

## My Time at Showa junior high school

My time here at Showa Junior High School began in 1-1 on the 11th of December where all the students in the class were extremely kind and welcoming. The first few days were a little tiring because I was just getting used to the school's lifestyle but in the first week I made many friends that helped me travel around the school. My school starts at 8:00 where here at Showa junior high school they start at 8:15 which is similar so it wasn't too much of a worry in the mornings. Break times with my school are similar as well because after each period we are given 5 minutes to get to our next class. After an extremely fun month with 1-1 it was time to change to 1-2 which I anticipated was going to be extremely exciting to do as many of my friends from judo were a part of that class. I met some amazingly funny and nice people and even reunited with people I went to primary school with last year.

The time difference for school is a lot though. In Australia our school days go for 6 hours where at Showa some days can go as long as 10 hours, which can make me extremely tired. In Japan there are not many projectors and only use blackboards whereas in Australia we only use tv's, projectors or computers. In Australia after 2 periods we have a 30 minute break where we eat snacks and play. At Showa you only get one break to eat lunch and play. At Showa you pay money and receive food called kyushoku. While eating you get to play a game that is extremely fun called jan, ken, poi [rock,paper,scissors] for extra food which is extremely fun to play. In Australia each day you have to bring your own food, schools in Australia usually have a place called a canteen where we can buy sweets and food. At Showa you mostly stay in the same classroom for classes but in Australia each lesson you're in a different class. In Japan each high school has sport training after school that we do 5 times a week. In Australia you have to go and find your own sports club because the school doesn't have any sporting programs.

The Biggest difference between my school and Showa is the number of students that attend the school. My school, Edmund Rice College has 1200 students but at Showa there are only about 200 students. In year 1 there are only 2 classes but at my school there are over 9 classes. At Showa teachers are a lot less strict compared to my school as there is absolutely no mucking around or sleeping in class otherwise you will not be allowed to play at lunch and have to finish homework or anything uncompleted. Teachers in Australia are a lot more strict than Japan. In Australia you have to make sure that all of your homework is completed otherwise consequences will happen and you will be punished.

At Showa you have to do your homework but teachers aren't strict on talking or mucking around in the classroom. Most schools in Australia wear the same uniform involving the same shoes each day whereas at Showa each grade wears a different coloured jumpsuit [green,red and blue] and inside of school they wear uwabaki so dirt or grime from outside doesn't come back inside.

Some funny memories I have at Showa junior high school are doing judo with all of my mates, and playing basketball on Monday's, and Thursdays. This experience at Showa was exceptionally fun and I thank all the staff and students for letting us attend here. Some more fun memories was being able to go to Maebashi Alsok where there was a Gunma training which was fun to verse new people that were extremely talented. I was even able to verse the Gunma champion.

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Australian Lunch: In Australia we have a snack break and a proper lunch break here is some food we would normally consume during these breaks. PS Japan's food is a lot more healthier and nutritious than this.



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