

## What does it take for teachers to be effective gatekeepers for students at high risk of suicide?

### A model of support & system in multi-level organization for suicide prevention as a team

#### Principal Researcher:

Jun-ichi Mekuta (Associate Professor, BAIKA Women's University)

#### Co-Researchers:

Sumiyo Miki (Professor, KANSAI University of Social Welfare)

Norio Matsui (Professor, NARAGAKUEN University)

Minako Kikuchi (Associate Professor, BAIKA Women's University)

Mayumi Yagi (Professor, KONAN University)

Yasuhiro Fujiwara (Lecturer, KANSAI University of Welfare Sciences)

Kimiko Aakagi (Professor, BAIKA Women's University)

Miwa Ryujin (Associate Professor, St. Andrew's University of Education)

Narumi Hosokawa (Associate Professor, KOBE Women's University)

Mitsuru IOZUMI (Professor, BAIKA Women's University)

#### Research Collaborator:

Masanori Ikehara (Teacher, Seido Junior High School in Ashiya city)

Jitsuo Hara (Senior Specialist, Hyogo Prefectural Office)

Ryoko Tsukada (Director, Hyogo Council of Human Rights and Education)

Osamu Furukawa (Foundation of Practical Research for Life and Education)

Yoko Kawano (Researcher, Hyogo Council of Human Rights and Education)

Eiichi Kajita (Foundation of Practical Research for Life and Education)

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#### Summary:

What does it take for teachers to be effective gatekeepers for students? The purpose of this study was to find the difficulties school teachers have in providing developmentally and problem-preventive supports to children in order to explore the factors that inhibit school teachers from functioning as gatekeepers for students. 281 public school teachers completed a questionnaire consisting of original questions developed through a preliminary study on the difficulties that school teachers have in everyday support of students. A cluster analysis identified 14 types of difficulties teachers have in supporting children. In summary, school teachers' difficulties become gradually more serious, that is a) they recognize their own inability to provide sufficient support to students and the workload that is unfairly distributed among teachers in supporting students, b) they are becoming aware of specific shortcomings in the organization, and c) they eventually attribute the causes of dysfunctional student support to the culture and atmosphere in their school organization. Based on these results, we examined the current national policy to protect children from suicide, known as "Emergency Enhanced Plan for Child Suicide Countermeasures," and discussed the effectiveness of the plan and the further steps we should take.