

Communications

Phones and Internet

Phones

- Landlines: Don't bother (although there is information in the guidebook about this)
- Payphones: useful until you are set up with a mobile/cell phone.
- Skype: This is the best and cheapest way to make those international calls (other alternatives are VoIP)

Keitai Denwa

- Mobile/Cell Phones
- 3 Main Companies: Docomo, Softbank and AU
- Docomo: best coverage, good range of phones but expensive
- Softbank: Bilingual service, affordable price plans, good range of phones... i Phone
- AU: Smallest company but cheap price plans

Your Choice

- Most JET's choose Softbank
- White plan or Double White Plan
- Make your choice based on service, usage and other JET's to keep prices as low as possible

Smart Phones

- I highly recommend Smart Phones (especially if your Japanese is not good)
- Expensive at first but they pay for themselves in the long run
- All in one; MP3, GPS, Skype, Internet, EMail, Camera, useful/life saving apps

Keitai advise

- Explain to your supervisor/predecessor/japanese friend what you require and get them to do the talking
- Don't be scared to ask questions before you sign up
- Talk to other JET's about their plan
- Think of the year ahead and consider spending a little extra to make your life easier in the future

Internet

- Options: Fibre Optic, ADSL
- Fibre Optic is most expensive but fast and reliable
- Prices vary
- Yahoo BB and NTT
- Yahoo BB is the best option

Internet Advise

- Same as for mobile / cell phones
- Explain to your supervisor what you need / how you use the internet (downloads etc) and get them to do the talking
- Don't be scared to ask questions to get the package that will suit you best