

# **Saga Guidebook**

## **~At School~**



## Table of Contents

How to use this guidebook ··Welcome to Saga.....	2
1. Schools in Japan .....	3
2. Elementary School Calendar (in Saga City) .....	4
3. School Life.....	8
(1) Daily Time Schedule.....	8
(2) School Rules .....	10
(3) Subjects (class schedule) .....	11
(4) Belongings.....	12
(5) How much money should be paid?.....	15
4. After School & Day Off .....	16
(1) When going out .....	16
(2) Rules for riding a bike .....	16
(3) After-School Support.....	18
(4) Others.....	19
Appendix .....	20

# How to use this guidebook …Welcome to Saga !

—Saga City gives the full support and various services to you and your children in leading a safe and happy life.



- ☆ *Saga Guidebook: At School* gives important information to foreign parents or guardians who have children going to elementary school in Saga City.
- ☆ The guidebook shows the educational system, student life, and events of schools in Japan, which are quite different from those in your home country.
- ☆ The schedule, school life, and events shown in this guidebook are common at many elementary schools in Saga City, but they are different from those in other cities. They may be different from school to school even in Saga City. You should contact your school for specific and detailed information about the school your children go to.
- ☆ The children who do not understand Japanese can take special Japanese classes at school. Ask your teacher for detailed information.
- ☆ A Japanese version of this guidebook is available. You can download it at the following homepages:
  - Saga Municipal Board of Education  
<https://www.city.saga.lg.jp/>
  - Saga Prefecture International Relations Association  
<https://www.spira.or.jp/work/guide-a-living/>
  - Saga City International Relations Association  
<https://www.city.saga.lg.jp/>
  - “CASTANETs,” an organization for Japanese learning support in Saga  
<http://1st.geocities.jp/castanetsnihongo/>

# 1. Schools in Japan

School starts in April and ends in March in Japan.

Elementary and junior high school education is “compulsory.” All Japanese children go to school. Children who have a foreign nationality can enter public elementary, junior and senior high schools without taking entrance examinations. No tuition is needed in public schools.

Entrance examinations are needed to enter or admit to national, prefectural, or private schools.

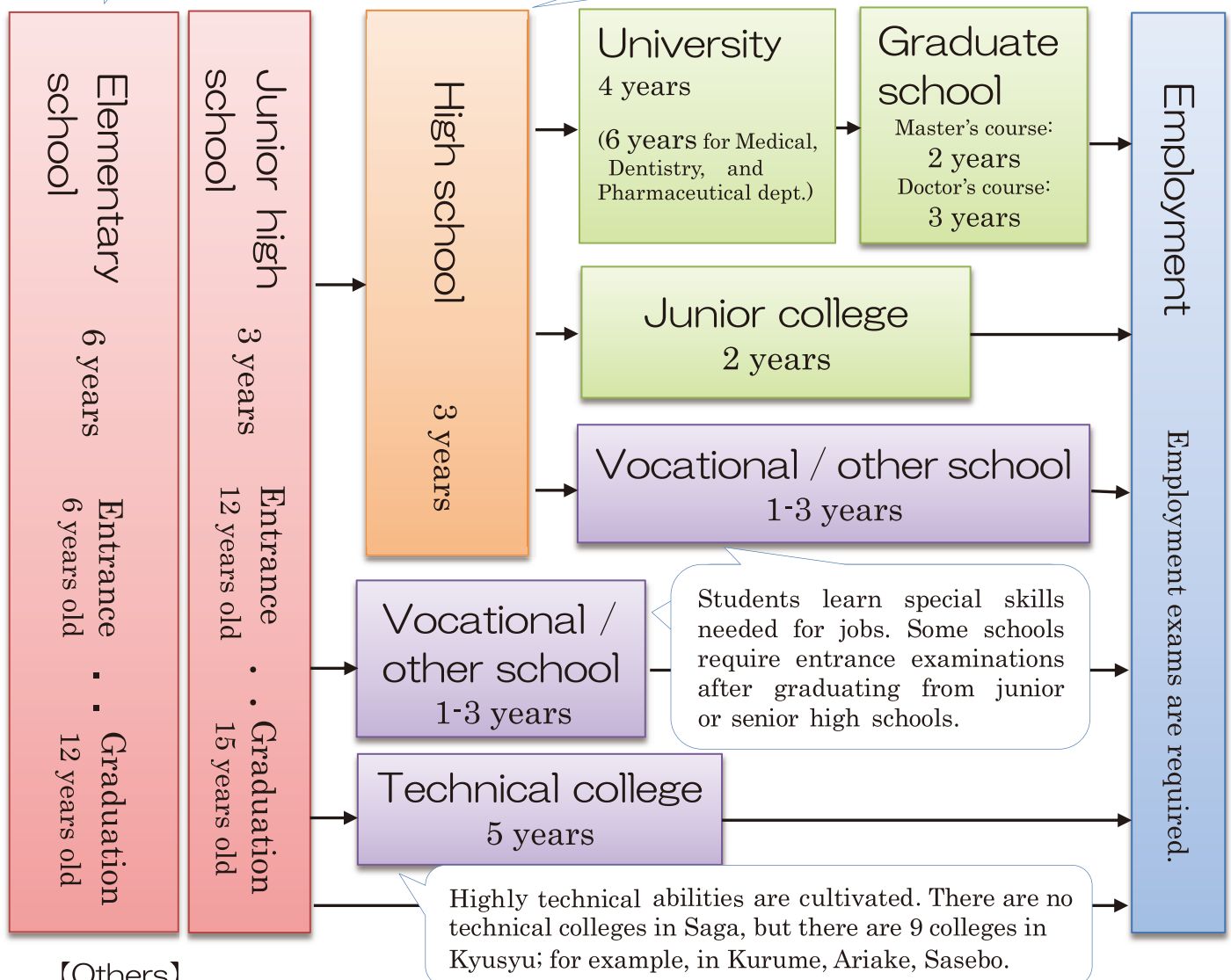
To go up to high school, entrance examinations are required after graduating from junior high schools.

## High school

There are prefectural and private high schools. High school has special courses, such as general, technical, commercial, agricultural, nursing, and integrated. Entrance examinations for each course must be taken.

## University/ Graduate school

There are national, public, and private universities. Students can study highly academic knowledge.






## 【Others】

- ※Children with disabilities can take special education according to their level of disability at special support schools, or in special support classes in some elementary and junior high schools.
- ※There are three types of high school: ordinary full-time (classes in the daytime), part-time (classes in the evening, for 3-4 years), and correspondence school (study at your house giving reports and go to school on predefined days, for 4 years).

## 2. Elementary School Calendar (in Saga City)

☆ Specific dates differ from school to school.

Major events are highlighted in **bold**.

School Term	Events for children	Events requiring parents' attendance	Events for parents
<b>First Trimester</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Trimester Opening Ceremony [April 6]</li> <li>• Welcome Ceremony for 1<sup>st</sup> graders</li> <li>• <b>Spring Excursion</b></li> <li>• Pool Opening</li> <li>• IQ Test</li> <li>• Achievement Test for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders</li> <li>• Physical Check-Up</li> <li>• Vision Test</li> <li>• Hearing Test</li> <li>• Urine Test</li> <li>• Internal Medical Check-Up</li> <li>• Ears and Nose, Eyes, and Dentistry Test</li> <li>• First Trimester Closing Ceremony [July 20]</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Entrance Ceremony</b> [1<sup>st</sup> graders' parents only]</li> <li>• <b>Sports Day</b> [held in the second trimester in some schools]</li> <li>• Class Visiting Day</li> <li>• Open School Day [School is open to the public]</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Class Meeting</li> <li>• Parent-Teacher Association(PTA) Conference</li> <li>• Safety Drills</li> <li>• Home Visit</li> </ul> <div data-bbox="1193 772 1508 1019"> <p>Children-Parents Training for going back home safely in case of earthquake or typhoon.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1257 1115 1476 1288">  </div> <div data-bbox="1204 1310 1492 1541"> <p>The teacher visits children's home to talk with you about your children.</p> </div>
<b>Summer Vacation</b> [July 21– August 31]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summer School</li> <li>• Junior-High School Tour for 6<sup>th</sup> graders</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual meeting with the teacher</li> </ul>