

Osaka Prefectural Otemae Senior High School

A Public High School with Over 130 Years of Tradition and Achievement

●Location

2-1-11 Otemae, Chuo-ku, Osaka 540-0008, Japan

●Established

September 21, 1886

Opened as Osaka Prefectural Girls' School

●Principal

Junko Murata (29th Principal)



●History

Otemae Senior High School was established in 1886, becoming independent from the Girls' Department of the Osaka Prefectural Normal School, the predecessor of Osaka Prefectural Otemae Senior High School, and opened in Kita Ward of Osaka City (present-day Nakanoshima). At the time of its opening, it was the first public girls' school in Osaka Prefecture. Since then, the school has undergone several relocations and name changes, building a history of over 130 years and earning a strong reputation as one of Osaka's leading high schools.

During the first approximately six decades after its establishment as a girls' school, Otemae Senior High School achieved remarkable results in girls' education amid Japan's rapid modernization, sending many talented graduates into society. In the following seven decades, as society moved toward democratization, the school became a coeducational high school under the new education system. With strong support from the residents of Osaka Prefecture, it has continued to serve as a place of learning for motivated young people aspiring to become future leaders, while respecting its long-standing traditions and responding to the various challenges of educational reform.

In 2008, Otemae Senior High School was designated as a Super Science High School by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), and in 2010, it was designated as a Global Leader High School by the Osaka Prefectural Government.

●School Life

After World War II, Otemae Senior High School became a coeducational school, as did many other public schools at that time. The school offers two courses: full-time and part-time (evening). Currently, more than 1,000 students are enrolled. Below is a broad outline of the full-time course.

School starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 3:10 p.m. There are five lessons, and each lesson lasts 65 minutes. The study rooms are open for use on Saturdays as well.

Many events are held throughout the year, including the cultural festival, sports competitions, and school excursions. In particular, during the spring chorus competition, students often arrive early to practice singing enthusiastically before school starts.

Like many Japanese schools, Otemae Senior High School also offers a wide variety of club activities, such as baseball, soccer, judo, kendo (Japanese fencing), tennis, swimming, track and field, rugby, symphonic band, and tea ceremony. About 90% of students participate in club activities.

The school is proud that many students have a strong interest in mathematics and science. Some students pursue studies under the guidance of national university professors, while others have won competitions in mathematics or computer programming. Various science study programs are also held throughout the academic year.



Faculty and students at the time of the school's founding
(Photographed on May 6, 1889)