

★ Overview of Shimizu Town Kindergarten and Nursery School Reorganization Plan ★

① Current Situation of Childcare Facilities:

Due to declining birthrate in Japan, it is predicted that there will be an excessive number of childcare facilities in town. In order to resolve the issues and matters such as aging of childcare buildings, town's financial condition, relationship with private childcare facilities, large number of children on waiting lists and shortage of teachers, we will reorganize municipal kindergarten and nursery school.

② Population of Children aged 0-5 years old:

Shimizu Town	2018	2022	Decrease in %
Children's Population	1,606	1,315	18%
Number of Children Entered in Kindergarten	385	298	23%

③ Projection of Children Population in 2050:

Shimizu Town	2023	2050	Decrease in %
Children's Population	1,313	820	38%

④ Maximum Capacity of facilities compare to its demand:

Kindergarten

Year	2018	2022	The demand for kindergarten is only 39% out of 100% of its capacity.
Demand for kindergarten in %	52%	39%	

Nursery School

Type of Facilities and its demand in %	2018	2022	The demand for private nursery schools is more than its capacity while the demand for public nursery schools is decreasing.
Public Nursery School	99%	72%	
Private Nursery School	99%	104%	

⑤ Age of Buildings: Shimizu Nursery School = 38 yrs., *Kita* (North) Kindergarten = 29 yrs., *Nishi* (West) Kindergarten = 27 yrs.

⑥ Basic solutions towards current problems that Shimizu town is facing:

Problem	Solution
1. Decreasing number of children 2. Changes of Parents/Guardians needs from Kindergarten to Nursery school. 3. Large number of children on waiting lists 4. Shortage of Childcare workers 5. Improvement of education, childcare service and child development support 6. Aging of municipal childcare buildings.	1. Promote appropriate kindergarten and nursery school. 2. Appeal to private entity. 3. Distribute childcare workers in appropriate facilities.

⑦ 2024-2031 (8 years) Timeline: *Please see the table at the back.*

⑧ Enroll/Transfer Kindergarten

* Starting with children who are going to enroll in 2025, restrictions on kindergarten will gradually eliminated. Guardians can choose kindergarten freely and can commute by car.

* *Nishi* (West) Kindergarten → Children who are going to enroll in 2026 have only 2 years in *Nishi* kindergarten and MUST transfer to other kindergarten in 2028.

Facility	SY 2024	SY 2025	SY 2026	SY 2027	SY 2028	SY 2029	SY 2030	SY 2031
<i>Kita</i> (North) Kindergarten	<p>Inform Guardians</p> <p>Children that will enroll in 2025 have ONLY 2 years left.</p>	STOP ACCEPTING CHILDREN	<p>Closure at the end of school year</p> <p>Recruit private entity (kindergarten/nursery)</p>	<p>Kinder 3 students transfer to other facilities (kindergarten/nursery)</p> <p>Demolish Building</p>	<p>Construction of facilities under private entity.</p>	Opening of Private Kindergarten/Nursery		
Shimizu Nursery	<p>Inform Guardians</p> <p>Explain the current status during application.</p>	Inform & Explain the current status during application※			<p>Closure at the end of school year</p>	Transfer		Opening of Private Kindergarten/Nursery
					<p>Recruit private entity (kindergarten/nursery)</p>	Demolish Building	<p>Construction of facilities under private entity.</p>	
<i>Nishi</i> (West) Kindergarten		<p>Inform Guardians</p> <p>Children that will enroll in 2026 have ONLY 2 years left.</p>	STOP ACCEPTING CHILDREN	<p>Closure at the end of school year</p> <p>Recruit private entity (kindergarten/nursery)</p>	<p>Kinder 3 transfer to other kindergarten</p> <p>Reconstruction of facilities under private entity.</p>	Opening of Child Development Support Center		