

2026

大通高校 Q & A



◆◆Here are answers to some frequently asked questions.◆◆

●Please note that we are unable to provide specific information on the selection criteria or points allocated for admission.

●If you have any questions about "Special needs classes," a representative from Odori High School will be happy to answer them.

<About the school system and learning>

Q 1 : What kind of school is a credit-based high school?

A 1 : Other than the subjects that must be studied before graduation (compulsory subjects), students can choose the courses they wish to take and make their own timetable following the rules for course enrollment. Students can choose to take many courses at once or only a few.

Q 2 : What are "credits"?

A2: Credits are earned through completing courses. Students must earn at least 74 credits over three to four years to graduate. A course with 35 hours of class time (one class a week for a semester) is worth one credit. Many courses have classes twice a week, earning two credits for a semester. However students who don't meet the minimum attendance cannot receive the credits for a course.

Q 3 : How many credits are there for compulsory subjects? Other than those, can I freely choose subjects?

A 3 : Students must complete at least 40 credits from the compulsory subjects. Students must also attend a set number of hours for Long Homeroom (LHR) and the Period for Inquiry-Based Cross-Disciplinary Study course. For other subjects, students are free to choose courses as long as they follow the rules for course enrollment.

Q 4 . How many years can I stay at Odori High School?

A 4 : Students can be enrolled for up to 6 years. Due to the credit system, there is no such thing as being held back or repeating a year for students. However, fourth year is the highest designation for students. Therefore students in their fifth or sixth year of studying at Odori High School are enrolled with and treated as fourth year students for homeroom and any other grade based segregated activities and events.

Q 5 : What is the "track" in the three-part system?

A 5 : Students are assigned to one of three tracks upon enrollment; the Morning Track, the Afternoon Track, and the Evening Track. Each track has its own homeroom and course schedule including LHR and the Period for Inquiry-Based Cross-Disciplinary Study course. While students primarily attend classes during their designated track, they may take some courses in other tracks.

Q6 : Is there anything I should pay attention to when deciding which track to apply for?

A6: We recommend that students apply for a track that fits their lifestyle and schedule. The track that students are enrolled in when they enter the school is fixed until graduation and cannot be changed. In addition, if students wish to take courses in other tracks, in principle, the number of courses in other tracks should not exceed the number of classes students are taking in their own track.

Q7: There are many subjects available. I am worried about choosing the right courses.

A7: When selecting courses, we will provide sufficient explanation of compulsory subjects and the number of credits through guidance with students. In addition, we will conduct thorough interviews with individual students to discuss their interests, concerns, and career aspirations so that each student can make the best choice of subjects for themselves. Some courses are taken throughout the year, but most courses are credited each semester. The timetable also changes every semester.

Q8: Do I have to study classes in other tracks to graduate?

A8: If a student only takes the courses in their own track, they can fulfill the 74 credits required for graduation by studying for 4 years.

Q9: How do I take classes to graduate in 3 years?

A9: Students can fulfill the credits required for graduation by taking about two courses a semester in the other tracks on top of taking the courses in their own track. About one-third of students graduate in three years.

Q10: If I want to take a class in another track, do I have to wait a long time for the class?

A10: There are lunch breaks and dinner breaks between classes in the three tracks. Students may

have to wait 3 hours, or more, between classes from different tracks. In such cases, students are welcome to study in the library or take a break in the lounge areas.

Q11: Can I learn subjects from the basics and fundamentals?

A11: We provide support for relearning in the following ways.

- We provide classes that enable students to look back on what they learned in junior high school and assist students in tackling their studies in high school.
- We conduct classes during the Period for Inquiry-Based Cross-Disciplinary Study course in which students themselves rethink the meaning of learning and their approaches to learning.
- Students can consult with teachers in each subject area at any time if they have any questions.

Q12: Isn't the curriculum designed to prepare students for university entrance exams?

A12: Yes, we do offer subjects that prepare students for university entrance examinations. However, some subjects for entrance examinations are not offered in all tracks. In such cases, students are required to take courses in other tracks. Some mock examinations are held on campus, and information on off-campus mock examinations is also available. We also offer study sessions during the summer and winter vacations.

Q13: Is there any support for civil service examinations, etc.?

A13: We provide guidance according to the needs of each student. We also provide guidance for civil service examinations held within and outside of the school.

<About School Life>

Q14: At what time of the day are whole school events held?

A14: Most events in which all students are active at the same time are held mainly in the afternoon. Periodic examinations are also held in the afternoon, starting around noon.

Q15: Are there any school rules? Is there a uniform?

A15: School life at Odori High School is very much community focused, so we have rules to maintain unity and allow students to get the most out of their time and experiences. We do not have a school uniform, but there is a designated jersey and shoes for P.E. classes.

Q16: Are there any club activities?

A16: Weekday club activities are held during lunch and dinner breaks and when students are not in their selected classes. The times available for club activities will be adjusted according to the availability of the gymnasium and classrooms.

Currently we have the following clubs;

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| ● Basketball (male and female) | ● Brass Band | ● Glocal |
| ● Volleyball (male and female) | ● Calligraphy | ● Photography |
| ● Badminton (male and female) | ● Japanese Drumming | ● Dance Circle |
| ● Table tennis (male and female) | /Traditional Arts | ● Tea Ceremony Circle |
| ● Athletics | ● Igo/Shogi | ● Media Bureau |
| ● Biology | ● Fine Arts | ● Library Bureau |
| ● Animation/Illustration | ● Literature | ● Student Council |

Regarding tournaments in which sports clubs participate, tournaments are organized by the Part-time and Correspondence High School Sports Federation, which is separate to that of full-time high schools.

Q17: Is there a cafeteria?

A17: The cafeteria is open during lunch and dinner breaks. The evening set menu is subsidized by the city of Sapporo and costs ¥350 per meal, which provides a well-balanced and nutritious meal.

<About school expenses>

Q18: How much are the annual expenses?

A18: In the first year, there is a school fee of 75,000 yen, which must be paid at the time of enrollment. In addition, students are required to purchase a sports jersey, shoes (about 17,000 yen), and a tablet (about 63,100 yen, details of which will be announced at the time of enrollment). Students may be required to pay for practical training and teaching materials depending on the courses they choose.

Textbook fees vary depending on the course chosen. The school fee from the second year onward is 10,680 yen a year.

(Please refer to the school pamphlet "Future 2026" p11 for more information)

<About selection of entrants>

Q19: Is the examination the same for the morning, afternoon, and evening tracks? Is the interview test an individual or group interview?

A19: The examination does not vary between tracks. The interview test is an individual interview.

Q20: Is it possible for those who have already graduated from junior high school to take the self-recommendation entrance examination?

A20: Yes, they can. The application procedure is usually through the junior high school from which the applicants graduated. However, depending on the age of the applicant, the application may be submitted directly by the applicant. Please inquire in advance.

Q21: What about school districts?

A21: We can accept applicants and students from all over Hokkaido.

Q22: If I am not accepted for the self-recommendation entrance examination, can I reapply?

A22: Yes, you can reapply to any other full-time high school or part-time high school, including the general admission selection process of Sapporo Odori High School.

<About the "returnee from abroad or equivalent" admission program>

A "returnee from abroad or equivalent" is defined as a person who falls under any of the following categories.

1. "A person who has a foreign nationality and has been in Japan for less than 5 years" or a person of equivalent status as determined by the principal of Sapporo Odori High School.
2. "A person with at least one parent who is a repatriate and has been in Japan for less than 5 years" or a person of equivalent status as determined by the principal of Sapporo Odori High School. A "repatriate" is defined as a person who has a permanent resident returnee certificate.
3. "A person who has Japanese nationality and has been living abroad for more than one year accompanied by an overseas resident, and who has been back in Japan for less than three years" or a person of equivalent status as determined by the principal of Sapporo Odori High School.

(From "matters that require attention" in *Guide for Sapporo Municipal High School Admission*)

Q23 : How do returnees from abroad or equivalent proceed with their studies after enrollment?

A23: We provide students who enrolled specifically in the "returnee from abroad or equivalent" admission program with support for school life and career guidance during their enrollment. In the first year, those students are placed in an "international class" as well as their ordinary home-room in which they are enrolled and are given various support in easy Japanese. They take Japanese language classes for one to two years depending on their level of understanding of Japanese, and then gradually move on to regular and specialized subjects. They take classes together with other students, but there are also classes that only returnee students can take (currently required subjects are Japanese, geography, history, and civics). They participate in events and other courses together with other students without any difference. They also participate in their mother tongue classes during extra-curricular hours once a week.