



# く じょうほう さいたま暮らしの情報

Information for Living in Saitama City  
Información de Vida en Ciudad de Saitama  
**No.88 (Sept. 2023)**

## し にほん がっこうせいかつ 知りたい！日本の学校生活

**I want to know! School life in Japan**  
**¡Quiero saber! Vida escolar en Japón**

きょういく がっこうせいかつ くに こと  
教育システムや学校生活は国によって異なります。そこで、とくにぎむきょういく  
にほん がっこうせいかつ とくちょう しょうかい  
日本の学校生活の特徴をいくつかご紹介しましょう。

The education system and school life vary from country to country. Therefore, we will introduce some of the characteristics unique to Japan school life, especially in compulsory education.

Los sistemas educativos y la vida escolar varían de un país a otro. Entonces, vamos a presentar unas características de la vida escolar en Japón, especialmente en la enseñanza obligatoria.



あんぜん ぼうはん へいごしや ちいき じゅうみん  
安全や防犯のために、保護者や地域の住民による「登下校見守り活動」が行われているんだ。  
For safety and crime prevention, parents and local residents are asked to watch over children's commute to and from school.

Para la seguridad y la prevención del delito, los padres y residentes locales les vigilan a los estudiantes en la ruta hacia y desde la escuela.

スクールバスは利用しないの？  
Don't you ride a school bus?  
¿No usa el autobús escolar?



おおくのこうりつしょうがっこう せいと は、きんじよ  
多くの公立小学校の生徒は、近所で集まって登校し、下校は同級生の友達と一緒に帰りますよ。

Many public elementary school students gather in their neighborhoods to go to school and walk to school together.

Muchos estudiantes de escuelas primarias públicas se reúnen en sus vecindarios para ir a la escuela y regresan con los amigos de sus compañeros de clase.



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### Q1 At what age does compulsory education start in Japan?

The period of compulsory education is from the age of 6 to 15, which corresponds to elementary school (6th year) and junior high school (3rd year). Public elementary and junior high schools have free tuition and textbooks, and also accept foreigners. Further details about Japan's education system are explained in the "Living and Working Guidebook" (16 language versions), a portal site for foreigners' daily life support provided by the Immigration Services Agency ([moj.go.jp](http://moj.go.jp)).

### Q2 What month does it start?

School in Japan starts in April. Most schools have a three-semester system, with a one-month summer vacation, and a one- to two-week winter and spring vacation. There are opening and closing ceremonies at the beginning and end of each semester. Students and parents receive report cards around the time of the closing ceremony, allowing them to grasp the results of their education and the status of school life.



### Q3 How are classes organized? Do students ever repeat the same grade?

Students have their own class, homeroom teacher, and classroom. Because you take classes in the same room with the same classmates, a sense of community is created. The whole class moves to the music room and gymnasium. Each student receives free textbooks and a tablet is also lent to them. Tests measure learning progress, but it is almost impossible for students to repeat a grade.



### Q4 What do you eat?

At elementary and junior high schools in Saitama City, school lunches are eaten at noon. The school has a nutritionist who prepares menus that consider the nutritional needs of the children, and the kitchen staff prepares the meals. In each classroom, the children on duty for school lunch serve the meals one by one. The whole class eats lunch together with the teacher in the classroom. In Japan, it is called "food education", and food is considered to be a part of education. You will learn manners, how to eat healthy meals, safety and hygiene, and food culture.



### Q5 Is it true that students have to clean?

There is a custom for students to clean their classrooms and school. They also learn the habit of keeping their surroundings clean on their own and cooperatively as a member of a team.

### Q6 Are there many school events?

There are a lot. These include entrance ceremonies, graduation ceremonies, class observations, presentations, physical fitness tests, sports days, field trips, excursions, and school trips. School events aim to cultivate the ability to cooperate and consider others, to accomplish things, and to foster public spirit.

