

～If you think your child may need some extra help in school～

## ◆What is a school consultation?

This is a consultation to help decide on an educational placement that can provide appropriate education for children who may need special educational support due to either physical or mental disabilities. There is an application deadline, so please consult with a teacher from your child's current school or with a teacher from the school your child is planning on attending.

## ◆Applying for a School Consultation

Please apply to the School Consultation Secretariat through your current school by mid-June. Information on when and where the school consultation sessions during summer vacation will take place will be distributed in the beginning of July.

## ◆At a School Consultation

In a school consultation, the child will interact with an interviewer while the parent/guardian sits down with a teacher from the child's current school or kindergarten to discuss an ideal school for the child, share information, and receive advice.

## ◆Selecting a School

An Educational Support Committee composed of experts will receive a report at the school consultation meeting and consider which school is the best for your child. They will then notify your current school of their recommendations. Please tell the teacher at your school if you agree on the results of the school consultation within the deadline.

\*Schools, classes, and classifications are based on conditions stipulated by the law.

\*Please confirm the final deadline for selecting your school through your current school as deadlines vary depending on the school and class type.

## ◆Additional Consultation Sessions

Additional consultations may be deemed necessary based on the results of the Educational Support Committee's meeting in order to consider, confirm, and exchange information. In this case, the parent/guardian (and the child), currently enrolled in school, and planned school will have consultations about school life and support, school tours, and classroom experience days as needed.

\*This does not mean that coming to multiple consultation meetings will be required.

## ◆School Consultation Objectives

The goal of a school consultation is to provide an objective and comprehensive opinion from a professional standpoint. This opinion is geared towards an independent and sociable future for your child by placing them in a learning environment where your child understands course material, has a sense of participation and achievement in learning activities, and may have quality time to master their studies.

### Education Support Center

〒520-0047 Otsu-shi, 1-1 Hamaotsu 4 Chome, Asuto Hamaotsu 1F

TEL: 077 (527) 5525 FAX: 077 (526) 8030

Email: [otsu2476@city.otsu.lg.jp](mailto:otsu2476@city.otsu.lg.jp)

## ● Your New School & Special Educational Support

\*The type and severity of a child's disability is determined by law. This affects their educational eligibility.



### 1. Special Education Schools

#### ★Schools for children with mental or physical disabilities

Shiga Kusatsu School for Students with Disabilities

(For children living in/south of Awazu Junior High School District)

Shiga Kita-Otsu School for Students with Disabilities

(For children living in/north of Uchide Junior High School District)

\*School districts are determined by residential location.

#### ★Schools for children with hearing impairments

Shiga Prefectural School for Students with Hearing Impairments (The only one in Shiga is in Ritto City)

#### ★Schools for children with visual impairments

Shiga Prefectural School for the Visually Impaired (The only one in Shiga is in Hikone City)

#### ★Schools for children in poor health hospitalized due to illness

Moriyama Special Education School: For children hospitalized in the Shiga Medical Center for Children

Otsu Branch: For children hospitalized at Otsu Red Cross Hospital

#### ★Shiga University Educational Department Special Education School

For children with mental disabilities

\*School districts are determined by available enrollment spaces and commuting time.



### 2. Special Education Classes

There are six types of special education classes designed for children with mental disabilities, physical disabilities, illness, physical weakness, visual impairment, hearing impairment, autism, and emotional disorders. Your child will receive instruction in accordance with a special curriculum designed to meet your child's unique characteristics and educational needs.

\*Class placement may differ from school to school based on the child's state of enrollment.

### 3. Standard Classes

Children with developmental disabilities or with relatively mild cases of other disabilities can participate in standard classes with a standard curriculum while receiving special and personalized instruction when needed, which is fitted to the child's unique educational needs.

### 4. Special Education Class Instruction

This instruction is designed for children who are enrolled in standard education, and who have language difficulties or developmental disabilities, and for whom a special personalized instruction plan has been made. The needs of the child will be considered and evaluated per an application made by the school. There are currently 20 schools in Otsu that have these classrooms.

**(A parent/guardian must accompany elementary school students to and from their schools.)**

\*Schools: Ono Elementary, Manokita Elementary, Oginosato Elementary, Katata Elementary, Sakamoto Elementary, Karasaki Elementary, Nagara Elementary, Chuo Elementary, Zeze Elementary, Ishiyama Elementary, Tanakami Elementary, Seta Elementary, Setaminami Elementary, Setakita Elementary, Shiga Junior High, Katata Junior High, Karasaki Junior High, Awazu Junior High, Ishiyama Junior High, Tanakami Junior High.

## ● Special Education After Starting School

◎Development consultation records prior to beginning school will be transferred to your school after receiving permission from parents/guardians.

### ① Special Education Schools

- ◆Special education schools are designed for children with visual impairments, hearing impairments, mental disabilities, physical disabilities, and illnesses.
- ◆Educational content and teaching methods will be provided along with specialized and detailed instruction according to the child's educational needs.
- ◆Instructional support that prioritizes experiences that foster future independence will be carried out based on a personalized education and instruction plan.
- ◆There are five disability categories: mental, physical, visual, hearing, and illness.

### Otsu City Elementary & Junior High Schools

- ◆A school committee and a special education coordinator will consider a framework for school support.
- ◆Instructional support based on a personalized instruction will be created with the parent's/guardian's cooperation.

### ② Special Education Classes

- ◆Designed for children with mental disabilities, physical disabilities, illnesses, physical weakness, visual impairment, hearing impairment, autism, emotional disorders, and etc.
- ◆The child will receive educational guidance from their school. Instructional guidance from special education schools will be referred to in order to provide detailed guidance in accordance with the child's disability.

### ③ Standard Classes

- ◆The child will be enrolled in a standard school program that takes their disability into special consideration. In addition to providing group instruction, the program will provide instruction and support based on the child's individual educational needs.

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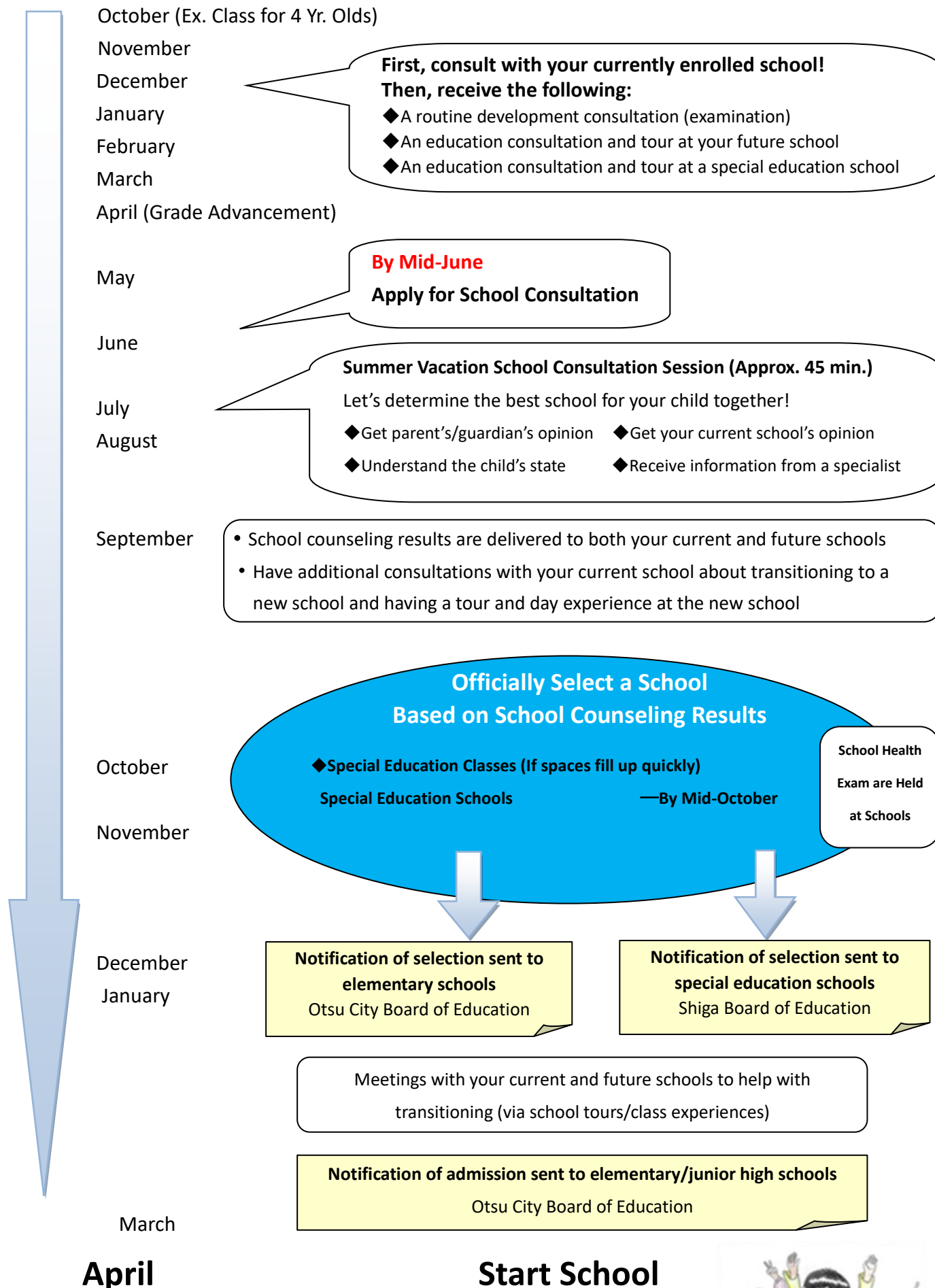
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Interaction and mutual learning between students of both class types is encouraged when appropriate.



● **School Counseling Timetable (Counseling begins in the fall of the previous academic year.)**



# For Those Applying for a First Time School Consultation

There is not a lot of time to plan if I start thinking about this in my child's last year of kindergarten, which could make things difficult.

I am thinking about moving, but was surprised to learn that the paperwork and deadlines are different for each city even in the same prefecture.

I have heard that you can have school consultations about your child's condition and growth even after they have entered a school.

I was skeptical that they could really understand my child after such a short consultation. Yet, not everything was decided that day and I was able to gather a lot of information from various specialists and discuss my child with them.

I was very worried because every school has its strong and weak points, and you don't know what your child will like best until they try it. Yet, I was able to think carefully about our options for this reason.

It's important to gather information! I learned a lot by going to the school and watching, listening, and experiencing how things work.

It's definitely a good idea to inform your school beforehand if you plan to apply to a private or national school.

I was very stressed until mid-March because there wasn't an educational option that suited my child. I had heard that new educational options would not necessarily be made available, so I discussed with my school on what to do.

Even once consultation results come out, you have time to decide by the deadline what school you wish for your child to attend. As deadlines and decisions vary by school, you will have an easier time if you confirm them beforehand.

## School Consultations – Please let us know...

- 1) The reasons for which you have applied for the consultation
- 2) Any concerns you may have
- 3) Expectations for the school or your child

- \* Please do not hesitate to address any other issues.
- \* Sessions last approximately 45 minutes.
- \* Sessions will be held with four people: the involved child, a parent/guardian, a teacher from your school, and an interviewer.



It is best to consult with a teacher at your school as soon as possible about what type and how much support your child needs.

Please contact us with any inquiries!

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