

Japanese Schools start from April, and continue until the following March. Elementary School is 6 years long, Junior High School is 3 years, and High School is also 3 years. In Japan, Elementary and Junior High School is mandatory. In each school year, people born on April the 2nd are the oldest, and people born on April the 1st of the following year are the youngest. In Elementary School, children start when they are 7 years old, and they graduate at 12 years old. Junior High School starts from age 13, and children graduate at age 15.

Children of foreign nationalities are under no obligation to go to school in Japan, however the Nagano City Board of Education recommends at least an Elementary and Junior High School education. Elementary and Junior High School entry is decided by the child's age. For those wanting to enter their child into Elementary or Junior High School, please first register your address at the General Information Window in the City Hall, then bring the Residence Card of both the parents and the child to the Nagano City Board of Education in the School Education Section. Their phone number is 026-224-5063.

In public schools, there is no cost for school fees or textbooks, but the price for teaching materials and school lunches is to be paid by the parent. However, in the case of a low-income family, you can receive money for teaching materials and school lunches. Because school lunches are served in the afternoon, there is no need to prepare a lunch box at home. Also, if you have a child already going to school, and you move to a different city, town or village, you must first receive the "school transfer" documents from the child's current school, then use them to apply at the Board of Education in your new area.

In Japan, you must do a test to enter into High School. For foreign residents living in Nagano Prefecture, there is special treatment available based on learning ability. For more details, please call the Nagano Prefectural Board of Education, High School Education Section, at 026-235-7430

わかお別れに<sup>えいご</sup>英語の<sup>きょく</sup>曲をお贈り<sup>おく</sup>いたします。Years & Years というグループの「King」という<sup>たいとる</sup>タイトル

<sup>うた</sup>の歌です。お聴き<sup>き</sup>ください。