Day Care Center (Hoikuen) & Nursery School (Hoikujo)

How are they diferrent? What is Taiki?



The Second Number: Answers for questions raised by parents who wish children's heathy growth

Following the Issue: January, Fujimino International Cultural Exchange Center introduces you some queries related to children's life. In this month, Day Care Center and Nursery School are focused. For more information, applicants need to contact public office or child-rearing support divison.

•Are Day Care Center (Hoikuen) and Nursery School (Hoikujo) are same?

We can regard them same. Booklet of publich office, too, indicates them as "Hoikuen" (Hoikujo)". However, at general, they are distinguished by place they locate. Most likely, we can say Day Care Center (Hoikuen) is public and Nursery School (Hoikujo) is private. In Fujimi City, there is nursery school called "Fujimino Hoikuen" even though it is public.

• How are they different from Kindergarten (Youchien)?

Booklet explains Hoikujo(en) is for family whose parents cannot well take care of their child due to work or illness. Under the Child Welfare Law, Hoikujo(en) is permitted to look after children instead of parents. So early childhood education is not available at Hoikujo(en).

What is "Taiki"?

"Taiki" is a term used for applicants who wait for entry into Hoikujo(en) to be admitted. Whereas public offices give efforts to admit all applicants, there are applicants who were not permitted due to some reasons and wait for another chance.

• From when is application accepted?

Applicants, who want to enter from April, have to decide entrance date & Hoikujo(en) within 1 month (November to December) and submist an application form.

• Is it possible to enter Hoikujo(en) halfway?

Yes, it is possible. However, a month earlier than your entrance date (Entrance date is 1^{st} Monday of a month), application documents must be submitted no later than by 10^{th} of each month.

www.ficec.jp/foreign/

• The back numbers of "Information Fujimino" are available at online.

• Who can apply for entrance?

There are various conditions for applicants. Applicants need to fulfill one of the following conditions from ① to ⑦ or they are not able to look after child even if family members like grandfather and grandmother live together.

- ① Guardians who work outside over 4 hours per a day, over 4 days per a week.
- ② Guardians who constantly work other than housework at home.
- (3) Mother who is pregnant and cannot take care of child ($7 \sim 8$ weeks before childbirth)
- ④ Guardians who have sickness, injury or mental/physical disorder.
- ⁽⁵⁾ Guardians take care of family member who is ill or has mental/physical disorder.
- 6 Guardians who encounter natural disaster like earthquake and restore their living environment.
- ⑦ Guardians who fulfill one of above (①~
 ⑥) and have another reason for difficulty in taking care of child.

• What are documents to be submitted?

You are required to submit "Maternity Record Book" and bring your child together. Also there are about 12 sorts of documents including application form. For more detail, please contact public office near you. You can also contact us, Fujimino International Cultural Exchange Center.

Which division of public office is in charge?
 Fujimi City • • • child-rearing support division
 Fujimino City • • • child-rearing support division
 Miyoshi Town • • • child family division

FYI ●Number of Hoikujo(en) in area of 2 cities and 1 town
 Fujimi City・・・Public 7, Private 5
 Fujimino City・・・Public 9, Private 6

Don't lose yourself by Violence

Since 11th Jan, 2008, the revised spousal violence prevention law has been plemented. Against a number of campaigns calling "**DV** is a crime!", DV seems

implemented. Against a number of campaigns calling "**DV** is a crime!", DV seems not to be decreased. The spousal violence prevention law defines "spouse = married person", but it also includes violence by ex-spouse.

established in April this year)

Miyoshi Town • • • Public 3, Private 0

(At present, there is no private Hoikuen in Miyoshi

Town, but a new private Hoikuen will be

So far, this law was performed by the administrative divisions of Japan. The current revision obliges municipalities to prevent violence and protect victims. If you suffer from spousal violence, please keep your mind strong and contact "Spousal Violence Support Center" of municipalities. Fujimino International Cultural Exchange Center also helps you.

★Please tell us ...

Hospital available for Foreign Languages

Currently, in Fujimi city, Fujimino city and Miyoshi town, 3 thousand of foreigners live as citizen. However, there are a number of difficulties to live in foreign country.

Especially, foreigners become anxious about hospital. Of course we have to try to recover sickness by ourselves, but health condition can be worse. In such case, medical check in foreigners' first language can be a strong support for them.

Fujimino International Cultural Exchange Center provides consultation for living to many foreigners.

If you know hospital in which foreigners can use their mother tongue language, please help to inform us.

• Phone 049-256-4290

• FAX 049-256-4291

★You can get ...

Maternity Record Book written in Foreign Languages

This is helpful information for foreigner mothers.

"Maternity Record Book" plays an important role of identifying baby.

In order to get it, you have to prepare pregnancy certificate in Fujimino city (requirement is defer depending on city you live in).

"Maternity Record Book" is written in Japanese, but do you know book written in foreign languages are also available? Promotion center of Fujimi city (049-252-3771) provides the book in Thai, Chinese, Korean, English, Portuguese, Spanish and Tagalog. It costs ¥800.

Japanese Festival Hina-Matsuri



Hina-Matsuri is held to wish for girls' healthy growth and happiness on March 3. It is called "Momo no Sekku (Peach Festival). In house where there is girl, dolls are displayed and peach flowers, sweets, white sake are provided.

Hina-Matsuri originated in Chinese ancient custom which is to take out sins and misfortune by letting dolls to flow in river.

At stores, dolls for Hina-Matsuri are sold now.

Place where the dolls are displayed is called "Hina-dan" and there are "Odairi-sama" (male doll) and "Ohime-sama (female doll).

Please celebrate children's growth with Japanese families as one of memories in Japan.

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