

英語版

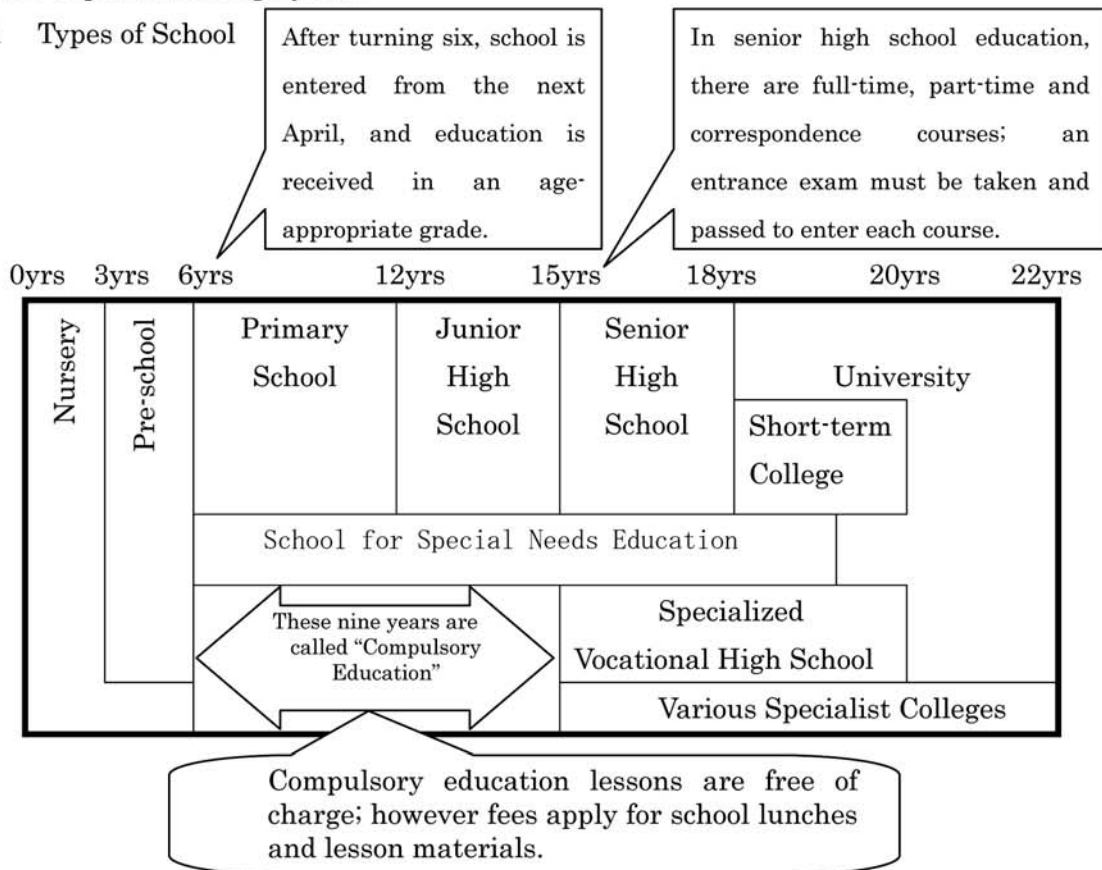
An Introduction To Schools In Japan

School Guidance for Foreign Guardians

Mie Prefectural Board of Education

I The Japan Schooling System

1 Types of School



2 Education Content

(1) Education Course (Study Content)

School study content is fixed according to the curriculum guidelines produced by the national government (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.)

(2) Textbooks

Textbooks used in study are provided free of charge by the national government to children in primary and junior high schools, and also the primary and junior sections of school for special needs education. However, the textbooks used in senior high schools and the senior sections of school for special Needs education must be purchased for a fee.

(3) School Expense Subsidies

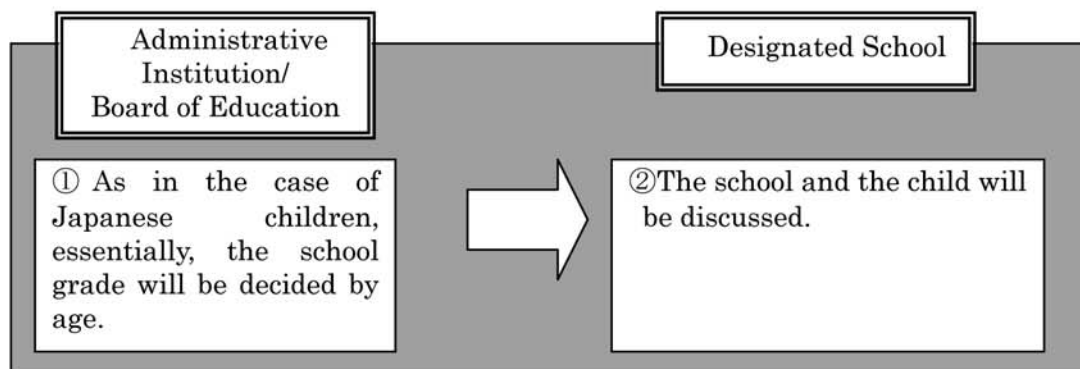
If attending public primary and junior high school is difficult for economic reasons, it is possible to receive necessary support. However, there are various constraints and conditions regarding school expense subsidies, so please contact your local municipal board of education for information on primary and junior high schools, and contact the prefectural board of education for information on prefectural schools.

II Procedures For Attending School

1 Procedures for Entering (Transferring to) Primary or Junior High School

(1) Procedures at an Administrative Institution

If your child is of primary or junior high school age, you will be directed to the municipal board of education and may complete school entry procedures there.



(2) Procedures for Entering Primary and Junior High School

To improve school life, information similar to the following will be discussed.

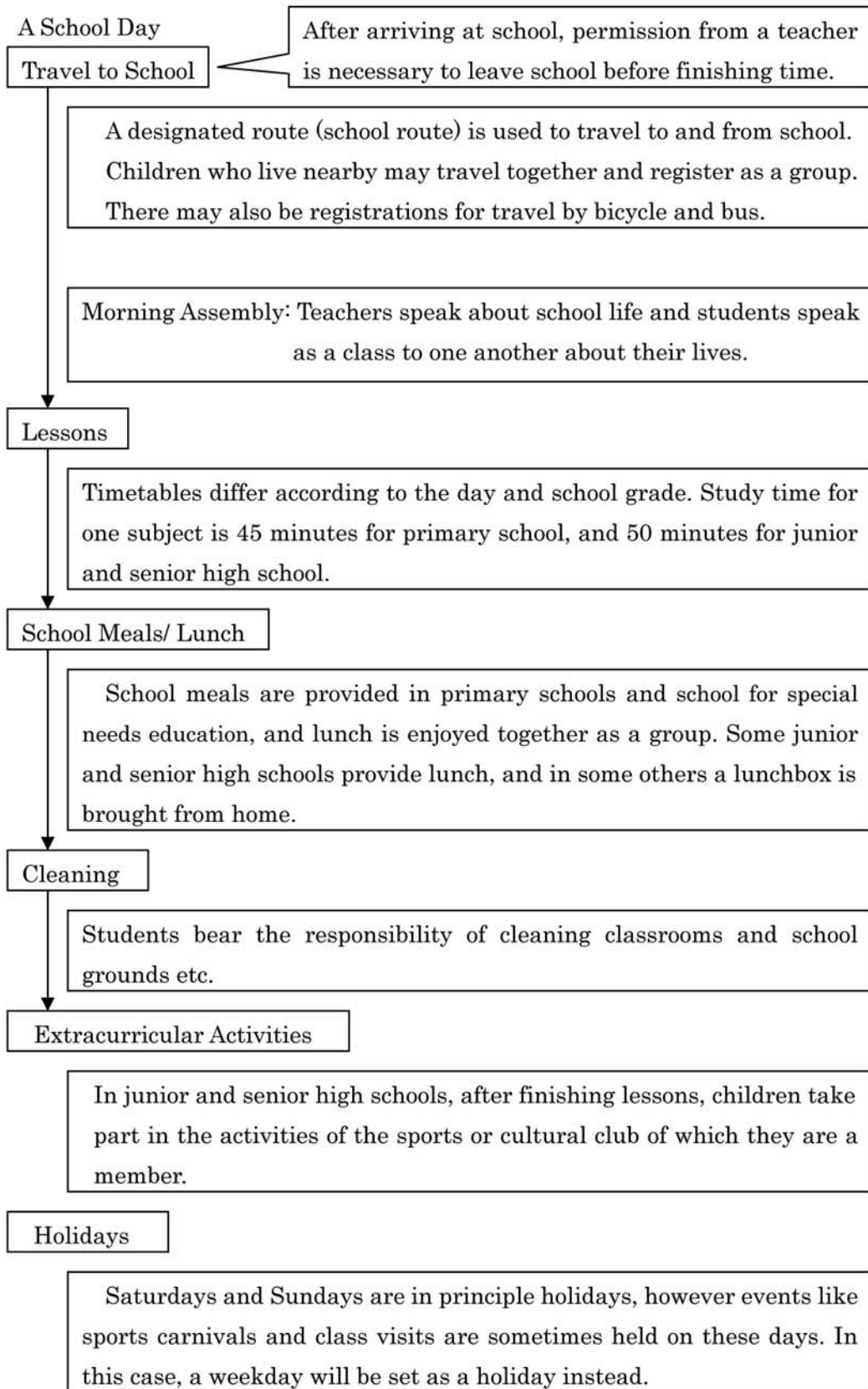
①	Confirmation of the spelling and pronunciation of the child's name, date of birth etc.
②	Family structure (family names)
③	Current address
④	Contact methods (for emergency, workplace, interpretations etc.)
⑤	Education received before school transfer (including before and after coming to Japan) and study conditions
⑥	Guardian's intended period of residence
⑦	Japanese ability (child and family)
⑧	Child's personality and future aspirations
⑨	Health condition (specific illnesses, eyesight, hearing, food allergies etc.)
⑩	Child and guardian's thoughts about education
⑪	Particular requests for the school, points you would like taken into consideration

2 Procedures for Entrance (Transfer) to Senior High School

A school entrance exam must be taken to enter senior high school.

III School Life

1 A School Day



2 The School Year

Schools in Japan begin in April every year, and end in March of the following year. Many schools have a system of two or three semesters. See the following for the main events of each semester.

※The example below is of the case of a three semester system, and event names, content and times will differ according to the school.

【Semester 1 (April to July)】

Opening Ceremony (April)

- An event to begin Semester 1.
- This event also occurs in Semesters 2 and 3.

Body Measurements and Periodic

Health Examinations

- Children's growth will be measured by checking their height and weight etc.
- Children's physical condition and health will be examined by a doctor.

Home Visits and Individual Informal Talks

- Home visits involve the school teacher visiting the home of each child to hear about the condition of the child's home life.
- Individual informal talks involve discussions with the teacher at school about the child's school and home life.
- Guardians will be contacted in advance by the school about home visits and individual informal talks.

Closing Ceremony (July)

- An event to end Semester 1.
- Report cards will be handed out.
- This event also occurs in Semester 2 and 3.

Entrance Ceremony (April)

- An event to welcome and celebrate the school entrance of first year students.
- As well as the first year students, guardians also attend the entrance ceremony.

Lesson Observation and

Class Informal Talks

- Guardians may observe classroom lessons.
- A chance for guardians to talk with their child's teacher about their child's progress.

【Summer Holiday (End of July to end of August)】

- A long holiday of approximately 35 to 40 days.
- During this time, there are no lessons at school. This time is spent at home. Depending on the school, there are club activities and special lessons.

【Semester 2 (September to December)】

Sports Carnivals and Athletic Meets

- An event with short distance running, relays, and dancing, where students can cheer on their classmates and enjoy physical activity. Depending on the school, there may also be events for family members to take part in.

Arts, Science and Culture Festivals

- Appreciation of exhibits of art and craft, or social studies reports; and instrumental, choir and dramatic performances etc.

Emergency Training and Evacuation Drills

- Training to prepare for earthquakes and fires.

Concert and Play Appreciation

- Enriching the heart through listening to and watching excellent performances.

【Winter Holiday (End of December to beginning of January)】

- A comparatively short holiday of approximately 2 weeks.

【Semester 3 (January to March)】

Graduation Ceremony (March)

- An event to celebrate the graduation of the students in the upper grade.

Finishing Ceremony (March)

- A closing ceremony for Semester 3 and end of the school year.

【Spring Holiday (End of March to beginning of April)】

- The spring holiday begins after the finishing ceremony. After this holiday ends, students go up a grade and begin a new school year from April.

【School Events By Grade】

School Trip

- An event where students from mainly the upper grade of primary, junior and senior high schools, and school for special needs education, spend a few days and nights together on a holiday.
- Various famous places and establishments are visited and activities experienced.

Junior High School Work Experience

- Mainly undertaken by second year junior high school students.
- Students spend time away from school and experience various activities in the local society (in shops, businesses etc.)

Excursions and Field Trips

- An event for students to leave the school grounds, learn things they could not in the classroom, and study while becoming familiar with nature, history and culture.

3 Report Cards

The school will report to families about the condition of their child's grades and school life through a report card at the end of each semester.

4 Rules and Regulations

There are various rules and regulations at school. Some primary schools allow free dress, however depending on the school there may be a set dress standard (uniform.) Also, items unnecessary for school may not be brought to school.

Many junior and senior high schools each have their own set dress standard (uniform.) In most cases, nail polish and the wearing of accessories like earrings to school is prohibited. Furthermore, snacks may not be brought and eaten at school.

5 Money Collection

There are no lesson fees for elementary and junior high schools, however it is necessary to pay fees for school meals (approximately ¥3500 to ¥4500 per month) and lesson materials. Money is collected about once per month.

6 Health and Safety

Children's health and safety is considered the first priority. If a child becomes ill or is injured, they will receive first aid treatment in the health room, and hospitals and families will be contacted as necessary. By law, a periodic health examination will also be undertaken.

IV Education Consultations

1 School Education Consultations

Schools in Japan provide opportunities (home visits and informal talks) for guardians to talk with school teachers about their child.

2 Non-school Education Consultations

In the case of private elementary, junior high and senior high schools, contact the local board of education. Or in the case of a prefectural school, contact the prefectural board of education.

Furthermore, the prefectural board of education accepts education consultations in Portuguese from Monday to Friday between 9am and 2pm.

Mie Prefectural Board of Education Consultations (Portuguese) TEL : 059-224-3150