

International Students For Guardians

School life support information

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02 The School Admission/Transfer Process [TOP](#)

◎ **First Time Enrollees (Will be enrolling from the first level)**

◆ **For Kindergarten Enrollment**

1. For foreign residents who have newly entered Japan and have been issued a "residence card", bring it to the Citizens or Residents Division of your local city hall and register your address.
2. Get an application form (nyuuegansho) from the kindergarten where you wish to send your child, fill in the necessary details and submit it to the kindergarten office.
3. Go to the kindergarten you have applied to on the appointed date.

◎ **First Time Enrollees (Will be enrolling from the first year)**

◆ **For Elementary and Middle School**

1. For foreign residents who have newly entered Japan and have been issued a "residence card", bring it to the Citizens or Residents Division of your local city hall/ward office and register your address.
2. Let the Board of Education's School Affairs Division of your municipality know of your intention to enroll. After receiving an enrollment guide (shūgaku annaisho), fill in the necessary details and submit it to the appropriate window. Parents/guardians who have already registered and have been living in Osaka for some time will be sent a copy of the enrollment guide from the local board of education when their child reaches school age. Fill this out and submit it.
3. After several days you will receive an enrollment notification from the city hall/ward office. Make sure that the name and address of the school is correct. (If you applied in person, you may receive an enrollment approval on the spot.)
4. On the appointed date, both the child and parents/guardians go to the school. Bring along the enrollment approval you received from the Student Affairs Division. In Japanese schools the student's grade level is determined by age (those born between April 2nd to April 1st the following year are in the same grade).

For those who find understanding Japanese difficult during classes in elementary or middle school, there are localities that allow interpreters to come inside the classroom. Even if having an interpreter come to class proves to be difficult, interpreters may still accompany parents/guardians when they go to the school during parent-teacher conferences and other occasions. For more information, please consult with the school teacher.
(This is also possible even for some high schools and kindergartens.)

◆ **For High School**

•In order to enter high school, entrance exams must be taken.

For more details refer to the sections on [Possible Paths after Middle School](#) and [the High School Entrance Examination System](#).

◎ **Transferees (students entering school on a year level other than the first)**

◆ **For Elementary and Middle School**

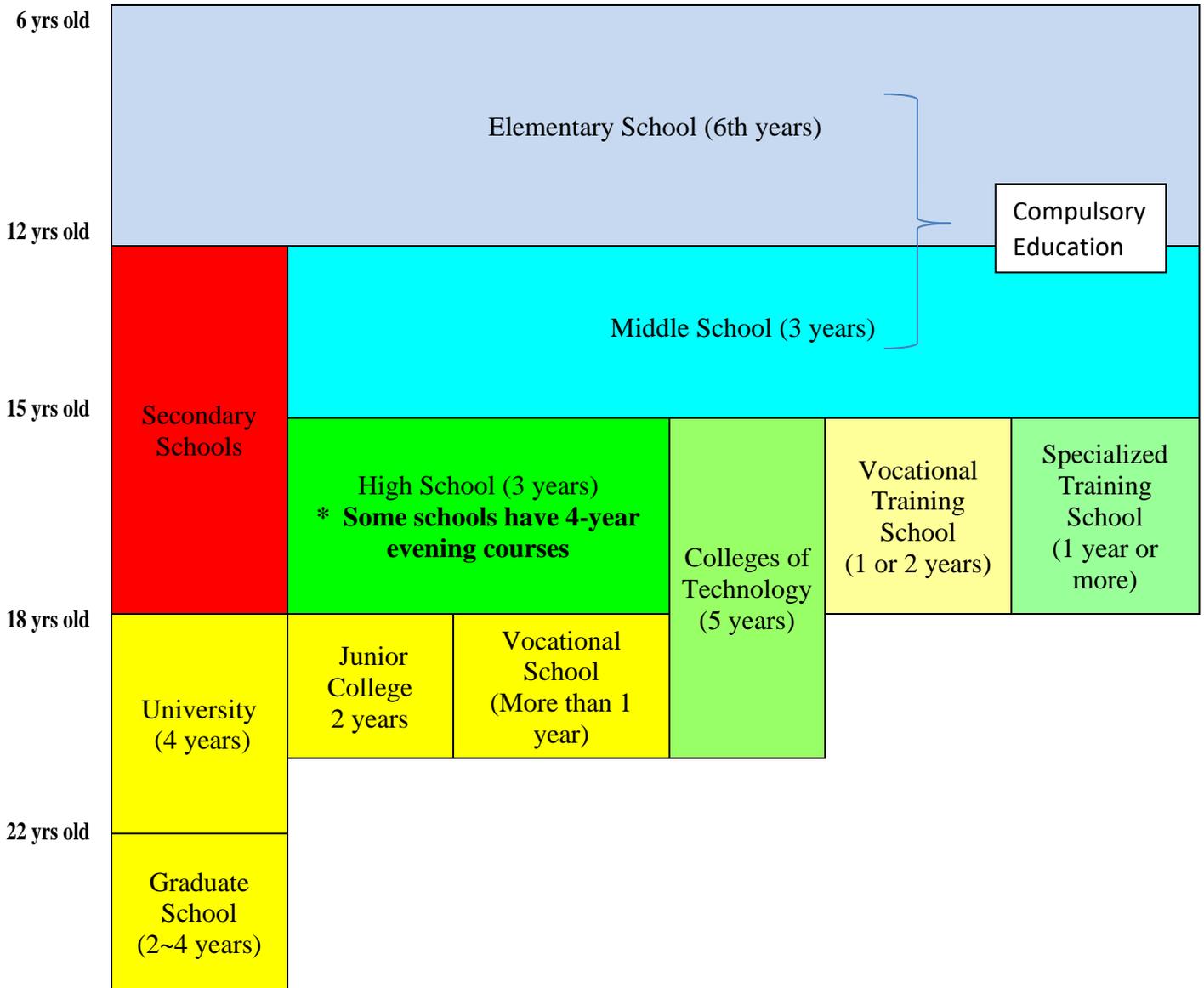
1. For foreign residents who have newly entered Japan and have been issued a "residence card", bring it to the Citizens or Residents Division of your local city hall/ward office and register your address.
2. Let the School Affairs Division in your local Board of Education know of your intention to transfer. You will receive an enrollment guide, fill in the necessary details and submit it to the appropriate window.
3. On the appointed date, head to the designated school. Bring with you the enrollment approval that you received from the School Affairs Division.

◆ **For High School**

For those who will study full time in high schools in Osaka, both the parents/guardians and the student themselves must be residents of Osaka. For part time schools, only the student need reside within Osaka or be currently employed in Osaka. Their past academic records from overseas are also required.

1. Let the Osaka Prefectural Board of Education (Education Promotion Office, High School Division, School Affairs Group: 06-6944-6887) know of your intention to transfer.
2. The Board of Education will check whether the applicant has the necessary qualifications for transferring. Then after determining the applicant's Japanese language proficiency, the next step is to discuss where the student will transfer to.
3. Transferee exams are held right before the start of each term. The test coverage differs somewhat from school to school, but it is mainly a test of ordinary academic ability.
4. The applicant may enroll after successfully passing the transferee exam.

03 The Japanese Education System [TOP](#)



The Japanese Education System

04 About Kindergarten [TOP](#)

Kindergarten is the first educational institution that children can go to. From age 3 to just before entering elementary school, they can receive the same type of education anywhere in Japan. (Some schools allow 3-year-old children to enter kindergarten without waiting for the official start of classes in April.) With this, the children experience interacting with a large group for the first time and each child's strengths and abilities are allowed to develop.

Kindergartens are different from elementary and middle schools because no textbooks are used and learning is centered on "play". Through all kinds of play, children learn to deal with people, build their vocabulary, and come to appreciate the beauty and mysteries of nature. This sets the foundation for learning in elementary school.

Even though it is called "play", the teacher attempts to foresee the experiences necessary for each and every child's development, and draws up a plan for that development. In this way, continual guidance is ensured.

[Class Levels]

Classes are divided into 3 year old, 4 year old and 5 year old grade levels.

[Teachers]

One teacher handles a class of 35 children or less.
There is also the principal and administrative staff.

[School District]

Public schools fall under certain districts, whereas private schools do not fall under any particular district.

[School Breaks]

There are summer, winter, and spring breaks. Public kindergartens do not have classes on Saturday.

Difference Between Private and Public Schools

Both are under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education, however, the day care fee for private schools is more expensive, they have English lessons, and it's possible to extend day care hours for a longer period.

•Major Annual Events (Differs by school)

April – First Term Opening Ceremony, Admission Ceremony, Home Visits

May – Children's Day, Field Trips*

June – Dental Hygiene Day, Medical Exam

July – Water Fun, Tanabata Festival, Overnight Day Care, First Term Closing Ceremony

August – Summer Vacation

September – Second Term Opening Ceremony, Respect for the Aged Day

October – Sports Festival, Potato Digging, Field Trip

November – Shichigosan Festival, Labor Thanksgiving Day

December – Student Performances, Christmas, New Year Cleaning, Second Term Closing Ceremony

January – Winter Break, Third Term Opening Ceremony

February – Setsubun or "Bean Throwing Festival"

March – Hinamatsuri or "Girls' Festival", Graduation Ceremony, Third Term Closing Ceremony, Spring Break

* There are parent-child field trips as well as teacher-child only field trips.

Also, once every month, a birthday celebration is held for all children born during that month.

05 What is Elementary School Like? (School Life) [TOP](#)

Osaka public elementary schools have the following set guidelines. These differ from school to school, so please consult further with your child's school teachers.

◆ Going to School

1 School route

In order to safely travel to and from school, there are set routes. These are called tsugakuro (school route).

These routes were chosen to be the safest way to school so please make sure to use them.

2 Ways to go to school

○ In groups

Children in the same area go to school together. Please make sure to arrive at the designated meeting place on time.

○ Individually

A child goes to school either on his/her own or with other children in the same neighborhood.

◆ Start of Classes

School starts at 8:25am or 8:30am. Make sure to come to school around 10 minutes before then. Arriving in school past the designated time for start of class marks the student as tardy. The school must be informed if the child is going to be late or absent due to sickness or other reasons.

◆ School Time

The number of classes and dismissal time differ according to day and year level. For 6th graders, classes start at 8:30 am with four class periods in the morning (each period lasts for 45 minutes). After lunch (either school-prepared meals or packed lunches) there are then two more class periods. In most schools, the total classes per day are five or six periods. The homeroom teacher typically teaches most subjects.

◆ School-Prepared Lunch (kyushoku) and Home-Prepared Packed Lunch (bento)

Almost all elementary schools in Osaka have lunch provided by the school. The children take turns distributing and cleaning up lunch themselves. This is called "kyushoku touban."

There are days when no lunch will be provided, such as at the first day of the term and during special events. In such occasions, bringing a packed lunch will be necessary. The school will inform you in advance should that be the case.

If there are certain foods that cannot be eaten due to religious reasons or food allergies, please consult with the homeroom teacher.

The school-prepared lunch must be paid for by the parent/guardian. It costs around 4,000 yen to 5,000 yen each month.

◆ Cleaning Time

There is a time set aside each day for cleaning. In elementary school this is done after lunch time. The children clean the classroom, the stairways, the corridor, the toilets, etc. Everyone cleans the school together.

◆ Dismissal Time

Students take the same route they took coming to school in going home. Dismissal time differs by year level and day of the week. It is also different on days when there are special events. You will be informed by the school in advance should that be the case.

◆ School Wear

Most schools allow the student to wear whatever they want. However, there are also schools that have their own prescribed uniforms.

During P.E. students must change into P.E. uniforms that will allow freedom of movement. Apart from the indoor shoes, there are schools that require that another set of shoes be worn only in the gymnasium.

If a student is designated as in charge of distributing school lunches for the day, it is necessary for him/her to wear an apron, mask, and cap. The mask must only be for personal use.

During swimming classes in summer, a swimsuit and swimming cap is required, and again, both must only be for personal use. Students must write their name on their belongings. For further details, please consult the school.

◆The Class

The homeroom teacher is in charge of a class made up of a maximum of 35 children. Although the class is centered on the instruction of the homeroom teacher, depending on the year level and school, another teacher may be called in to instruct on the arts and crafts, music, or home economics subjects. Sometimes multiple teachers teach subjects.

*Lessons in each subject, class activities at the beginning and end of the day, and various school events are often held separately for each class. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult your homeroom teacher immediately.

◆Subject Matter

These are the subjects covered in school.

Grades 1-2

Language (Japanese), Arithmetic, Living Environment Studies, Music, Arts and Crafts, Physical Education, and Special Subject "Ethics"

Grades 3-4

Language (Japanese), Arithmetic, Social Studies, Science, Music, Arts and Crafts, Physical Education, Special Subject "Ethics", and Foreign Language Activities

Grades 5-6

Language (Japanese), Arithmetic, Social Studies, Science, Music, Arts and Crafts, Physical Education, Home Economics, Special Subject "Ethics", and Foreign Language Activities

※Apart from these, there are special activities (classroom activities, student council, club activities, and school events) and a period for integrated studies. Like student council, special activities are students' voluntary activities with an aim to enhance their lives at school.

◆Classroom Tools

Textbooks are free of charge. Necessary materials other than textbooks must be prepared at home. Some classes require the student to bring their own personal equipment.

Language (Japanese) → Writing Brush, Ink, etc.

Music → Keyboard Harmonica, Recorder, etc.

Arts and Crafts → Water Color Set, Crayons, Pastel Crayons etc.

Home Economics → Sewing Kit, etc.

Depending on the subject, the school may collect money to pay for materials the school prescribes and purchases for all students.

◆Interpreters

Some schools can provide interpreters to enable parents/guardians and children who are not proficient in Japanese to communicate better with the school staff or classroom teachers. Please consult the teachers for further information.

◆Medical Examinations

【Medical Examinations】

Schools in Japan consider the medical examination important. There are several types of medical exams.

- Health survey (taking of medical history, examining the current state of health)
- Height and weight measurements, internal medicine examination (abdominal), eye exam, ear and nose exam, dental check-up, eyesight exam (vision acuity test), hearing test
- Tuberculosis test
- Cardiac test (ECG) - All first graders must undergo this test.
- Urine test

※ There are also times when a medical exam must be undertaken before strenuous activities such as swimming class, marathons or mountain climbing, and overnight excursions.

◆ Report Card (Tsuuchiyou)

The child's grades and performance in school activities are recorded here. It is received on the day of the closing ceremony, which is the last day of the term. After showing it to the parents/guardians, it is handed back to the homeroom teacher on the day of the opening ceremony, or on the first day of the next term.

06 What is Elementary School Like? (Events) [TOP](#)

A Year at Elementary School

School starts every year in April and ends in March the following year. The school year is divided into either two or three terms. Various events take place at school. Some events require the attendance of the parent or guardian and others require some financial outlay. The school itself will provide further details. Although the name of the events and the scheduled activities differ from school to school and the locality where you are residing, they share similar features. Here is an example of a school with a trimester system.

[First Term \(April-July\)](#)

●Opening ceremony

This is held on the first day of school. The entire student body is usually assembled.

●Entrance ceremony

This is to celebrate the first-grade students entering the school. Parents and guardians also attend.

●Medical examination

A physician checks if the students' health is in good condition.

●Height and weight measurements

The students' height and weight are measured.

●Home visits

The homeroom teacher visits the children's home to discuss home life with their parents or guardians.

●Field trip

Topics that cannot be covered inside the classroom are studied outside. These may touch on topics such as nature, history, culture, etc.

●Classroom visit

Parents and guardians may visit the classroom to learn what their children experience in school.

●Parent-teacher conference

Parents and guardians meet once every term with the homeroom teacher to talk about studies, school, and the home life of their children.

●Class conference (in a group)

Parents and guardians come to class to discuss with the homeroom teacher about the children.

●Parent-teacher-child conference (individual)

Parents/guardians and their child(ren) discuss school and home life with the homeroom teacher (three or more people in total). This usually occurs at the end of each term.

●Swimming Classes

Most schools have swimming pools. Swimming classes are held from mid-June through July.

●Closing ceremony

This is held on the last day of each term. The entire student body is usually assembled.

●Summer break (end of July to end of August)

This is a long break that lasts around 30 to 40 days. During this period there are days in which the students may have to come to school for swimming class, club activities, etc.

Second Term (September-December)

- **Opening ceremony**

- **Sports festival**

This event makes physical activity fun through competitions such as foot races, relay races, dances, and cheering on friends. Depending on the school, the students' family may also be able to participate. In elementary school this event is generally called "undoukai" (literally "exercise meet"). Some schools schedule this event for the first term.

- **School excursion (shuugaku ryokou)**

All of the six grade students go on an overnight excursion together. Some schools schedule this event for the first term.

- **Culture festival, Students' performances, Arts fair**

Students display their work in arts, crafts, and home economics; exhibit their reports in social studies and science; perform musical instruments or choral singing, plays, and the like. Parents or guardians usually also attend.

- **Closing ceremony**

- **Winter break (end of December to first week of January)**

This break lasts around 2 weeks.

Third Term (January-March)

- **Opening ceremony**

- **Graduation ceremony**

This event is when successful graduates are recognized and diplomas are awarded.

- **Completion ceremony**

This event is held on the last day of the school year. Usually, students of all the grades attend this ceremony.

- **Spring break (end of March to early April)**

Spring break begins after the completion ceremony. At the end of this break students advance to the next grade level and a new school year begins in April.

07 What is Middle School Like? (School Life) [TOP](#)

Osaka public middle schools have the following set guidelines. These differ from school to school, so please consult further with your child's school teachers.

◆Going to School

1 School route

In order to safely travel to and from school, there are set routes. These are called *tsuugakuro* (school route). These routes were chosen to be the safest way to school so make sure to use them.

2 Ways to go to school

A child goes to school either on his/her own or with other children in the same neighborhood. Most middle school students go to school on their own.

◆Start of Classes

School starts at 8:25am or 8:30am. Make sure to come to school around 10 minutes before then. Arriving in school past the designated time for start of class marks the student as tardy. The school must be informed if the child is going to be late or absent due to sickness or other reasons.

◆School Time

The number of classes, dismissal time, etc. are the same in all grades. Classes start at 8:30 am with four periods in the morning (each period lasts for 50 minutes). After lunch (either school-prepared meal or packed lunch) there are two more periods. In most schools, the total classes per day are five or six periods. There are different teachers for each subject.

◆Home-Prepared Packed Lunch (*bentou*)

In middle school, whether they provide school lunch or not depends on the school. Some schools provide school lunch to all students, while other schools provide lunch to those who have made an order in advance. If your school does not provide school lunches, please bring a packed lunch. Students will be eating lunch on school premises (and will not go home for lunch). If you are unable to bring lunch, you may buy some lunch e.g. bread (pastries and sandwiches) and bring it to school. At some schools, bread (pastries and sandwiches) is sold on the premises.

At schools that serve school lunches, the students take turns in distributing the lunches themselves and in cleaning up after. This is called "*kyushoku touban*."

There are days when no lunch will be provided, such as on the first day of the term and during special events. In such occasions, bringing a packed lunch will be necessary. The school will inform you in advance should that be the case.

If there are certain foods that cannot be eaten due to religious reasons or food allergies, please consult with the homeroom teacher.

The school-prepared lunch must be paid for by the parent or guardian. It costs around 4,500 yen to 6,000 yen monthly.

◆ Cleaning Time

Before going home, there is time set aside for cleaning the school. The children clean the classroom, stairways, corridors, toilet, and other rooms. Everyone cleans their school together.

◆ Club Activities

After regular school hours, students can join activities that relate to the sport or culture activity in which they excel.

◆ Dismissal Time

Students take the same route they took coming to school in going home. Dismissal time differs by year level and day of the week. It is also different on days when there are special events. You will be informed by the school in advance should that be the case.

◆ School Wear

Most middle schools have their own prescribed uniforms. Students come to school wearing them (one set for summer and another for winter).

During P.E. students must change into P.E. uniforms that will allow freedom of movement. Apart from the indoor shoes, there are schools that require that another set of shoes be worn only in the gymnasium.

During swimming classes in summer, a swimsuit and swimming cap is required, and both must only be for personal use. Students must write their names on their belongings. For further details, please consult the school.

◆ The Class

The homeroom teacher is in charge of a class made up of 40 students or fewer. The homeroom teacher may also have an assistant. There is a different teacher for each subject.

*Lessons in each subject, class activities at the beginning and end of the day, and various school events are often held separately for each class. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult your homeroom teacher immediately.

◆ Subject Matter

There are the following subjects: Language (Japanese), Math, Social Studies, Science, Music, Art, Health and Physical Education, Technology, Home Economics, Foreign Language (English), and Special Subject "Ethics".

※Apart from these, there are special activities (classroom activities, student council, club activities, and school events) and a period for integrated studies.

◆ Classroom Tools

Textbooks are free of charge. Other necessary materials must be prepared at home. Some classes require the student to bring their own personal equipment.

Language (Japanese) → Writing Brush, Ink etc.

Technology and Home Economics → Sewing Kit etc.

Depending on the subject, the school may collect money to pay for materials the school prescribes and purchases for all students.

◆ Interpreters

Some schools can provide interpreters to enable parents/guardians and children who are not proficient in Japanese to communicate better with the school staff or classroom teachers. Please consult the teachers for further information.

◆ Medical Examinations

【Medical Examinations】

Schools in Japan consider the medical examination important. There are several types of medical exams.

- Health survey (medical history, examining the current state of health)
- Height and weight measurements
- Internal medicine examination (abdominal), eye exam, ear and nose exam, dental check-up
- Eyesight exam (vision acuity test), hearing test
- Tuberculosis test
- Cardiac test (ECG) - All first year students must undergo this test.
- Urine test

※There are also times when a medical exam must be undertaken before strenuous activities such as swimming class, marathons or mountain climbing, and overnight excursions.

◆ Periodic Tests

In middle school there are five to six periodic tests in a year (the midterms and the finals). There are some subjects that only require one test per term, some two, others give no test at all, basing the student's grade on classroom performance alone. Periodic exams are usually held in two to three days. There are some schools that give take-home exams or evaluation exams. Please ask the teachers for further details.

◆ Report Card (Tsuuchiyou)

The child's grades and performance in school activities are recorded here. It is received on the day of the closing ceremony, which is the last day of the term. After showing it to the parents/guardians, it is handed back to the homeroom teacher on the day of the opening ceremony, on the first day of the next term.

08 What is Middle School Like? (Events) [TOP](#)

A Year at Middle School

School starts every year in April and ends in March the following year. Most schools have the school year divided into either two (semester) or three terms (trimester). Various events take place in school. Some events require the attendance of the parent or guardian and others require some financial outlay. The school itself will provide further details. Although the name of the events and the scheduled activities differ from school to school and the locality where you are residing, they share similar features. Here is an example of a school with a trimester system.

[First Term \(April-July\)](#)

●Opening ceremony

This is held on the first day of school. The entire student body is usually assembled.

●Entrance ceremony

This is to celebrate the first year students entering the school. Parents and guardians also attend.

●Medical examination

A physician checks if the students' health is in good condition.

●Height and weight measurements

The students' height and weight are measured.

●Home visits

The homeroom teacher visits the children's home to discuss home life with their parents or guardians.

●Field trip

Topics that cannot be covered inside the classroom are studied outside. These may touch on topics such as nature, history, culture, etc.

●Classroom visit

Parents and guardians may visit the classroom to learn what their children experience in school.

●Parent-teacher conference

Parents and guardians meet once every term with the homeroom teacher to talk about studies, school, and the home life of their children.

●Class conference (in a group)

Parents and guardians come to class to discuss with the homeroom teacher about the children.

●Parent-teacher-child conference (individual)

Parents/guardians with their child(ren) discuss school and home life with the homeroom teacher (at least 3 people).

This usually occurs at the end of each term.

●Class overnight excursion (shuugaku ryokou)

All third year students go on an overnight excursion together. This usually happens during the first term.

●Swimming Classes

Most schools have swimming pools. Swimming classes are held from mid-June through July.

●Closing ceremony

This is held on the last day of each term. The entire student body is usually assembled.

●Summer break (end of July to end of August)

This is a long break that lasts around 30 to 40 days. During this period there are days in which the students may have to come to school for swimming class, club activities, etc.

Second Term (September-December)

●Opening ceremony

●Sports festival

This event makes physical activity fun through competitions such as short distance running, relay races, dances, and cheering. Depending on the school, the students' family may be able to participate. In middle school it is called "taiikutaikai" (literally "physical education meet") or "taiikusai" (literally "physical education festival"). Some schools schedule this event for the first term.

●Culture festival, Students' performances, Arts fair

Students display their work in arts, crafts, technology and home economics; exhibit their reports in social studies and the sciences; perform musical instruments or choral singing; stage plays and the like. Parents or guardians usually also attend.

●Closing ceremony

●Winter break (end of December to first week of January)

This break lasts around 2 weeks.

Third Term (January-March)

●Opening ceremony

●Graduation ceremony

This event is when successful graduates are recognized and diplomas are awarded.

●Completion ceremony

This event is held on the closing day of the school year. Usually students of all the grades attend this ceremony.

●Spring break (end of March to early April)

Spring break begins after the completion ceremony. At the end of this break students advance to the next grade level and a new school year begins in April.

09 Possible Paths after Middle School [TOP](#)

Pathways after middle school can be broadly divided into either further education or employment.

For further education, there are various types of schools to consider such as high school, vocational high school, technical school and schools in miscellaneous categories. Due to the variety of schools, students are advised to consult with parents/guardians and teachers. High schools differ in terms of length of school day and purpose. It is especially because of this that it becomes important to choose the school that is best suited for the child. Additionally, when taking the entrance exams to public high schools in Osaka, it is possible to obtain "special considerations" that allow test times to be extended, the use of dictionaries etc. Consult with your middle school teacher about taking entrance exams.

For employment there are 2 paths.

The first is by means of the public employment office through the middle school. This allows a job seeker to check working conditions of the companies recruiting new employees. After that the matter can be discussed among the job seeker, parents/guardians and the homeroom teacher. The job seeker can then visit the workplaces he or she is interested in, decide which ones to apply to, and take the employment exams.

Most employment exams include job interviews, but this may vary from company to company.

The second is through connections. There are several cases where someone you know can try to help you find a job. Even in this case, the public employment office must be informed through the school.

No matter which path the child takes, be it higher learning or seeking employment, it is important to seriously consider the child's future and discuss it with them and their homeroom teacher before deciding.

10 What is High School Like? [TOP](#)

High School Life

Osaka public high schools have the following set guidelines. These differ from school to school, so please consult further with your child's school teachers.

◆School Grade Levels

High schools may be classified into two types, those with a school year system and those with a credit system. In the school year system, each year has a prescribed set of subjects (some subjects are electives). Many absences, failure to submit requirements, and failure to achieve the required grades in tests will result in failure to advance to the next level, and the student will have to repeat the entire year. In the credit system there is no school year and no repeating of levels. In order to graduate, there are a fixed number of necessary subjects. Passing these subjects earns the student credits. Getting the necessary number of credits enables the student to graduate.

◆Credits

An official credit is the number of class hours in a week. For example, if the math class meets four hours in one week, then that class is equivalent to 4 credits. In most high schools, after studying for one year, if a certain score (marks) is obtained in tests, etc. it is considered that the required credits for that subject have been achieved

◆Start of Classes

School starts at 8:25am or 8:30am.

◆Tardiness

A student is tardy when he or she hasn't entered the classroom by the time each class begins. There are cases when being tardy often is equivalent to being absent from class and could prevent a student from earning credit for the class. The school must be informed if a student will be late or absent due to sickness or other reasons.

◆School Time

Classes start at 8:30am with four periods in the morning (each period lasts for 50 minutes). After lunch (either school-prepared meal or packed lunch) there are two or three periods. The total classes per day are six or seven periods. There are different teachers for each subject.

◆Home-Prepared Packed Lunch (bento)

High schools in Osaka do not provide school-prepared lunches. Please bring a packed lunch from home, or buy some lunch e.g. bread (pastries and sandwiches) and bring it to school. Some high schools have school canteens.

◆Cleaning Time

After classes end, there is time set aside for cleaning the school. The students clean the classroom, stairways, corridors, toilet, and other rooms. Everyone cleans the school together.

◆Club Activities

The time for extracurricular activities after regular school hours is called "houkago". During this time, students can join activities that relate to the sport or cultural activity in which they excel.

◆ School Wear

Most high schools have their own prescribed uniforms. Students come to school wearing them (one set for summer and another for winter).

During P.E. students must change into P.E. uniforms that will allow freedom of movement. Apart from the indoor shoes, there are schools that require that another set of shoes be worn only in the gymnasium. Each high school decides on what P.E. uniforms students should wear.

During swimming classes in summer a swimsuit and swimming cap are required, and both must only be for personal use. Students must write their names on their belongings. For further details, please consult the school.

◆ The Class

The homeroom teacher is in charge of a class made up of 40 students or fewer. The homeroom teacher may also have an assistant. There is different teacher per subject.

*Lessons in each subject, class activities at the beginning and end of the day, and various school events are often held separately for each class. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult your homeroom teacher immediately.

◆ Subject Matter

In high school there are Language (Japanese Literature and Language and Culture), Geography and History (Comprehensive Geography, Comprehensive History, etc.) Civics (Public and others), Math, Science (Physics, Biology, Chemistry etc.), Health and Physical Education, Arts (Art and Design, Calligraphy, Music etc.), Foreign Languages, Home Economics, Information Studies and other subjects. Some high schools have their own special subjects.

※Apart from these, there are special activities (classroom activities, student council, and school events.), and class periods for inquiry-based cross-disciplinary study.

◆ Classroom Tools

All materials required for study, including textbooks, are not free.

In art and other subjects it is required that the students bring their own personal equipment.

◆ Interpreters

Schools can provide interpreters to enable parents/guardians and children who are not proficient in Japanese to communicate better with the school staff or classroom teachers. Please consult the teachers for further information.

◆ Medical Examinations

<Medical Examinations>

Schools in Japan hold regular medical exams. There are several types of medical exams.

- Health survey (medical history, examining the current state of health)
- Height and weight measurements
- Internal medicine examination (abdominal), eye exam, ear and nose exam, dental check-up
- Eyesight exam (vision acuity test), hearing test
- Tuberculosis test (X-ray) - All first year students must undergo this test.
- Cardiac test (ECG) - All first year students must undergo this test.
- Urine test

※There are also times when a medical exam must be undertaken before strenuous activities such as swimming class, marathons or mountain climbing, and overnight excursions.

◆ Periodic Tests

In high school there are five to six periodic tests in a year (the midterm and the finals). There are some subjects that only require one test per term, some two, others give no test at all, and some base the student's grade in daily classroom performance alone. Periodical exams are usually held in three to five days. There are some schools that give take-home exams or evaluation exams. Please ask the teachers for further details.

◆ Report Card (Tsuuchiyou)

The student's grades and performance in various school activities (grades etc.) are recorded here. It is received on the day of the closing ceremony. After showing it to the parents or guardians, it is handed back to the homeroom teacher on the day of the opening ceremony, on the first day of the next term.

What is a School Year in High School Like?

School starts in April and ends in March. There are two types of high schools, one using the school year system and the other using the credit system. There are schools that operate under a trimester system and schools that have two semesters. Also, high schools have various events. Some events require the attendance of the parent or guardian and others require some financial outlay. In such cases, the school will inform parents/guardians in advance. Although the names of the events and the scheduled activities differ from school to school, they share similar features. Below is an example of a school with a trimester system.

First Term (April-July)

● Opening ceremony

This is held on the first day of school. The entire student body is usually assembled.

● Entrance ceremony

This is to celebrate first year students entering the school. Parents and guardians also attend.

● Medical examination

A physician checks if the students' health is in good condition.

● Height and weight measurements

The students' height and weight are measured.

● Field trips

Topics that cannot be covered inside the classroom are studied outside. These may touch on topics such as nature, history, culture, and the like.

● Parent-teacher-student conference

Parents/guardians with their children discuss school and home life with the homeroom teacher (at least 3 people).

● Swimming classes

Most schools have swimming pools. Swimming classes are held from mid-June through July.

● Closing ceremony

This is held on the last day of each term. The entire student body is usually assembled.

● Summer break (end of July to end of August)

This is a long break that lasts around 30 to 40 days.

During this period there are days in which the students may have to come to school for swimming class, club activities, and the like.

Second Term (September- December)

- **Opening ceremony**

- **Sports festival**

This event makes physical activity fun through competitions such as short and long-distance races, relay races, dances, and cheering. Depending on the school, the students' family may be able to participate.

- **Culture festival, Students' performances**

This is an event where each class performs instrumental music, group singing, plays, and other presentations, and everyone enjoys watching and listening to the performances. Parents are usually welcome to attend.

- **Closing ceremony**

- **Winter break (end of December to first week of January)**

This break lasts around 2 weeks.

Third Term (January-March)

- **Opening ceremony**

- **School excursion (shuugaku ryokou)**

In public high schools, second year students take an overnight excursion together. This is usually done during the second or third term.

- **Graduation ceremony**

This event is for successful graduates (those who have earned the required credits) and diplomas are awarded.

- **Completion ceremony**

This event is held on the closing day of the school year. Usually, students of all the grades attend this ceremony.

- **Spring break (end of March to early April)**

Spring break begins after the completion ceremony.

11 High School Entrance Examination System [TOP](#)

- In Japan 90% of middle school graduates go on to high school.

Those who wish to take entrance exams for high school, vocational schools etc., are encouraged to plan a strategy and prepare in advance.

- Choose the school you want to enter **sooner rather than later**

You should choose the school you want to go to at least 6 months prior to the entrance exams. You can learn a lot by going to the "Multilingual Career Guidance" (Tagengo Shinro Gaidansu) event. It is annually held around October. One-on-one consultations are available at this event. Contact a teacher at your school for more details.

- Take a tour of the school

Visit the school before deciding that is where you want to enroll. In most high schools, this is what is called "trial admission" (taiken nyuugaku). You can go to the school and take a look at the classrooms, the gymnasium etc, and can even join in on classes. An interpreter may be provided, so please speak to the homeroom teacher.

- Study hard

The entrance exam covers a wide range of topics. Research them well and study methodically. Ask your middle school teacher for advice on the most effective way to study.

- Consult with your teachers, parents or guardians thoroughly

Although the choice of a high school is yours, your teachers, parents or guardians can give you invaluable advice. Also, your middle school is required to contact public high schools etc. to discuss "special considerations" for entrance exams so that you will be able to take advantage of them.

- Apply to the high school of your choice

After talking with your middle school teachers, submit your application forms via the online application system to the high school during the prescribed application period.

- Take the test

Go to the school you applied to on the test date and take the entrance exam (admission screening).

12 Possible Paths after High School [TOP](#)

The paths after graduating from high school diverge into either finding employment or higher education (entering college).

For higher education, there are different types of tests.

Higher learning falls into various classifications: the 4-year university, the 2-year junior college, vocational schools and more. Entrance exams to universities and junior colleges take several different forms.

For National Public Universities:

- All applicants must take the [Common Test for University Admissions*](#) in January. (Some private schools also require it to be taken.)

*It may also be used for private universities entrance exams. Talk to your homeroom teacher or guidance counselor to see if you can use it for the private universities you want to apply to.

The coverage of the exam differs from university to university and from department to department.

For more information, please take a look at the link below for the National Center Test homepage.

<https://www.dnc.ac.jp/kyotsu/index.html>

- Next, each university has their own **required exams**, to be taken on two different scheduled days. Other schools may have more test days. Passing this will allow you to enter the university or junior college.

For Private Universities

- Entrance Exams with Designated Recommendations**

For each high school, universities and junior colleges designate the number of test-takers, and a list of qualifications that each test-taker must have. This kind of test begins around early October. Those who pass cannot refuse to enroll.

- Entrance Exams with Ordinary Recommendations**

This entrance exam starts in late October. Universities and junior colleges themselves select the names of possible test-takers in advance. Some schools do not allow backing out from enrollment. Try to find out if that would be the case beforehand.

- General Entrance Exams**

This begins from January onwards. It's possible to try taking exams from several different schools, as well as trying to pass them several times. Passing them does not entail compulsory enrollment.

- AO Type Entrance Exams**

Instead of taking conventional tests, students may be selected based on the overall achievements of his/her high school grades, interview and group discussion, personal statement, short essay, etc.

As mentioned above, there may be a different set of guidelines for returnee students, foreigners, and other special cases. Please discuss the issue thoroughly with your homeroom teacher or guidance counselor and research the school of your choice.

For those who wish to seek employment, there are two options.

(1) Finding Work Through Your High School

This option comes from applying to job postings (including the job description, estimated salary etc.) that are usually sent first to high schools by companies.

For this method:

1 Investigate thoroughly the working conditions of each company.

It is important to read the announcement well.

2 Discuss with your parents/guardian and homeroom teacher.

Does the job description suit you? Is the company too far? Would the job's particular characteristics, or will the situation at your own home enable you to stay at the job for a long time? These are questions that must be considered.

3 Take a tour of the company you are interested in.

It's always better to have a look at the company than to merely trust the details written in the job posting.

4 Choose the company you wish to work for.

After seeing it for yourself, researching about it, and talking it over with others, select the company you wish to go to. After you let your homeroom teacher or your career/guidance counselor know of your intention to join the company, they will process your application for you.

5 Take the company exam.

Ask the details of the exam (time, date, location) from your teacher and take the exam. After passing this, your hiring is assured! The job exam differs from company to company.

However, most exams include an interview.

【Things to remember when taking the exam】

- Prepare a map and ask for details of the test location. If it is in an area you are not familiar with, it would be a good idea to take a look at it before the date of the exam.
- Leave the house early and arrive at least 30 minutes before the exam time.
- Find out how much you will spend in transportation, and bring extra money for unforeseen circumstances.
- Be well groomed when you arrive. It is better to wear your school uniform during the exam if your school has one.
- Be careful of your speech. Almost all people in the company will be older than you. Do not forget to speak politely.
- As much as possible, let your teachers in school help you to prepare. Practice answering interview questions with them.

※Some schools receive a lot of job postings, while others receive only a few. If there are no companies you wish to join from those who sent job postings to your school, then go to your local HelloWork (public job placement office).

(Hello Work) Students may search for work just like other job seekers.

(2) Finding Work Through Personal Connections

Another option for finding work is **through connections.**

There are instances when people you know may introduce you to available jobs. For this situation, do not leave everything up to them. Ask pertinent questions about the job and working conditions. It is important that you understand what you are getting into.

It is also important that the one who will introduce you to the job is someone that you or your family knows very well.

Whether you chose the path of higher education or job hunting, it is recommended to discuss with your child and their homeroom teacher to make a decision.

13 Things Needed for School [TOP](#)

Equipment	Description
Writing utensils	Used for language (Japanese) and calligraphy classes. The brush is used to write characters.
Ruler (in centimeters)	Used for math and arithmetic classes. Measures the length of objects.
Triangular ruler	Used for math and arithmetic classes.
Compass	Used for math, arithmetic, art and other classes. Used to draw circles.
Protractor	Used for math and arithmetic classes. Measures the degrees of angles.
Harmonica	Used primarily for music classes in the lower elementary levels.
Castanets	Used primarily for music classes in the lower elementary levels.
Keyboard harmonica	Used primarily for music classes in the lower elementary levels.
Recorder (Flute)	Used during music class.
Equipment case	To store personal scissors, glue etc. in (elementary level).
Scissors	For arts and crafts class.
Glue	For arts and crafts class.
Scotch tape	For arts and crafts class.
Pastel Crayons	For arts and crafts class.
Colored pencils	For arts and crafts class.
Water color set	For arts and crafts class.
Chisel	For arts and crafts class.
Sewing kit	For home economics class. Includes needle, thread, sewing scissors, etc.
Skip rope	Mainly used during P.E.
School uniform (summer and winter)	This is the prescribed daily school-wear. Some schools do not require students to wear uniforms.
Indoor slippers	For indoor use. Bring them home once a week to clean. A bag to put them in would also be useful.
Bag, extra bag	Elementary schools use a type of backpack called randoseru. Middle and high schools also have their own prescribed bag type.
P.E. uniform (summer and winter)	Used during P.E. classes to allow freedom of movement. Most schools have their own prescribed design.
P.E. shoes	Worn inside the gymnasium.
Swimsuit, swim cap	These are worn during the yearly summer swimming classes. Schools have a prescribed swimsuit and swimming cap.
Swimsuit bag	A plastic handbag to carry the wet towel and swimsuit.
Drinking bottle	You can bring your own drinks to stay hydrated at school. You can put tea in the drinking bottle, but please ask the school if you can put other drinks in it.
Chopsticks	Used during lunch.
Apron, cap, mask	In elementary school, these are worn during lunchtime when students take turns handing out everyone's school-prepared lunches and during home economics classes. Middle and high schoolers also wear them during their home economics classes.
Toothbrush, cup	Used after lunch, when everybody brushes their teeth.

14 School and Community Interpreter Service [TOP](#)

If the child cannot understand Japanese well (having just enrolled or transferred), an interpreter may join the child in class. This is particularly for elementary, middle, and high school students. Aside from this, an interpreter may also be present on occasions when the parents or guardians would need to go to school, such as during parent-teacher conferences.

It is difficult for an interpreter to join kindergarten classes. However, they can still be present during parent-teacher conferences.

This policy may differ according to your locality, and whether it would be necessary for you to hire an interpreter yourself, or how much the interpreters are allowed to be present. If you need an interpreter to be present during classes, please let the school know during the admission process. Should an interpreter be necessary on other occasions, please let the school or your homeroom teacher know when the need arises.

Community Interpreters

Depending on the locality, international organizations may have interpreters dispatched. Various NGO and NPO organizations may also dispatch interpreters.

The services available would differ from agency to agency but there are interpreters who will be able to accompany you should you need to go to the hospital or the municipal hall. Apart from this, they may also be requested to translate documents necessary for municipal hall transactions. For more details, please refer to the list of consultation organizations.

15 List of International Schools [TOP](#)

Miscellaneous Schools (As of September 1, 2025)

School Name	Address	Telephone No.
(Osaka Chūka Gakkō) Osaka Chinese School	1-8-13 Shikitsuhigashi, Naniwa-ku, Ōsaka-shi 〒556-0012	06-6649-6849
(Osaka Chōsen Chyū Kōkyū Gakkō) Osaka Korean Middle and High School	3-17-6 Higashinakamoto, Higashinari-ku, Ōsaka-shi 〒537-0021	06-4309-7915
(Kita Osaka Chōsen Shochūkyū Gakkō) North Osaka Korean Elementary School	1-5-19 Ōsumi, Higashiyodogawa-ku, Ōsaka- shi 〒533-0015	06-6328-6794
(Minami Osaka Chōsen Shokyū Gakkō) South Osaka Korean Elementary School	1-11-33 Kitakagaya, Suminoe-ku, Ōsaka-shi 〒559-0011	06-6685-6505
(Higashi Osaka Chōsen Shokyū Gakkō) East Osaka Korean Elementary School	2-4-22 Teramae-chō, Higashiōsaka-shi 〒577-0845	06-6728-4202
(Osaka Chōsen Shokyū Gakkō) Osaka Korean Elementary School	3-14-16 Tatsuminishi, Ikuno-ku, Ōsaka-shi 〒544-0012	06-6758-0848
Kwansei Gakuen Osaka International School https://www.senri.ed.jp/	4-4-16 Onoharanishi, Minō-shi 〒562-0032	072-727-5050
Korea International School Junior & Senior High School https://www.kiskorea.ed.jp	2-13-35 Toyokawa, Ibaraki-shi 〒567-0057	072-643-4200
Osaka YMCA International School https://oyis.org	6-7-34 Nakatsu, Kita-ku, Ōsaka-shi 〒531-0071	06-6345-1661

School Education Act Article 1

School Name	Address	Telephone No.
(Osaka Kongo Intanashonaru Sho/Chū/Kōtō Gakkō) Osaka Kongo International Elementary-Middle- High School https://www.kongogakuen.ed.jp/	2-6-10 Nankoukita Suminoe-ku, Ōsaka-shi 〒559-0034	06-4703-1780
(Hakutou Gakuin Kenkoku Yō/Sho/Chū/Kōtō Gakkō) Educational Foundation Baekdu Hagwon Kindergarten/Elementary/Middle/High School https://www.keonguk.ac.jp	2-3-13 Oriono, Sumiyoshi-ku, Ōsaka-shi 〒558-0032	06-6691-1231

16 Japanese Language Classes Held in Schools and Local Communities [TOP](#)

In elementary and middle schools, there are areas where Japanese language classes are available for children who wish to learn. There are various classes, but many of them are located within elementary and middle schools. When there are classes that are difficult without a certain level of Japanese—such as Japanese language or social studies—students go, just for that period, to a separate classroom (or sometimes a different school) from their classmates to study Japanese.

In areas where these Japanese language classes are not offered, during language class (Japanese) or any other difficult subject, students are transferred to another classroom where they are taught slowly by a different teacher so that they can understand. There are cases where this is done after regular classes or during breaks.

Please take note that the content and frequency of these Japanese language classes vary from area to area, or from school to school, therefore it would be advisable to consult the school's teachers first.

As a general rule, Japanese language classes are not offered in high schools.

Local Japanese Language Classes

In each area in Osaka, it's possible to attend Japanese language classes organized by international exchange associations or other organizations.

For information on literacy classes, please check the following website:



Information on literacy and Japanese language classes in Osaka & night middle school classes:

<https://call-jsl.jp/>

17 Consultation about Life in General, Labor Issues, Medical Issues, and Education-related Matters (List of Organizations)

[TOP](#)

Life in General

Name	Location	Telephone	Languages	Operating Times
Osaka Information Service for Foreign Residents (OIS) ※"Essentials for Living in Osaka" A guidebook that contains various information about living in Osaka. Published by: Osaka Foundation of International Exchange (OFIX)	Inside of Osaka Foundation of International Exchange (OFIX) 5F, MyDome Osaka, 2-5, Honmachibashi, Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi	06-6941-2297	English, Chinese, Korean, Thai, Portuguese, Spanish, Filipino, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Nepali, Japanese	https://ofix.or.jp/li-fe-english/
Osaka International House Foundation Information Center	8-2-6 Uehonmachi, Tennoji-ku, Osaka-shi Inside (Public Interest Foundation) Osaka International House Foundation	06-6773-8989	English, Chinese, Korean, Filipino, Vietnamese, Japanese	Mon - Fri 9:00 – 19:00 Sat, Sun & national holidays 9:00 – 17:30 (except year-end/New Year holiday)

Labor / Resident Status Issues

Name	Location	Telephone	Languages	Operating Times
Counseling Corner for Foreign Laborers (Osaka Labor Bureau)	9F, Osaka Godochosha No.2 building, 4-1-67 Otemae, Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi Inside the Labor Standards Department, Osaka Labor Bureau	06-6949-6490	Labor problems etc.: •English •Chinese •Portuguese •Vietnamese	English: Mon, Wed & Fri Chinese: Tue & Wed Portuguese: Wed & Thurs Vietnamese 1 st Thurs & Fri 9:30 – 17:00
Osaka Regional Immigration Services Bureau (Immigration Information Center)	1-29-53, Nanko Kita, Suminoe-ku, Osaka-shi	0570-064259	Residence status problems etc.: •English •Chinese •Vietnamese •Spanish •Filipino •Nepali •Korean •Portuguese etc.	Weekdays 8:30 – 17:15
Osaka Employment Service Center for Foreigners Public Job Placement Office (Hello Work)	Hankyu Grand Bldg. 16th floor, 8-47 Kakuda-cho Kita-ku Osaka	06-7709-9465	Job counseling and placement service: English, Chinese, Portuguese, Spanish, Vietnamese, Nepali, Ukrainian	Office is open from 10:00 to 18:00 except on Sat, Sun, national holidays & year end/New Year holidays Please ask about interpreter service hours.
Osaka Legal Affairs Bureau Human Rights Counseling for Foreign Nationals	Osaka No. 2 Legal Affairs Joint Government Office Building, 2-1-17 Tanimachi, Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi	0570-090911	•Chinese •English •Korean •Filipino •Portuguese •Vietnamese •Nepali, Spanish •Indonesian, Thai •Japanese	9:00 – 17:00 Weekdays (except year-end and New Year holidays)

Medical Consultations

Name	Telephone	Services	Languages	Operating Times
Medical care information guide for foreigners Osaka Medical Net for Foreigners	Public Health and Medical Planning Division, Public Health and Medical Administration Office, Department of Public Health and Medical Affairs, Osaka Prefecture 06-6941-0351	Information on medical facilities and institutions in Osaka Prefecture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English • Chinese • Korean • Spanish • Portuguese • Vietnamese • Tagalog • Japanese • French 	https://www.mfis.pref.osaka.jp/omfo/

Education

Name	Location	Contact Nos.
Osaka Prefecture Research Council for Foreigner Education		FAX: 050-3383-2683 Mail: fugaikyo@nifty.com
Osaka City Research Council for Foreigner Education		TEL: 06-6715-1720
Osaka Schools Research Council for Foreigner Education		TEL: 072-299-9000 FAX: 072-293-2859 Mail: furitsugaikyo@nifty.com
Osaka Prefectural Board of Education	2 Ootemae, Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi	06-6941-0351 (Prefectural Office) Future prospects, employment opportunities. High School Division, Student Guidance Group (ext. 3432) Transferring schools, entrance exams etc. High School Division, School Affairs Group (ext. 3420)

Check the website below for more details.

School-life support for returnees and students from overseas.

☆" Choosing Your Career, Choosing Your Future" with multilingual support

<https://www.pref.osaka.lg.jp/shochugakko/kikokutoniti-sapo/shinro-senntaku.html>

☆Multilingual Career Guidance

<https://www.pref.osaka.lg.jp/shochugakko/kikokutoniti-sapo/>



○Child and Family Centers, Child Counseling Centers

Through the Child Welfare Act, child counseling centers have been established in all of the major regions of Japan as well as in key cities as the foremost institution for child welfare. In 1994, the centers in Osaka underwent restructuring, a name change, and can now address various concerns regarding the child and the family.

■Child Counseling

As determined by the Child Welfare Act, child counseling centers acting as the administrative body of that act provide medical examination and treatment, as well as temporary protection.

- The centers provide consultation with the family and others for all problems related to children.

- Based on a social assessment conducted by a child welfare officer regarding the child and family, a psychological assessment conducted by a psychologist, a medical assessment conducted by a physician, and other relevant assessments, a comprehensive evaluation is carried out, and guidance is provided to improve the identified problems.
- When the need arises, children are allowed to stay or make use of the Child Welfare facilities, or be entrusted to foster parents. The centers plan for the healthy upbringing of the child.
- Should the situation arise that a child requires a temporary protection, the centers will provide one.
- The centers assist in the early assessment of the mental development of children, and discuss ways to provide support.

Center Name	Address, Tel. no.	Remarks
Child Counseling Center (for children only) (Toll-free call)	0120-7285-25	(Open all year round)
Osaka Central Child and Family Center	28-5 Yasaka-chou, Neyagawa-shi 〒572-0838 072-828-0161	For Moriguchi, Hirakata, Neyagawa, Daitou, Kadoma, Shijounawate, and Katano
Minoh Child and Family Center	3-8-22 Senbanishi, Minoh-shi 〒562-0036 072-739-6170	For Ikeda, Minoh, Toyono-chou, and Nose-chou
Suita Child and Family Center	19-3 Deguchi-chou, Suita-shi 〒564-0072 06-6389-3526	For Suita, Takatsuki, Ibaraki, Settsu, and Shimamoto-chou
East Osaka Child and Family Center	1-7-4 Eiwa, Higashi Osaka-shi 〒577-0809 06-6721-1966	For Higashi Osaka, Yao, and Kashiwara
Tondabayashi Child and Family Center	Inside Minami Kawachi Citizen Center Building 2-6-1 Kotobuki-chou, Tondabayashi-shi 〒584-0031 0721-25-1131	For Tondabayashi, Kawachi Nagano, Matsubara, Habikino, Fujiidera, Osaka Sayama, Taishi-chou, Kanan-chou, and Chihaya Akasaka-mura
Kaizuka Child and Family Center	1-17-2, Hatakenaka, Kaizuka-shi 〒597-0072 072-430-6300	For Izumiotsu, Izumi, Takaishi, Tadaoka-chou, Kishiwada, Kaizuka, Izumisano, Sennan, Hannan, Kumatori-chou, Tajiri-chou, and Misaki-chou
Central Osaka City Child Consultation Center	1-1-90, Naniwahigashi, Naniwa-ku, Osaka-shi 〒556-0025 06-4301-3100	Open to Osaka City residents the following wards: in Konohana, Chuo, Nishi, Minato, Taisho, Tennoji, Naniwa, Suminoe, Sumiyoshi, Nishinari
Northern Osaka City Child Consultation Center	3-13-36 Awaji, Higashiyodogawa-ku, Osaka-shi 〒533-0032 06-6195-4114	Open to Osaka City residents in the following wards: Kita, Miyakojima, Fukushima, Nishiyodogawa, Yodogawa, Higashiyodogawa, Asahi wards)
Southern Osaka City Child Counseling Center	1-17-5 Morinomiya-chuo, Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi 〒540-0003 06-6718-5050	Open to Osaka City residents the following wards: in Abeno, Higashisumiyoshi and Hirano
Central Osaka City Child Consultation Center- East Branch Office	Inside Separate Building for Central Osaka City Child Consultation Center, 1-17-5 Morinomiya-chuo, Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi 〒540-0003 06-6926-4600	Open to Osaka City residents (Higashinari, Ikuno, Joto, Tsurumi)
Sakai Municipal Child and Family Center	4-3-1, Nakamachi, Asahigaoka, Sakai-ku, Sakai-shi 〒590-0808 072-245-9197	For Sakai City
Toyonakashi Child Counseling Center	2F, Toyonaka-shi Sukoyaka Plaza, 2-1-15, Okakaminochou, Toyonaka-shi 〒560-0023 06-6868-9230	For Toyonaka City

18 Systems for Specialized Instruction at School (Osaka Human Resources Bank) [TOP](#)

In Osaka there is a system called "Human Resources Bank for Supporting Schools." This system is a directory of people involved in different fields who can teach specialized knowledge to children in schools.

Through this system, there are now many participants involved in prefectural and municipal schools.

<https://www.pref.osaka.lg.jp/o180040/kotogakko/jinzai/index.html>

19 Job-placement Agencies ("Hello Work" list) [TOP](#)

"Hello Work" introduces work to those who are looking for jobs.

Osaka Prefecture has the following public employment agencies.

Name	Phone Number	Postal Code	Address
Hello Work Osaka Higashi (East)	06-6942-4771	540-0011	1, 2 & 3F, Pippu Bldg., 2-1-36 Noninbashi, Chūō-ku, Ōsaka-shi
Hello Work Umeda	06-6344-8609	530-0001	16F, Osaka Ekimae Dai-2 Bldg., 1-2-2 Umeda, Kita-ku, Ōsaka-shi
Hello Work Osaka Nishi (West)	06-6582-5271	552-0011	1-2-34 Minami Ichioka, Minato-ku, Ōsaka-shi
Hello Work Abeno	06-4399-6007	545-0004	1-4-2 Fuminosato, Abeno-ku, Ōsaka shi
Hello Work Abeno Lucias Bldg. Office	06-6631-1675	545-0052	8F, Abeno Lucias Bldg. – Office Bldg., 1-5-1 Abenosuji, Abeno-ku, Ōsaka-shi
Hello Work Yodogawa	06-6302-4771	532-0024	3-4-11 Jūsō-honmachi, Yodogawa-ku, Ōsaka-shi
Hello Work Fuse	06-6782-4221	577-0056	4F, Aeon Fuse Ekimae Store, 1-8-37 Chōdō, Higashi Ōsaka-shi
Hello Work Sakai	072-238-8301	590-0078	1, 2 & 3F, Sakai Municipal Government Office Complex, 2-29 Minamikawara-machi, Sakai-ku, Sakai-shi
Hello Work SAKAI Sakai Higashi Ekimae Office	072-340-0944	590-0028	9F, Takashimaya Sakai Department Store, 59 Mikunigaoka Miyukidori, Sakai-ku, Sakai-shi
Hello Work Kishiwada	072-431-5541	596-0826	1264 Zakuzai-chō, Kishiwada-shi
Hello Work Ikeda	072-751-2595	563-0058	12-9 Sakae-honmachi, Ikeda-shi
Hello Work Izumiōtsu	0725-32-5181	595-0025	2F, TEXPIA OSAKA 22-45 Asahi-chō, Izumiōtsu-shi
Hello Work Fujiidera	072-955-2570	583-0027	3F, DH Fujiidera Ekimae Bldg., 2-10-18 Oka, Fujiidera-shi
Hello Work Hirakata	072-841-3363	573-0031	6F, VIE. ORNER Hirakata Store, 7-1 Okamoto-chō, Hirakata-shi
Hello Work Izumisano	072-463-0565	598-0007	2-1-20 Ue-machi, Izumisano-shi
Hello Work Ibaraki	072-623-2551	567-0885	1-12 Higashichūjō-chō, Ibaraki-shi
Hello Work Kawachinagano	0721-53-3081	586-0025	7-2 Shōei-chō, Kawachinagano-shi
Hello Work Kadoma	06-6906-6831	571-0045	2F, Moriguchi Kadoma Society of Commerce and Industry, 6-4 Tonoshima-chō, Kadoma-shi
Osaka Employment Service Center for Foreigners	06-7709-9465	530-0017	16F, Hankyu Grand Bldg., 8-47 Kakuda-cho, Kita-ku, Ōsaka-shi

20 Schools of Specialized Knowledge and Skills (Acquiring Skills to Get a Job) [TOP](#)

Apart from general subjects in high school, there are schools that provide specialized knowledge and skills training.

◆ Vocational Training School (Koutou Shokugyō Gijutsu Senmonkou)

These are institutions that offer various work-related training and in a short span of 6 months to 2 years, and one may be able to acquire specialized knowledge and skills. One may apply through the public job placement agency (Hello Work). In Osaka, there are 6 such schools, including the Osaka Work Skills Development School for the Disabled.

Kita (North) Osaka Vocational Training School	072-808-2151
Higashi (East) Osaka Vocational Training School	072-964-8836
(South) Osaka Vocational Training School	0725-53-3005
Yuuhihigaoka Vocational Training School	06-6776-9900
Osaka Work Skills Development School for the Disabled	072-296-8311

※For more information, please consult your homeroom teacher or guidance counselor.

◆ Colleges of Technology (Koutou Senmon Gakkou)

These are schools that aimed to develop the skills necessary for the workplace through comprehensive courses. They specialize in technical courses. In 5 years' time graduates can work as professional engineers or transfer to a university.

In Osaka there is the Osaka Metropolitan University College of Technology (Osaka Kouritsu Daigaku Kougyō Koutou Senmon Gakkou), which has a 5-year school program.

◆ Miscellaneous and Special Technical Schools

○ Miscellaneous Schools (Kakushu Gakkou)

These are educational institutions wherein the skills and qualifications necessary to become a productive member of society can be obtained in a short period. The courses usually last for only a year.

Courses: cosmetology and hairstyling, culinary arts, etc.

○ Special Technical Schools (Senshuu Gakkou)

There are also schools where middle school graduates enroll and follow a standard high school curriculum with regular high school subjects as well as specialized classes. They incorporate skills training, and tie-ups with high schools enable students to obtain high school diplomas.

Courses: computer skills training, cosmetology and hairstyling, home economics, foreign languages, automotive repair, etc.

21 What Options are Available after Graduation from Middle School? / We Are Going back to Our Own Country Soon. (Your Child's Options) [TOP](#)

Q1. My child will graduate from middle school soon. What are his/her options in Japan?

A. In Japan, after graduation from middle school, the two broad categories are either higher learning or seeking employment. For higher learning, there is high school, colleges of technology, vocational schools, special training schools, etc. and it is best to decide after consulting with the homeroom teacher. If the student wishes to pursue the road to employment, he/she must go through the middle school, so he/she should consult with the teachers before deciding. Please refer to the section "[Possible Paths after Middle School](#)" for further details.

Q2. I'm not sure when we will have to go back to our home country. If my child engages in higher learning in Japan, will their academic record be recognized in our country?

A. Educational systems differ from country to country; however, most will recognize your child's academic record. If the number of years taken or number of courses is insufficient, your child will need to take the remaining requirements after returning to your country. Research carefully the education systems of both countries.

Q3. I want to send my child to high school but I'm worried we won't be able to afford the tuition.

A. In Japan there are scholarship or loan organizations. They will lend the necessary funds for high school, university, or vocational schools. The amount is then paid back when the student is able to work after graduation. The amount and method of repayment differs for each organization. For high school, there is the Osakafu Ikuei Kai (Osaka Prefecture Scholarship Association). For further details please check their website below. Please note that the loan eligibility is subject to your status of residence.

<https://www.pref.osaka.lg.jp/o180040/kotogakko/jinzai/index.html>

Q4. What clothing should be worn to school?

A. In most cases, middle school and high school students wear a uniform when going to school. Each school has their own prescribed uniform. There is a winter version for the cold season and a summer version for the hot season. On the other hand, most elementary schools do not have a prescribed uniform. In such cases it would be advisable to have the child wear something that allows freedom of movement.

Q5. What is the PTA?

A. It stands for the abbreviation of the English Parent-Teacher Association, a school-based organization of teachers and parents/guardians. The parents/guardians and teachers work together to raise school children by discussing the children's education at home and at school. They do such things as participating in school events as members of the PTA and more. Lately, cases where children have been victimized by crime on their way to school have increased and so there are schools where the PTA patrols school routes.

22 When Your Child Doesn't Want to Go to School (Truancy) [TOP](#)

Q. Lately my child has stopped going to school. (does not want to go.) What should I do?

A. Counselor's advice

Not being able to understand Japanese upon entering school, and not being used to Japanese culture and the educational system, make it difficult for a child coming from overseas to make friends among his/her classmates, to understand the lessons, to get used to Japanese style lunches and so on. Because of these reasons, a child may stop going to school.

In order to help the child come back to school, it is important to think what the cause is and then eliminate it. There are many different possible causes so please talk it over with the homeroom teacher since they are the ones who know what school life is like best. It is important for the parents/guardian and the school (teachers) to work together for the sake of the child.

It is important first of all to talk with the child's teacher.

※ Counseling Centers Outside School

If it is difficult to talk to the teacher at the school, places such as the Osaka Child and Family Center can offer counseling about truancy.

Refer to the list of "Child and Family Centers and Youth Counseling Corners" under the list of "[Consultation Organizations](#)" on page 30.