

Shiseigakusha Tachikawa Social Welfare Foundation  
Headquarters of Nursery Care Program

# Seiiku Shisei Nursery School

SEIKU SHISEI HOIKUEN  
Day Nursery for Kindergarten



2-10-18 Ohkura, Setagaya Ward, Tokyo 157-0074  
Tel: 03-5727-2252 Fax: 03-3416-1501  
Shiseigakusha Tachikawa Social Welfare Foundation  
Nursery Director: Midori Urai

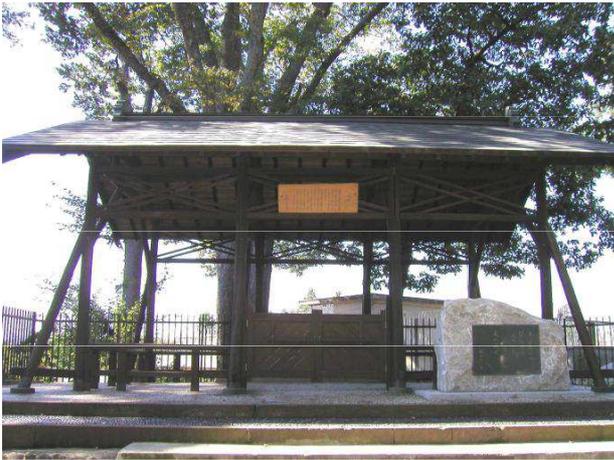
# History of the Nursery

Shiseigakusha Social Welfare Foundation, which is the parent organization of the Nursery, was founded as an organization for protection of juveniles following the establishment of the Juvenile Law in 1925, by Kyuichiro Inenaga, who in 1912 along with his confectionary business took under his care several unfortunate juveniles, guided by the principle of “True Heart.”



**Founder of Shiseigakusha  
Kyuichiro Inenaga  
(1882–1946)**

In 1942 through personal donations the organization was transformed into a foundation. After the War, following the revision of legislation, the organization was once again changed into a social welfare foundation and its activities shifted in the welfare area, accordingly. Since then the Foundation has been engaged in managing nursery centers, homes for dependent children, homes for the elderly and other facilities in Tachikawa, Hino, Setagaya and Nishi Tokyo City, each of them contributing to the improvement of welfare services in the respective areas.



**Goho –rensha and monument of  
“Makoto-no-kokoro”**

Shisei Nursery school, established by Yoshi Inenaga, second board chairperson of the Foundation, was certified by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government on December 1, 1949. Our Nursery was established on April 1, 2009 as the 8th school. We have a facility with capacity of more than 100 children, it offers services that respond to the needs of the age, such as nursery care for infants from 57 days since birth and the end of the maternity leave, extended nursery care (24 hours), nursery care for disabled children, emergency temporary nursing care, nursery care for diseased children and child rearing support programs. After the Foundation split up in

FY1998, the Shiseigakusha Tachikawa Social Welfare Foundation was established and together with 8 nurseries formed a Headquarters of Nursery Care Program, which aims at “creating facilities that are rooted in the local communities,” and mobilizes the efforts of all its staffs for turning its nurseries into even better places for personality formation for the children of the 21st Century.

- June 1912 Kyuichiro Inenaga starts a program for protection of juveniles
- December 1949 Establishment of Shisei Nursery school
- April 2009 Establishment of Seiku Shisei Nursery school

## Number of Children and Structure of Staff

### Number of Children

The Nursery has a capacity of 100 children in total separated in different age groups. (In reality, however, errors are possible depending on the different number of request in each year, so the table above provides just rough estimates)

	Infants	1-year old children	2-year old children	3-year old children	4-year old children	5-year old children	Total
Capacity	9	15	19	19	19	19	100
(flexible	11	17	20	20	20	20	108)

### Structure of Staff

Nursery Director	1	Temporary staff	23
Nursery teachers	22	Temporary pediatrician	1
Medical nurse	1	Temporary dentist	1
Nutritionist	1	Gym instructor	1
Cooks	2	Eurhythmics instructor	1
Janitor	1	Temporary accountant and clerk	2
Total number of regular staff	28	Total number of part-time staff	29

# Nursery Care Services

## Creation of a day nursery responding to the needs of the age

- Nursery care after the we accept infants from 57 days after their birth. maternity leave end
- 11-hour nursery care                      we offer 11-hour nursery care services from 7:15 to 18:15.
- Extended nursery care                      we offer extended nursery care services between 18:15 and 22:15.
- Overnight nursery care                      22:15 ~ next 7:15. The working hours of nursery are 24.
- Nursery care for children with disabilities                      children with disabilities live together with unimpaired children.
- Temporary nursery care                      7:15 ~ 18:15    10children / 1 day
- Emergency temporary nursery care                      in case of emergency our system allows children to be accepted when necessary
- Programs for promoting acceptance throughout the year                      we always do our best to achieve flexibility in accepting children by allocating 10% of the capacity throughout the year for accepting children at the end of the parent’s maternity or child rearing leave. Thus, we also work towards solving the issue of waiting lists.
- Nursery care for children with disease                      8:00 ~ 18:00    10children / 1 day  
Doctor comes and checks them 2 times a day



## Creation of a day nursery that is open to the local community

- Child rearing support programs                      “You are not alone. We are all with you.”  
(11 program)



## Objectives of Nursery Care

### – To Rear Active and Healthy Children –

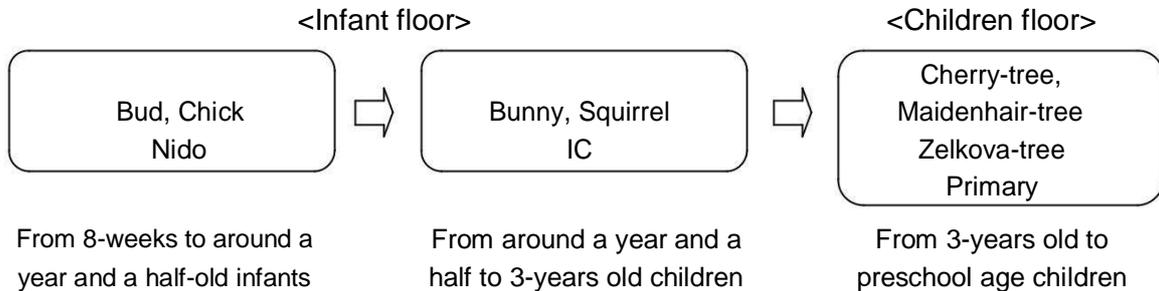
- 1) Bright, healthy, active, and independent children
- 2) Caring, cooperative and social children, who can live in harmony with other people
- 3) Children who are rich in creativity and are able to devote their time and effort to exploration

We all hope that our children will grow to be active and self-confident adults with high abilities of self-expression, who will lead full and happy lives. A happy childhood is one of the important fundamental prerequisites for that, and we will spare no efforts to support it. In daily nursery care we give independent and individual nursery care through various activities such as the ones that focus on the importance of each individual child and activities in which children can enjoy various close-to-everyday-life family situations in multiage classes.



# Nursery Care Groups

In the Nursery we have adopted the group structure presented below



## Nido (infants aged 0 mainly)

“Nido” is an Italian word, which means “nest.” It represents a very important period in the life of the chick, when it needs a lot of protective care and support under its mother’s wing. We have set various corners in order to preserve the daily individual rhythm of eating, sleeping, and physical activities. Here infants spend the important period until they are weaned and start walking.



Infants are divided into two groups by age

- Bud room (room for eight-week old to 6-to-7-month old infants, who can roll over or have started crawling)
- Chick room (room for up to year and a half old infants, who have mastered crawling and have started to pull themselves up and walk on their own)

## Infant Community (IC – mainly 1-to-2-year old children)

This is a group for children from around a year and a half to 3-years old, who can already walk and move around freely. For this group we adopt the multiage nursery care based on the Montessori Method. Children at this age are eager for imitative activity and the group aims to establish basic independent skills such as dressing and undressing, eating, and excreting on their own. The group is divided in two rooms – the Bunny room and the Squirrel room (each room for children from a year and a half to 3-years old).



## Primary (mainly 3-to-5 year old children)

As children grow up, communication with other children from different age groups becomes an increasingly important matter. Because we place priority on the opportunity for the children to learn about each other, we adopt the multiage nursery care for this group, which is based on the Montessori Method. Under this method children of different age groups are raised in the same environment, where younger children adoringly imitate and follow older children.

Furthermore, older children teach younger children and take care of them and thus acquire important qualities such as kindness, caring, and leadership. This cultivates sociability and cooperative spirit in children, which



is a very important achievement, especially nowadays, when few children have brothers and sisters.



Furthermore, as children enter a period when their intellectual desire grows, we have created an environment with various teaching materials that children can use freely. This group is divided in three rooms – the Cherry-tree room, the Maidenhair-tree room and the Zelkova-tree room (each room for children from 3-years old to preschool age).

### • **Transfer of groups**

In order to create the best environment for the children that will match appropriately their various stages of development, we have created a system under which, instead of limiting the period of advancement to upper grades all at once, children can transfer to other groups depending on their individual circumstances any time throughout the year. Children, who have experience as seniors, are filled with self-confidence and expectations, as they are transferred to their next room. Rooms are changed only twice in the 6-year course of the nursery care.

# Four Pillars of Nursery Care

## Individual activities Montessori Method aimed at establishment of individuality



Our educational system respects the individual pace of each child starting from the infants and places a high priority on their individuality. We always ask children “What do you want to do?” (giving priority to their will) and tell them “Let’s help you so that you can do it on your own.” (developing inner speech capacity and self esteem in children). Thus we attach great importance on the development of their individuality. In the nursery we consider this period of their growth as the most important in terms of personality formation and apply the method for a given time every day after they arrive at the Nursery.

## Group activities Cultivation of group consciousness and ability to acquire a given theme and development of sensitivity



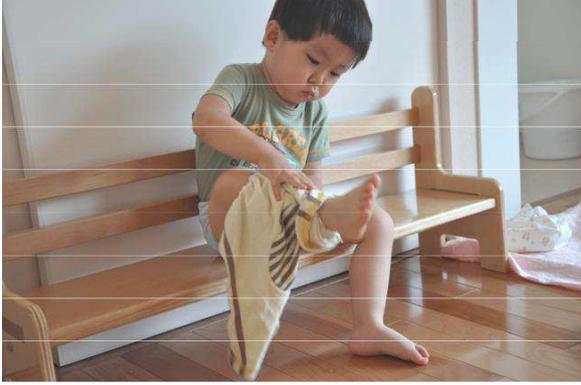
Three-to-five years is the age in particular when children start developing group consciousness. We provide them with opportunities to experience activities where children think for themselves what to do and how to act accordingly, to learn how to control themselves in a group, or to compete with one another and to help each other to achieve one goal.

## Outdoor activities Getting close to nature and rearing healthy children who love nature



Every day children enjoy playing and walking in the nursery garden. They taste various fruits grown in the rich natural environment, learn the delight of participating in the process of growing fruits, harvesting them, and then tasting them, and develop sense of gratitude toward nature. These activities contribute also to rearing strong and healthy children.

## Practical Life activities



## Rearing independent and cordial children

Children spend more time in the nursery than at home. It is important that they learn some life skills. It is also important to that they become aware that they are responsible for their own life. Furthermore, children should learn that through doing things by themselves they can be of help to other people. We think that all fundamental living skills should be acquired through everyday-life activities.

## One Day in the Nursery

<i>Nido</i>	IC	Time	Primary
Early-morning nursery care		7:15	Early-morning nursery care
Individual activities	Individual activities	8:30	Individual activities Group activities
Outdoor play		9:00	
Feeding with baby food	10:00		
Nap	10:30		
Afternoon snack (Feeding with baby food)	Outdoor play	11:15	Outdoor play
Play	Lunch	11:30	Lunch
Infants leave the Nursery	Nap	12:00	Lunch
~ 19:15	Afternoon snack	13:00	Nap
Extended nursery care	Play	13:30	Afternoon snack
	Infants leave the Nursery	15:00	Play
	~ 20:15	17:00	Infants leave the Nursery
	Over night nursery care	18:15	~ 22:15
		22:15	Extended nursery care
			~ next day 7:15

# Annual Events

---

## Spring

- \* Celebration of advancing to upper grades or entering the nursery; meeting of all guardians
- \* and first meeting of classes; welcome party  
Planting  
Spring medical check-up  
Outdoor spring lunch party  
Spring field trip; picnic lunch

## Autumn

- \* Training for evacuation in case of disaster  
Making dumplings  
Garden party
- \* Nido, IC party with parents  
Autumn medical check-up
- \* Sports festival  
Autumn field trip; picnic lunch  
Baked sweet potatoes party
- \* Individual counseling

## Early spring

- \* Farewell fieldtrip  
End of the year farewell meal
- \* Graduation ceremony

## Summer

- \* First child-rearing study meeting for mothers and fathers  
Gathering plums and making juice
- \* Parents' visiting day; class discussion and sampling party of school provided lunch  
Opening of the pool and pool activities

## Winter

- \* Second child-rearing study meeting for mothers and fathers  
Gathering tangerines  
Christmas meal  
New Year Party for children  
Bean-throwing ceremony
- \* Growth-celebrating ceremony

\*Events, in which guardians participate

In addition to the above, birthday parties, infant medical check-ups, physical measuring, evacuation trainings, etc., are held monthly.

# Food Provided at the Nursery

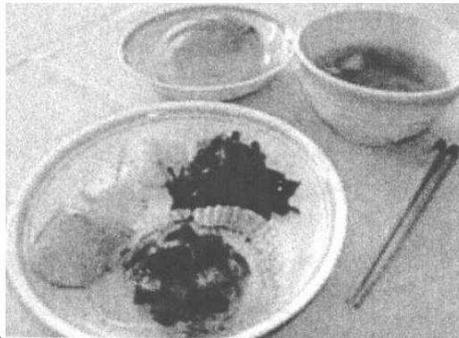
Objective – Let's enjoy the meals and have nice time

## Creation of everybody's favorite menu

- We offer to children seasonal foods and thus teach them how to develop a sense for the seasons.
- In our menu we actively include in our menu seafood, dry food, fish (small fish), and green and yellow vegetables, which tend to be lacking.
- We mainly offer a menu of Japanese food with light and simple taste.
- We actively include traditional events food.
- Food safety is always our first priority. (We carefully examine the ingredients we use, avoid processed food as much as possible, and serve mainly homemade food prepared in the Nursery.)
- In one meal we include various vegetables.
- Of course, afternoon snacks are also homemade and prepared in the Nursery.

### Everybody's favorite menu

October



#### Menu

- Milk bread
- Minestrone
- Scotch egg
- Spinach saute •
- Floury potatoes •
- Persimmons

# Information on Entering the Nursery

- **Requirements for entering the Nursery**

We accept children from the end of their mothers' maternity leave (from the month after the 57th day after their birth) to preschool-age children, who cannot receive nursery care at home due to various reasons, such as lack of guardians, working parents, or illness.

- **Application period and capacity**

(Entrance in April)

Applications are received every year from the beginning to the middle of January.

Our capacity is 15 or less for infants and a few children of each age group.

(Entrance in the middle of the year)

We accept children as far as there are vacancies

\* In both cases, capacity varies from year to year, so please refer to the City Hall for updated information.

- **Nursery care time**

The Nursery is opened 24 hours. Generally between 7:15 and 22:15. We conduct individual interviews to determine how long a child needs nursery care within the time frame of the operation depending on the child's circumstances of under which he/she lacks nursery care.

- **Fee**

Fees for nursery care are determined by the Ward Hall in a way that matches the circumstances in each individual family. Fees are calculated on monthly basis on the grounds that the child is enrolled on the first day of the month. Each City Hall distributes payment slips, so fees are paid directly to the City of the area where families reside.

- **Admission procedures**

1. Application procedures

(For Setagaya Ward residents)

Fill all necessary items in the designated application form then submit it in the Culture and Child Nursery Care Department of Setagaya Ward Hall with all required documents attached.

(For other areas residents)

Please, follow the procedures determined by the respective Ward Halls.

2. Acceptance

After a Ward Hall examining the circumstances of under which the child lacks nursery care, the child is accepted to the Nursery. Notification for acceptance is sent by mail at the beginning of February by the Ward Hall (at the end of the month in the case that application is sent in the middle of the year).

3. Admission interview

Following the decision of the Ward, we contact the family and conduct an interview based on the information obtained through our application form. If the medical check-up, conducted by our temporary medical doctor, and the interview show that the child will not be able to adapt to group nursery care, he/she is officially admitted in the Nursery.