

To go to elementary school in Japan

English version



いばらきけんきょういくいいんかい
茨城県教育委員会
Ibaraki Prefectural Board of Education

This introduces general elementary school life in Japan. It depends on the area you live in and the school you go to. If you have any questions, consult with your local government or school teacher.

★ School system ★



- There are public and private schools.
- The school year is from April to March next year.
- As for holidays, there are Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays, summer holidays (Late July to August), winter holidays (Late December to early January) and spring holidays (Late March to early April).
- There is no repeat grade, so classmates are the same age.
- Textbooks are free of charge. (There is a charge for reference books.)
- The number of class hours per day and the time to go home are different depending on the day of the week and the grade.
- They eat lunch with classmates at school.
- There are classes in the morning and afternoon including school lunch.
- They clean with their classmates.



★ School rule ★



- When you are absent from school, please contact the school around 8 o'clock.
- They make a group with their neighborhood seniors and go to school with them.
- They make a group with their friends of the same grade in the neighborhood and go home together.
- Don't dye child's hair.
- Do not wear accessories such as pierced earrings.
- If the schools uniforms are designated, children should take classes with uniforms on.
- They wear gym clothes in PE class.
- They change their shoes into the slippers and enter the school building.
- They bring textbooks in a school bag ("Randoseru").



★ In order to go to school comfortably ★



- Please adjust their lifestyle (Go to bed early and get up early).
- Please try to have a balanced diet.
- Please let your child get used to Japanese food.
- Please tell your homeroom teacher about food allergies, things your child can't eat religiously or culturally.
- Please share the vaccination and health condition with the school.
- Please contact your homeroom teacher frequently.
- It is better to make friends with Japanese parents so that you can consult them when you are in trouble.
- Please create opportunities to study at pre-school (Initial Japanese Language Instruction for Pre-School Students) and Japanese language classes.

♥ Please cherish your native language ♥

- At home, parents should use the language they are best at.
- It is said that if the language at home grows well, Japanese also grows well.
- If a child can think about abstract words and concepts in his native language, he can understand them by replacing them with his native language, even if he doesn't understand them in Japanese.
- What you can do at home to foster a child's native language
 - Create an environment connected to native culture such as letters, food, costumes, photos, music, movies and dramas.
 - Please read a book to your child.
 - If there is a native language class, please let your child go.



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Preschool and Family Education Promotion Office
〒310-8588 978-6 Kasaharacho, Mito-city, Ibaraki
TEL 029-301-5132



Home Education Support Navigation

◆ Home Education Support Navi ◆
"Sukusuku Sodate Ibarakikko"
(Grow up healthy, Ibaraki Children)
• "Hiyoko(Chick)", "Clover"
Mobile version



"Hiyoko"
"Clover"
Mobile version

☑ Parenting check



◆ Cheerful greeting

- Does your family greet each other cheerfully?
- Do you say "Good morning" "Good night." "Thank you." "Itadakimasu." "Gochisousama."?

◆ Balanced diet

- Do you have breakfast with your child?
- Do you feed "home taste"?

◆ Fun parenting

- Raising children can be difficult. Do you sometimes relax?
- Do you consult with someone close to you about parenting worries?

◆ Way of scolding

- Do you acknowledge or praise your child more than you scold him?
- Do you act as a role model for your child?
- Do you try not to get angry depending on your emotion?

◆ Lifestyle habit

- Do you let your child fall asleep late at night in accordance with adult lifestyle?
- Do you wake up your child early? (Early rising leads to early bed.)

◆ Important communication

- Do you let them play in nature?
- Do you value your neighbors?
- Do you have time to relax with your child?





◆ Let's make family rules!

Rule 1 _____

Rule 2 _____

Rule 3 _____

Sample Class Timetable for 1 Week after Entering Elementary School

	Monday, April 6	Tuesday, April 7	Wednesday, April 8	Thursday, April 9	Friday, April 10
Coming to school	Parent and a child go to school together.	Children make a group with their neighborhood seniors and go to school with them.			
Morning 8:10~8:30		Preparation of school materials	Preparation/Read aloud (listen to a teacher's reading)	Preparation/School song practice	School song practice/Morning meeting
1 8:40~9:25	Classroom activity	Classroom activity/ Japanese language	Japanese language	School event	Life/ Japanese language
	Learn how to greet and answer	Learn how to spend time in a classroom, Introduce oneself	Learn how to hold a pencil properly, Write one's name	Physical measurement 	Get to know classmates' name
2 9:35~10:20	School event	Classroom activity/ Life	Mathematics/Art	Physical education (School year)	Mathematics
	Entrance ceremony	Learn how to use the toilet and lockers	Draw a picture, Sort the pictures into categories	Play on playground equipment	Learn how to write numbers
3 10:40~11:25	Classroom activity	Japanese language/ Art	Music(School year)	Mathematics	Japanese language/ Music(School year)
	Get to know homeroom teacher	Get to know classmates	Sing a song	Sort the pictures of cards into categories	Read a book with a teacher/Sing a song
4 11:35~12:20	11:30 Parent and a child go home together.	Classroom activity	Life	Morality	Life/ Japanese language
		Learn how to prepare lunch	Take a tour of a school building	Think about fun things at school	Learning Hiragana (character)
School lunch (lunch)	Children eat lunch in the classroom with their homeroom teacher and classmates.				
5 13:20~14:05		Classroom activity	Classroom activity	Classroom activity	Art
		Learn how to leave school	Get to know the school song	Learn about class work	Draw a picture of a favorite thing
Leaving school	Children make a group with their friends of the same grade in the neighborhood and go home together.				

★ Activities at Elementary Schools ★

- At first, it may not be the same subject for 45 minutes, but it may be a combination of related learning contents for about 15 minutes.
- School activities include the activities that children have been familiar with at nursery schools and kindergartens, such as reading aloud and playing with hands.
- School teachers keep close contact with each family by grade's letters, contact book and phone call.



◆ Home Education Links ◆

You can access the following sites from the link collection of Ibaraki Prefecture's Home Education Support Navi "Sukusuku Sodate Ibarakikko"

★ Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

- School Attendance Guidebook for Foreign Students
- A collection of links to support studies



★ Ibaraki Prefectural Board of Education

- Entering Nursery and School Support Leaflet (6 languages version)

★ Ibaraki NPO Center Commons

- Consultations on school attendance and advancement of students with overseas roots Others



Link to home education related site

★ Ibaraki International Association

- Living Information for foreign people
- Counseling Center for Foreigners Others

★ Kanagawa International Foundation Child rearing support site for foreign residents

- For Foreign Residents "Child Rearing Charts for Foreign Residents: From Pregnancy and Childbirth to Entering Elementary School" Others

★ Aichi University of Education, Foreign Students Support Resource Room

- Nursery guidebook • Elementary school guidebook • Junior high school guidebook
- Before Entering Japanese Elementary School for International Families (life version) Others

◆ Consultation about sudden illness or injury ◆

★ Ibaraki Children's Emergency Telephone Consultation

<24 hours a day, seven days a week>

- #8000 (From a push line or mobile phone)
- 03-6667-3377 (From all of the phones)

<http://kodomo-qq.jp/index.php?pname=n8000%2Fp12>

★ Emergency Medical Information Control Center

<24 hours a day, seven days a week>

- 029-241-4199

[Ibaraki Prefecture Emergency Medical Information System]

<https://www.qq.pref.ibaraki.jp/>

★ Poisoning No. 110

- 029-852-9999 (つくば) <Open 365 days a year 9:00~21:00>
- 072-727-2499 (大阪) <24 hours a day, seven days a week>

<https://www.j-poison-ic.jp/110service/>

★ Drug Consultation Room

<Monday to Friday 9:00~12:00, 13:00~16:00>

- 029-306-8945 http://www.ipa.or.jp/health/health_02.htm



Link to the consultation desk