


A Worry-Free Start to School




Acknowledge and support your children's growth and education so that they can believe in their goodness and potential.




Attentively listen to your children

Attentively listen to your children. Children are at ease when they are able to get their feelings across. This will also lead to your children listening more to others, and realizing the value in mutual understanding.



Respect your children's enthusiasm

Respect your children's enthusiasm for wanting to try things. Support your children so that they can complete things on their own, and praise them when they are successful. Your children will start to believe in themselves and develop a sense of self-worth.



Watch over your children

When your children fail or things do not go as planned, they will think of new or different approaches. When this occurs, silently watch over them. Children grow by having opportunities to try new things and think for themselves.



Elementary 1st graders

The First Day of School

Measures are currently being taken at schools to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infection, such as avoiding closed spaces, crowded places, and close contact, with the aim of creating a safe environment compatible with learning. We are devising educational activities under these conditions so that children can enjoy school, be happy to be with friends, and have a comfortable place where they belong. We want to start their elementary school life while increasing their expectations and ambitions.

The Starting Curriculum utilizes what children learned as infants

Arrival at School - 1st Period

Activities modified to ensure that school life starts off on an anxiety-free foot (Friendly Time)



Arriving at School
We can act safe when coming to school. Even the principle and teachers watch us arrive.



Morning
We became friends by making origami and putting them together.



Morning Meeting - 1st Period
We get to move around in the gym playing the gesture game and rhythmic shiritori.

1st Period - 4th Period

Integral learning centered on life studies (Excitement Time)



Schools have many different classrooms and teachers. We also met many different creatures. Exploring the school is very exciting.



We went to harvest the corn we grew.

Learning centered on the curriculum, etc. (Steady Progress Time)



Teachers kindly teach us how to read, write, and do math.

* Friendly Time, Excitement Time, and Steady Progress Time have different names depending on the school.



Recess

- Curriculum Studied by 1st-Graders**
- Japanese, arithmetic, life studies
 - Music, craftwork
 - Physical education, special activities
 - Morality
 - Foreign language activities (YICA)

Lunch, Cleaning, 5th Period, Going Home



Lunchtime
We served rice and sides at home and at nursery school, so you can leave it to us.

At the start, some schools have students arrive and leave in groups. Until students get used to elementary school, teachers, PTA members, and community volunteers will watch students to ensure they act safely when going home.

After School



Allows children of different grades to intermingle. (Scene of the after-school Kids' Club)

Spending Time After School (Yokoyama City's After-School Childcare Programs)

- All public elementary schools in Yokohama City have an After-School Kids Club (Kids). Kids has two classifications for use: classification 1, where it is used as a play space for all children, and classification 2, where it is used as a play space and also as a childcare place for children whose parents or guardians are away from home due to work, etc. You can choose one of these classifications for children to spend time safely after school.
- Certain districts operate After-School Childcare Clubs (childcare for school children) so that children whose parents are not at home during the day owing to work or other reasons can spend their time after school in a safe and home-like environment.

The Citizens Yokohama Aims to Develop Through Their Education System

People Who Learn Independently, Make a Connection with Society, and, Together, Create the Future

The skills that Yokohama wants children to learn are taught through well-balanced educational elements that establish mutual relationships between the five viewpoints of Knowledge (the knowledge to live and work), Virtue (richness of spirit), Physical Skills (healthy bodies), Social Skills (spirit of civility and participation in society) and Openness (will to pioneer the future).



A **Starting Curriculum** is being implemented in municipal schools to ensure a smooth transition between infant education and elementary school education.

This is aimed out bringing out the skills that children have learned as infants so that they can enter their school life without anxiety and concentrate on learning independently.

Respect your children's independence and godness.



Through play, children in early childhood acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for life and cultivate the buds of thinking ability while the importance of rules and a compassionate mind are nurtured.

Learn to notice and understand things

Learn to work hard to achieve one's targets

Think, try, devise

* Using the skills children have learned as infants is closely connected to learning in elementary school.

Greetings

Greeting people politely is the first important step in cementing relationships with family and acquaintances. If adults greet the people around them, children will learn to do this naturally.



Lifestyle Customs

Early to bed, early to rise and eating breakfast is the source of children's vitality. Make sure your children have a balanced lifestyle and healthy bodies.



The trust and peace of mind learned in the home provides the foundation of the power to live throughout one's life



Child development is supported together by home life, nurseries, schools and the community.

Learning from lessons, etc.

Seamless transition

Comprehensive learning from play

Education from elementary school onward

Early childhood education (nursery school, kindergarten, certified nursery)

Infant care

Home

Frequently Asked Questions about Starting School

Q Who can I talk to about my concerns?

If you are worried about your child not being able to relax and keep up with the school work, experiencing problems with his/her friends or any other problems related to starting school, first of all consult with the nursery school, the kindergarten or certified nursery, etc. They will get together with the parents/guardians to think of a solution, or put you in contact with an elementary school that can introduce an applicable institution, etc., if necessary.

Also, if you want any issues pertaining to your child entering school to be taken into consideration, then consult with the elementary school that he/she is scheduled to enter. Elementary schools have child support councilors with whom you may consult.

Q Are children required to read and write before entering school?

Elementary schools teach children the correct way of writing, how to hold the pen and the correct posture when writing as the children learn new words, so there is no need to worry. However, it is a good idea to ensure that your child is able to read and write his/her own name so that they are able to blend into the new environment without anxiety. Children learn how much fun reading and writing and communicating is in school. The final part of nursery schools, kindergartens and certified nurseries through to the first year of elementary school is the period during which children show a heightened interest in words and numbers, so you are urged to read to them and listen to what they did at nursery school, kindergarten or certified nursery at home. It is important to encourage children's aspirations to read and write when they see written words and numbers in their daily lifestyles.

Q My child is a picky eater, a slow eater, has allergies, etc. Can I talk to the school about this and school lunch?

Elementary schools are taking various measures to enable children to eat and enjoy school meals. Differences between the amount of time required and the amount that can be eaten are common at the start of the first grade, so consideration is given to volume and the amount of time for serving, eating and clearing up after meals is extended in comparison to other grades until they get used to it. Discuss your anxieties over food allergies (elimination diets, etc.) before the child enters school during health checkups or school entry briefings, etc. You are advised to interact with your children during meals at home so that they get used to all types of food and learn how to enjoy meals.



(Sample Menu)
White rice, pork miso soup,
simmered fish,
Japanese pickles, milk

Q Are there any after-school clubs or support like childcare for my child after school?

The After-School Kids Club (Kids), which uses the school facilities, and the After-School Childcare Club (childcare for school children), which is run primarily by guardians and local community members, provide a way for children to spend time with friends of different ages while playing indoor and outdoor games. These clubs can also be used as a place for children whose parents/guardians are not at home during the day to do their homework, read, eat snacks, etc.

Contact the clubs for information on how to apply. For their contact information, contact the Children and Families Support Division at your district office or check the website for Yokohama or your district.

Notice

Briefing Before the Start of School. (around February)

Explanations will be provided on the preparations for school life, commuting to and from school through to entering school, and for paying for school meals and school fees.

You will be informed of the date and time, etc., by the school during the school entrance health checkup.

Please keep the School Attendance Notification sent to you by your ward office and bring it to the school for submission on the day of the entrance ceremony.