

# LOCATION



# HOTOKU GAKUEN



## Junior & Senior High School



5-28-19, Kamioichi, Nishinomiya, Hyogo, 663-8003, JAPAN  
 Phone : +81-798-51-3021 Fax : +81-798-53-6332  
 URL : <http://www.hotoku.ac.jp>

父母格元在天地合命  
 身體格元在父母生育  
 子孫相續在夫婦丹精  
 父母富貴在祖先勤功  
 吾身富貴在父母積善  
 子孫富貴在自已努力  
 身命長壽在衣  
 衣食佳三在田富山林  
 田富山林在人民勤耕  
 今年衣食在昨年產業  
 今年衣食在今年艱難  
 年：歲：不可忘報德  
 孝親志

**ENGLISH GUIDE**



# 報徳

Ninomiya Sontoku's handwriting

## SCHOOL MOTTOES

校風三則  
 一以徳報徳の道風  
 一至誠勤勞の良風  
 一分度推諉の美風

## EDUCATIONAL PRINCIPLES

Hotoku Gakuen's educational ideals are extensively propounded in the teachings of Ninomiya Sontoku (1787-1856), a financial reformer and stoic humanitarian during the late Edo Period. His teachings are usually summed up as Hotokuism among his followers, who place a high value on its cause and utility. The spirit of Hotokuism was thus referred to by Ichimatsu Ohe (1871-1943), who founded Hotoku business school in 1911, as being greatly useful in forming an educational policy for his new school, a decision to which the present-day Hotoku Gakuen owes a great deal of its honored history. Hotoku Gakuen's three school mottoes, originally written in Japanese, may be interpreted as follows:

1. We seek to return virtue for virtue.
2. We deem sincerity a great asset to our lifelong work.
3. We spend no more than we need to, but instead save it for others.



Ichimatsu Ohe (1871-1943)  
Founder



Tohru Ohe  
Chancellor



Toshitami Kaihara  
President



Tomoyuki Murakami  
Principal



### 1911

Ichimatsu Ohe, inspired by Ninomiya Sontoku's philosophy, established Hotoku Business School in Mikage, Kobe.

### 1924

Renamed Hotoku Commercial School.

### 1932

Transferred to Aotani, Kobe.

### 1944

Renamed Hotoku Technical School under the direction of the Minister of Education.

### 1947

Transferred to Nishinomiya.  
(During the war, the school had suffered war damage: all the school buildings had been burnt down. New school buildings were built on the present site.)

### 1952

Renamed Hotoku Gakuen Junior and Senior High School.

### 1988

Exchange agreement established with Christ Church Grammar School, Western Australia.

### 1990

The Senior high School started the English language study program.

### 1999

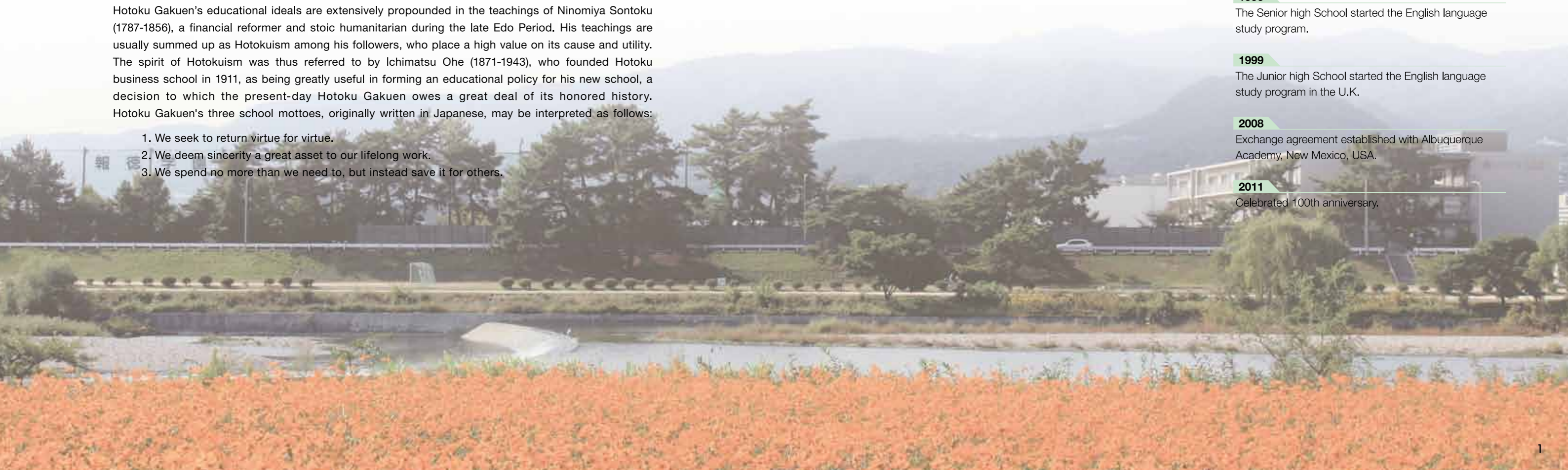
The Junior high School started the English language study program in the U.K.

### 2008

Exchange agreement established with Albuquerque Academy, New Mexico, USA.

### 2011

Celebrated 100th anniversary.





## NINOMIYA SONTOKU

Ninomiya Sontoku(1787-1856) made up, through his experience, the principle of man's deed or social morality, that is, how to act and how to live as a social being. He practiced it himself and handed this model of behavior down to the following generations. To practice this principle according to the model is called "Shiho (the method)". Sontoku named this principle "Hotoku (returning virtue for virtue)".

The characteristic of this principle lies in that moral practice and economic practice must go together, in other words, man's deeds, however moral they may be, and that this economic activity must not be done without a moral sense.

In his teaching verses, he says "Economy without morality cannot last for ever. Morality without economy struggles in vain."

He meant that we should not only pursue our

personal happiness and interests, but have an attitude of thankfulness to the society which includes our parents, husband or wife, and brothers and sisters, because in the widest sense, we owe what we are now to the nature around us. So we must, he says, return such favors as we have received to everyone and everything around us. To do for others may give back something to oneself. Moral activity cannot be one-way. He tells us that morality and economy are two wheels of a cart.



## HOTOKU-KUN (The Teaching of Ninomiya Sontoku)

*The origin of the human being is the Spiritual order of the Universe.*

*The origin of thy physical body is due to upbringing by thy father and mother.*

*Thanks to exertions by husband and wife, children grow up to succeed to the family.*

*Riches and honours thy father and mother are blessed with owe their forebears.*

*Riches and honours thou art blessed with are the fruit of good deeds done over and over again for years by thy father and mother.*

*Thy children may enjoy riches and honours provided thou art industrious in the pursuit of thy occupation.*

*Long life springs from proper clothing, feeding and housing.*

*Clothes, food and houses are obtainable from farm land, woods and mountains.*

*Farm land, woods and mountains are made serviceable by tireless tillage and development by men.*

*Clothes and food one uses during the present year are the fruit of productive industry carried on during the preceding year.*

*Clothes and food one will use next year will be produced by hard work done during the present year.*

*Year in and year out one must not forget to return virtue for virtue.*

The above passages are quoted from *A GUIDE TO "HOUTOKU", Sontoku Ninomiya's Philosophy*, published by Dai-Nippon Houtoku-sha.

Ninomiya Sontoku, known as a typical pragmatic philosopher and also as a man of filial piety, supported his family since his early boyhood. After he lost his parents at the age of sixteen, he was forced to lead a severe life taking care of his two younger brothers. He made every effort to work and study industriously, and consequently succeeded in rebuilding his family

when he was 24 years old. Later he became one of the most competent leaders in Japan, who helped rebuild more than six hundred impoverished villages. This statue that represents his younger days reading a book while carrying firewood on his back, has been regarded as a symbol of diligence.



## SCHOOL LIFE

School starts at 8:30 am and ends at 4:20 pm on weekdays. There are four classes in the morning and two or three in the afternoon. Each period is 50 minutes long, and each class consists of 40 students or so. Except for some elective subjects, students stay in their homeroom classes and wait for their teachers to come unlike in many schools in Western countries. Various kinds of subjects are offered such as English, Japanese, mathematics, science, social studies, art, music, P.E., domestic science, information technology, and so forth. In addition to these subjects many special activities are prepared, so that the students enjoy their school life as much as possible.





## CLUB ACTIVITIES



### SPORTS

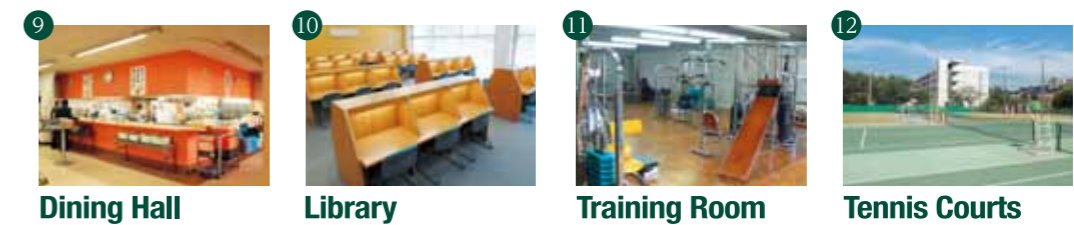
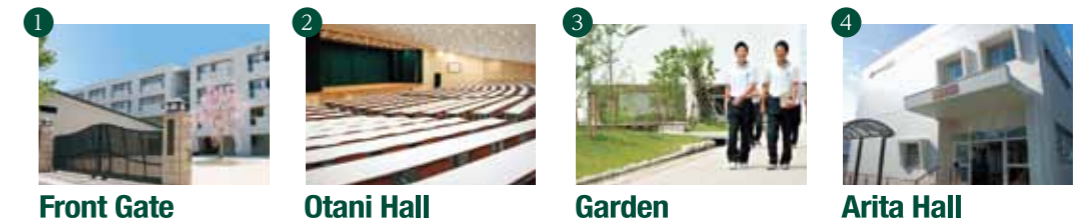
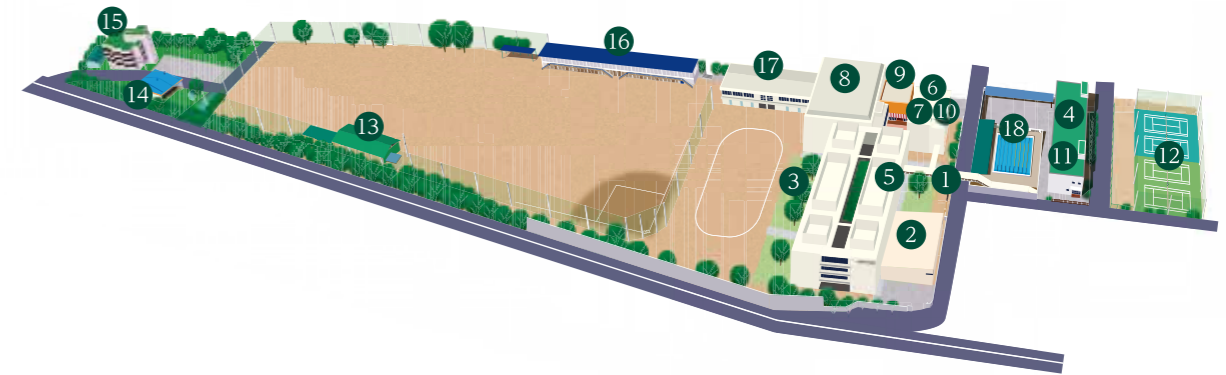
Sumo Wrestling, Judo, Kendo, Kyudo, Shorinji Kempo, Track and Field, Gymnastics, Swimming, Baseball, Rugby, Tennis, Football, Basketball, Volleyball, Table Tennis, Handball, Skiing, Hiking, Golfing

### CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Chado (Sado, Japanese styled tea ceremony), Shodo (calligraphy), Igo and Shogi (traditional Japanese games like chess), Brass Band, Broadcasting, Art, Photography, Gardening, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science



## SCHOOL MAP & FACILITIES



- Other Facilities**
- 16 Bicycle Parking Area
  - 17 Judo and Kendo Dojo
  - 18 Swimming Pool