warning for typhoon, earthquake or other natural calamities.			
Chuiho	Advisory for all the Calamities			
Shigyoushiki	Start of the School Term			
Nyugakushishi	Welcome Ceremony for the Incoming students			
Shintai Kensa	Physical Check-up in school.			
Jugyou Sankan	Parents are invited to come to the school to observe the class.			
Ensoku	Field Trip.			
Obento	Home-packed meal			
Katei Houmon	Teacher visits the student's house			
Kobetsu Kondan	Individual Consultation			
Shugyoushiki	End of the School Term			
Natsu Yasumi	Summer Vacation			
Undoukai	Sports festival usually a whole day affair where family come to cheer for the competing class and eat lunch together			
Bousai Kunren	Disaster prevention drill			

Ongakukai	Music Festival which showcase the student's talent in singing and playing musical instruments
Fuyu Yasumi	Winter Vacation
Taikan Kunren	Children run around the school ground to build stamina in preparation for the cold season.
Sotsugyoushiki	School Graduation
Haru Yasumi	Spring Break
Yakan Byouin	Night Hospital / Open on weekends and holidays
Byouji Hoiku	Childcare for the Sick Children
Oyatsu	Snacks
Shonika	Hospital for Children

**MEMO** 



# Addendum

### Family Support Center

helps / assists parents or single parent to be able to go to work without having to worry about finding someone to look after their child.

Apply first to get the support of the volunteers to pick- up and/or transport your child to and from school as needed. Coordinate with the Family Support Center for the

volunteers near you to proceed with the process concerning the welfare of your child.

Additionally, you can be a volunteer too. For example, you may fetch and look after a child at the agreed time and day.



#### **Family Support Center**

Kobe General Children's Center 6th floor 1-3-1 Higashikawasaki-cho, Chuo-ku, Kobe

TEL:078-335-6100 FAX:078-335-6101

#### Byouji Hoiku

According to health rules and regulations, the daycare has the right to deny admission to your child.

You may bring them to a Byouji Hoiku or Childcare Clinic if you need to work.

Someone will look after them, administer medication, and provide care.

There is no need to be worried, as doctors and nurses will remain with the children. You may entrust them with them during your working hours.

The fee for placing your child for a day is slightly higher at 2000 yen (oyatsu included).

Consult your physician first. Maintain a record, and your next visit will be easy.

You can avail this system. First, locate a clinic or hospital that provides Byouji Hoiku or Childcare for the sick children.

You can find clinics in your neighborhood.

#### Lists of Byouji Hoiku

Ward Name Address TEL Capacity Hours					
vvaru	Name		ILL	Сарасісу	riours
Higashi-nada	Кири Кири	1F, 3-6-18 Konan-cho, Higashinada-ku	078-436-1155	9	8:00-18:30(Weekday)
	Mola Mola	2F, 3-2-2 Konan-cho, Higashinada-ku	078-431-5555	13	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
	KIBOKO YAO	2F, 2-13 Koyocho-Naka, Higashinada-ku	078-841-5055	9	8:00-18:30(Weekday) 8:00-13:00 (Saturday,irregularly)
	Kakekko	2-2-5-401 Mikage, Higashinada-ku	080-8948-5757	6	8:00-19:00(Weekday)
	Hug Hug	5-1-31 Kita-machi, Iwaya, Nada-ku	078-882-6432	4	8:00-19:00(Weekday)
Nada	Pueri	2F, 4-2-7 Naka-machi, Iwaya, Nada-ku	078-802-5996	12	8:00-18:30(Weekday)
	Palasol	4-1-1-301-7 Bigo-cho, Nada-ku	078-846-3081	9	8:00-19:00(Weekday) 8:00-12:00(Saturday)
	Palmore	4-7-20 Kitanagasaku-dori, Chuo-ku	078-333-8270	4	8:00-19:00 (Weekdays/Saturday)
Chuo	Kangaloo	7-24-11 Nakayamate-dori, Chuo-ku	078-360-0242	4	9:00-17:00 (exc.Thursday, Sunday, Holiday)
Nagata	Chibimaru	2-1-2 Maruyama-cho, Nagata-ku	078-641-1718	6	8:00-19:00(Weekday)
	Ai Ai	1-12-3 Umegaka-cho, Nagata-ku	078-381-9669	9	8:00-18:30(Weekday)
	Tampopo	2-1 Ichiban-cho, Nagata-ku	078-521-9311	5	8:00-18:00(Weekday)
	Angel-san no Ouchi	12-3 Aza Kokotani, Kamitanigami, Yamada-cho, Kita-ku	078-582-0111	6	8:00-18:00(Weekday)
Kita	Waku Kids Care	1835 Kusakabe, Dojo-cho, Kita-ku	078-951-5050	4	8:00-18:00(Weekday)
	Mori no Ko	2F, 1-9 Shiawase-no-mura, Kita-ku	078-743-2122	4	8:00-18:30 (Weekday/Saturday)
Suma	Kids Care Zo-san Room	1-17-201 Yokoo, Suma-ku	078-747-3162	6	8:00-18:30(Weekday)
Tarumi	Pokke	4-15-15-302 Manabigaoka, Tarumi-ku	078-782-7665	6	8:00-19:00(Weekday) 8:00-12:00(Saturday)
	Manbo Room	B1 4-1-7 Sakagami, Tarumi-ku	078-751-2060	4	8:00-18:00(Weekday)
Nichi	Kureyon	3-13-8 Mikatadai, Nishi-ku	078-961-3348	6	8:00-19:00(Weekday)
Nishi	Nadeshiko	2-13 Higashimachi, Ibukidai, Nishi-ku	078-920-9505	4	8:00-19:00(Weekday)

### Yakan Byouin/ Emergency Hospital for Children 🛫



In Japan, they ensure the safety and health of all children. This is why they have a separate hospital for children. The children will not be treated in the Hospital for adults. Children who are sick must go to a Children's Clinic instead. While the child is growing up, getting ill or having a toothache is inevitable. To ensure that the sickness would not worsen and that the lack of information will not be an alibi, it is vital to know where and which place to go during an emergency. Particularlyat night, on weekends, and during holidays when most hospitals are already closed. Please check within your neighborhood.

#7119 – the number to call when in doubt whether to call an ambulance or not. Call them to seek an advice on what to do. Open 24 hours/7days a week.

#### **MEMO**



## List of Emergency Hospitals for Children Yakan Byouin

Name	Diagnosis and Treatment Department	Hours	Address	TEL
Kobe Children's Primary Emergency Medical Center	Pediatrics	19:30-6:30 of next morning (Weekday) 14:30-6:30 of next morning (Saturday) 8:30-6:30 of next morning (Holiday)	1-4-1, Wakinohamakaigandori, Chuo-ku (in HAT Kobe)	078-891-3999
Western Emergency	Pediatrics	9:00-16:40 (Holiday)	4-2, Gakuennishimachi,	078-795-4915
Clinic	Internal Medicine	9:00-16:40 (Holiday)	Nishi-ku	0/8-/95-4915
	Internal Medicine	21:00-23:40 (Weekday) 18:00-23:40 (Saturday) 9:00-16:40,18:00-23:40 (Holiday)		
Emergency Clinic	Ophthalmology	18:00-23:40 (Saturday, exc. holiday) 9:00-16:40 (Year-end /new year holidays)	4-1-20, Tachibanadori, Chuo-ku (the 1st floor of Kobe Medical Association building)	078-341-2313
	Otolaryngology	18:00-23:40 (Saturday, exc. holiday) 9:00-16:40 (Holiday)		
Eastern Emergency Clinic	Internal Medicine	9:00-16:40(Holiday)	1-1-1, Kishijidori, Nada- ku (the 3rd floor of Kobe Nada Hall)	078-801-5199
Holiday dental clinic (Affiliate hospital of Kobe Dental Association)	Dentistry	9:30-14:30 (Holiday)	Rm 509, the 5th floor, Western Bld., Center plaza,2-11-1, Sannomiyacho, Chuo-ku	078-331-8099
Kobe City Medical Center West Hospital	Internal Medicine	24 hours, everyday	2-4, Ichibancho, Nagata-	078-576-5251
	Surgery	24 hours, everyday	ku	0/0-3/0-3231
Kobe City Nishi Kobe Medical Center	Internal Medicine	24 hours, everyday	5-7-1, Kojidai, Nishi-ku	078-997-2200
	Surgery	24 hours, everyday	5 7-1, Rojidai, Nishii-ku	070-337-2200



\*この冊子は、令和3年度神戸市「協働と参画」推進助成を受けて制作しています。