

Preface

We are publishing the 2026 Annual Research Activity Report. The previous report was issued in March 2024, and this report, published in March 2026, is the second in the series. Due to organizational restructuring within the university, including the reorganization of the research center that serves as the fundamental function for this project, publication originally planned for 2025 was delayed by one year (2026). As a result, this report includes research activities from previous fiscal years as well.

It has been one year since the Child Center was integrated into the Child and Family Division of the Comprehensive Research Institute for Education. Many of the participants being followed have now surpassed the age of 20, and we are gradually obtaining indicators of social behavior in adolescence, which was the original outcome of this study. The results of over 20 years of research are finally beginning to bear fruit. This report presents the interim findings.

Although the group leader of this Cohort Study has been handed over from Kawai to Nakayama, we expect the study to continue to develop further. We aim to deepen our research so that it can address contemporary social issues such as bullying, school refusal, and communication problems on social media.

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