



Overseas Invitee Schools and Japanese Host Schools announced for the Hakuho Scheme for a Global Children's Japanese Network's 2008 Japan Experience Program for Overseas Children

The Hakuho Foundation (Michitaka Kondo, chairman) is pleased to announce the overseas invitee schools and Japanese host schools for the 2008 Japan Experience Program for Overseas Children, the second part of the Foundation's Scheme for a Global Children's Japanese Language Network.

- After a rigorous review process, the Foundation has selected seven schools from six nations, from the 17 schools that participated in the Training Program in Japan for Overseas Teachers. (See attachment 1)
- Two host schools in Japan have been selected from the candidates that replied to a public invitation. (See attachment 1)
- This part of the overall scheme will be staged between May 11 and 19, 2008 with support from the Japan Foundation and the Association for Japanese-Language Teaching.

- **Schedule**
 - May 11–19, 2008

- **Overview of cultural and social experiences in Japan**
 - Various experience-based programs to learn about traditional Japanese culture and lifestyles.
 - Program to visit junior high schools and create ties with Japanese students.
 - Jamboree (campfire)
 - Home-stays, etc.

Overview of the 2008 Japan Experience Program for Overseas Children

- The Scheme for a Global Children's Japanese Language Network, which began in March 2007, comprises three major programs. The Japan Experience Program for Overseas Children is the second program, following after the Training Program in Japan for Overseas Teachers, which was implemented in July 2007.
- The current program invites students learning the Japanese language at overseas junior high schools to Japan to improve their understanding of the Japanese language and promote reciprocal cultural exchange and understanding through programs promoting interaction in Japanese with Japanese students.
- The links between schools in Japan and abroad that will result from this program, will lead to the third program of the scheme, the Overseas Experience Program for Japanese Children, in which Japanese children will visit overseas schools and interact with students there in Japanese. (See attachment 2)

Please direct all inquiries to the following:

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**Attachment 1:
List of participating schools in the 2008
Japan Experience Program for Overseas Children**

<Invitee Schools>

School	Country	Accompanying teacher
BLUEBELLS SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL	INDIA (New Delhi)	Jaspreet Ahuja
Sant Yoseph Junior High School	INDONESIA (Denpasar)	Silvia Damayanti
NAWAMINTHRACHINUTHIT TRIAMUDOMSUKSANOMKLAO SCHOOL	THAILAND (Bangkok)	Winai Loicharern
SEKOLAH MENENGAH SAINS TUANKU SYED PUTRA	MALAYSIA (Kangar)	Ooi Guan Lee
Pingtung Country Private Meiho Senior High School	TAIWAN (Pingtung Country)	Chang Shu-Yi
Le Qui Don Secondary School	VIETNAM (Ho Chi Minh)	Nguyen Minh Tam
Vo Truong Toan Secondary School		Nguyen Hoang Phuong Nhi

<Hosting Schools>

School	Date of school visit
Keimei Gakuen Junior High School	2008/5/14
Onarimon Junior High School	2008/5/15

Attachment 2: About the Hakuho Scheme for a Global Children's Japanese Language Network

The Hakuho Foundation was established in 1970 under the approval of the then Ministry of Education to help in the sound development of children. Since then, the Foundation has implemented such projects as the Hakuho Award, which honors organizations and individuals for outstanding achievements in elementary and middle school education, and expanded and developed its work to provide multifaceted support in keeping with the changing times.

In this increasingly globalized age, the Foundation launched the Hakuho Scheme for a Global Children's Japanese Language Network in March 2007 to contribute to the growth of elementary and junior high school students in Japan as sound world citizens by enabling participants to better understand and rediscover the language and culture of Japan while experiencing elements of foreign cultures. At the same time, the Scheme aims to provide opportunities for overseas children studying Japanese to experience Japan.

- **Program objectives**

- To contribute to the growth of elementary and junior high school students both in and outside Japan as sound world citizens by conducting international exchanges in the Japanese language, thereby enabling participants to better understand and rediscover the language and culture of Japan.
- To vitalize Japanese language classes and improve class environments in school education programs overseas in order to promote understanding of and interest in Japanese language and culture.
- To create a global network for Japanese education by continuing and expanding this project over the mid-term.

- **Scheme framework**

The Scheme comprises three programs designed to promote exchanges between Japanese elementary and junior high school students and their counterparts learning the Japanese language overseas. The scheme also calls for revitalization of Japanese language classes and improvement of class environments in school education programs overseas. The scheme is structured as a cycle, with the three programs following one after the other.

(A) Training Program in Japan for Overseas Teachers

Japanese language instructors (excluding Japanese nationals) from overseas primary and secondary educational institutions (equivalent to elementary and junior high schools in Japan) are invited to Japan, and support for the improvement of class environments provided through workshops and other activities.

(B) Japan Experience Program for Overseas Children

Students learning the Japanese language at overseas primary and secondary educational institutions (equivalent to elementary and junior high schools in Japan) are invited to Japan for cultural and social experiences, including those related to Japan's leading-edge technology and traditional performing arts, and exchange activities such as school visits, so as to improve their understanding of and increase their interest in the language and culture of Japan.

(C) Overseas Experience Program for Japanese Children

Support is provided for overseas visits by Japanese elementary and junior high school students to promote their rediscovery of the Japanese language and culture through exchanges with overseas children of the same generation through the Japanese language, and to foster a sense of awareness of themselves as world citizens.

The scheme is comprised of the three programs explained above, but will not culminate with the three. We also intend to create a website offering advice and information on various issues, and work toward the creation of a global Japanese language network.

Scheme Framework

