

(9) Employment support for juvenile delinquents

- Reformatories and juvenile prisons are taking measures for juvenile prisoners to acquire appropriate attitudes toward work and increase their willingness to work. They are encouraged to obtain various types of certifications. These institutions also provide them with employment support in collaboration with Hello Work.
- In cooperation with correctional institutions, families and schools, probation offices are working to find and secure employment for the released juveniles. Some probation offices have implemented a model program in which experts provide them with continuous and fine-tuned support while the juveniles are in correctional institutions and until they take root in the workplace after obtaining employment. From FY 2014, this program will be fully implemented as the “Program for Rehabilitation Employment Support.”
- In collaboration with reformatories, juvenile prisons and probation offices, Hello Work provides juveniles who have been released, are going to be released or are on probation with employment support such as employment counseling, job placement seminars, company tours, visits to workplaces, and trial employment.
- MHLW is working to improve “Independence Support Homes” (program to provide support for young people leading an independent life). The program provides young people who have been released from a rehabilitation facility with support for their daily life and employment.

(10) Measures against bullying and violence

- In May 2013, MEXT issued a notice, “About Bullying Cases that Should be Discussed with or Reported to the Police Promptly,” in which criminal acts that may occur at school are categorized by type of bullying, intended to promote the understanding by boards of education and schools about what kind of acts count as crimes (Figure 14). In addition, the number of cases involving consultation with or reports to the police and the number of people in relevant institutions who took measures for children who bully were added to the items on the “Survey on the Issues for Student Guidance about Problem Behavior,” starting in FY 2012.

Figure 14 Criminal acts with potential to occur at school

Types of bullying	Penal law	Case examples
Pushing, hitting, kicking harshly on purpose	Battery (Penal Code, Article 208)	Punching or kicking a classmate in the stomach repeatedly
	Assault (Penal Code, Article 204)	Punching in the face and fracturing a jaw bone
Pushing slightly, hitting or kicking jokingly	Battery (Penal Code, Article 208)	Holding down or throwing, while calling it pro wrestling
Forcing a person to do something unpleasant, embarrassing or dangerous	Compulsion (Penal Code, Article 223)	Putting fecal matter in his/her mouth and threatening harm if he or she refuses
	Forcible Indecency (Penal Code, Article 176)	Touching his/her genitalia and threatening harm if he or she refuses
Extorting money or valuables	Extortion (Penal Code, Article 249)	Extorting money, etc. and threatening harm if he or she refuses
Hiding, stealing, wrecking or disposing of money or valuables	Theft (Penal Code, Article 235)	Stealing possessions such as textbooks
	Damage to Property (Penal Code, Article 261)	Intentionally wrecking a bicycle
Jeering, teasing, name-calling, threatening or saying unpleasant things	Intimidation (Penal Code, Article 222)	Threatening harm if he or she comes to school
	Defamation, Insults (Penal Code, Articles 230, 231)	Writing something bad such as “shoplifter,” disgusting or annoying person with a real name on walls or bulletin boards at school or in the community
Defaming or doing something unpleasant using personal computers or mobile phones	Intimidation (Penal Code, Article 222)	Sending an e-mail threatening harm if he or she comes to school
	Defamation, Insults (Penal Code, Articles 230, 231)	Posting something bad such as “shoplifter,” disgusting or annoying person with a real name on a website on the Internet to defame a certain person
	Providing child pornography, etc. (Article 7 of the Act on Punishment of Activities Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children)	Taking pictures of his/her genitalia with a cellular phone and posting them on a website on the Internet

Source: MEXT “About Bullying Cases that Should be Discussed with or Reported to the Police Promptly” (notice) (http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/shotou/seitoshidou/1335366.htm)

Note 1: “Types of bullying” are the same as the survey items of the “Survey on the Issues for Student Guidance about Problem Behavior.”

2: “Case examples,” based on cases in the past, are intended to deepen understanding by showing concrete examples that are covered under penal law. Whether to consult with or report to the police needs to be decided on a case-by-case basis with a view to fully protecting child victims, by referring to the cases described above.

- The police are striving to detect bullying at an early stage through providing youth counseling and sending School Supporters to schools, while promoting appropriate responses in close cooperation with schools. In tandem with the enforcement of the “Act for the Promotion of Measures to Prevent Bullying,” the NPA issued “About Enforcement of the Act for the Promotion of Measures to Prevent Bullying” (notice) in September 2013 and also issued “About Development of Basic Policy for Bullying Prevention” (notice) in October to the prefectural police departments to promote appropriate responses to bullying problems at school. They are also working to detect school violence at an early stage, to take appropriate measures and to prevent recurrence in cooperation with schools.

4 Dealing with the problem of child poverty

(1) Enforcement of the “Act on Promotion of Child Poverty Measures”

- The “Act on Promotion of Child Poverty Measures” came into force on January 17, 2014. At present, deliberations for drawing up guidelines based on this Act are being conducted.

(2) Support for families in economic difficulties

(3) Support for single-parent families

- Under the “Act on Welfare of Mothers with Dependents and Widows,” MHLW is implementing comprehensive measures to support self-reliance, including support for child rearing, livelihood

support, employment support, support for childcare expenses and other economic support.⁶⁴ In addition, it is strengthening measures concerning support for the employment of mothers of fatherless households and fathers of motherless households and is also requesting the cooperation of private businesses under the “Act on Special Measures concerning Support for Employment of Mothers in Fatherless Households and Fathers in Motherless Households.” The Act to expand support for single-mother and single-father families and to revise adjustments to multiple benefit payments for child-rearing allowances and public pensions was enacted on April 16, 2014.

(4) Breaking the cycle of poverty across generations

- In preparation for the “Act on Services and Supports for the Self-Support of the Needy” coming into effect, MHLW is proceeding with the establishment of this system in communities through implementation of various kinds of support based on the Act on a trial basis. Also, MHLW is enhancing support for the daily lives of and rehabilitation consultation for parents and children in households on welfare as well as learning support and career support for children from households on welfare.

(5) Understanding the situation

- MHLW has an understanding of the relative poverty rate of children due to the Comprehensive Survey of the Living Conditions, Health and Welfare of the People.

5 Creating places for children and young people in difficulties

6 Support for the children and young people who need special consideration, including foreigners

(1) Promoting measures based on the “Action Program on Measures for Permanent Foreign Residents of Japanese Ancestry”

- The government is promoting measures⁶⁵ in each area in collaboration with the relevant ministries based on the “Action Program on Measures for Permanent Foreign Residents of Japanese Ancestry.”

(2) Improving education for foreign children

- When public schools accept foreign children, MEXT assigns additional Japanese-language teachers to those schools and gives practical training to these Japanese-language teachers⁶⁶.

(3) Promoting the employment of young permanent foreign residents

- Hello Work holds informational sessions on employment support for foreigners of Japanese ancestry and provides them with individual employment support.

(4) Measures for people with a gender identity disorder

- The Human Rights Organs of MOJ (Human Rights Bureau, Regional Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus and their branch offices, and Human Rights Volunteers) carry out various promotion activities under the slogan “Eliminate Discrimination on the Grounds of Gender Identity Disorders” as one of the annual priority matters of promotion activities.
- MEXT is requesting that the parties concerned give due consideration to children with a gender identity disorder when providing educational counseling.

(5) Providing support for teenage parents

- MHLW gave a grant for pregnancy checkups so that pregnant women could have necessary checkups (around 14 times). From FY 2013, the grant-in-aid will become the responsibility of local government bodies, and this will be a permanent system. MHLW also provides young people who are worried about pregnancy or childbirth with support through maternal and child health projects and with counseling through a project of the Women’s Health Support Center.

64 http://www.mhlw.go.jp/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kodomo/kodomo_kosodate/boshi-katei/index.html

65 <http://www8.cao.go.jp/teiju/index.html>

66 http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/shotou/clarinet/003.htm

(6) Response to the Supreme Court decision

- Regarding the treatment of children born out of wedlock, in response to Supreme Court's decision on such treatment being unconstitutional, the Civil Code was amended in December 2013, so that now the inheritance shall be divided equally between children born in wedlock and out of wedlock.

Section 2 Protecting Children and Young People from being hurt

1 Measures against child abuse

(1) Developing measures against child abuse

(Precautions)

- MHLW is promoting the development of a user-friendly counseling system by implementing the following measures⁶⁷.
 - Home Visiting Services for All Families with Infants (Hello Baby Project): Health care workers visit all families with a baby four months old or younger in order to become familiar with the child care environment in those homes and to provide information and counseling to relieve parents' anxieties and worries.
 - Home Visiting Services for Childcare Support: Public health nurses, midwives, or childcare workers visit the families that sorely need childcare support to give them counseling, guidance or advice.
 - Project on Community Centers for Child Rearing: This project provides parents and their young children with counseling and places for mingling.
- MHLW informs municipalities and Local Councils for Children in Need of Protective Care (Community Networks for Child Protection)⁶⁸ of matters to consider when getting to know and giving support to the families that sorely need childcare support⁶⁹ as well as matters to consider⁷⁰ regarding the promotion of collaboration with medical institutions. In March 2013, MHLW created a DVD to prevent shaken baby syndrome, released it on its website and distributed it to local governments.
- In order to alleviate guardians' anxieties about child rearing and to prevent them from becoming isolated from the community, MEXT is providing support for the following activities: taking advantage of the opportunity provided by medical examinations performed before students enroll in school to hold parenting classes in the community; providing opportunities to learn about education at home; and giving counseling through support team for education at home.

(Early detection, quick response, and protection)

- MHLW
 - In FY 2013, MHLW provided funds for a program to strengthen the system for checking on the safety of children whose abuse was reported, a program to inform the public of which agencies to report child abuse to and a program to improve the quality of workers at child consultation centers. These programs had previously been sponsored by the "Safe Childcare Fund."
 - In August 2013, MHLW fully revised the "Handbook on how to Handle Child Abuse" and notified prefectures, designated municipal governments and cities that had child consultation centers.
 - It is promoting measures to enhance the functions of the Local Councils for Children in Need of Protective Care⁷¹ (Figure 15).
- The police are striving to find child abuse cases at an early state and to protect the victims immediately, through street guidance, counseling, reporting, investigations and surveys.

67 http://www.mhlw.go.jp/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kodomo/kodomo_kosodate/dv-jinshin/#hasseyobou

68 Pursuant to Article 25-2 of the Child Welfare Act, a local government shall endeavor to set up such a council.

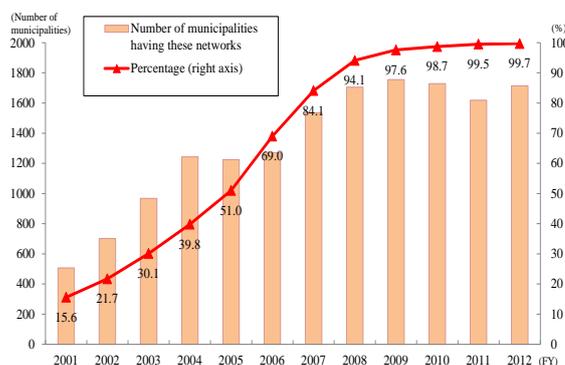
69 http://www.mhlw.go.jp/bunya/kodomo/pdf/121203_1.pdf

70 <http://www.mhlw.go.jp/bunya/kodomo/pdf/dv121203-1.pdf>

71 http://www.mhlw.go.jp/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kodomo/kodomo_kosodate/dv-jinshin/#youhogo

- The Human Rights Organs of MOJ deal with reported cases of child abuse appropriately, in collaboration with child consultation centers. They also take appropriate measures according to each case, for example, by instructing the assailant.
- MEXT is improving consultation systems at schools for early detection of and quick responses to child abuse.

Figure 15 Presence of Local Councils for Children in Need of Protective Care (Community Networks for Child Protection) and Abuse Prevention Networks



Source: “Survey on the Implementation of Child and Family Consultation at Municipalities,” MHLW
 Note 1: The survey had been conducted on June 1 until FY 2005; it has been conducted on April 1 since FY 2006.

2: Only Abuse Prevention Networks were counted until FY 2004; since FY 2005 the total number of Community Networks for Child Protection and Abuse Prevention Networks has also been included.

3: The figures for FY 2011 exclude the figures for municipalities in Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima, which were affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake.

(2) Case studies, research and training

- The committee of experts that studied the cases of abused children in need of protective care (reported by the Sectional Meeting on Children of the Social Security Council) submitted its 9th report to MHLW. Based on this report, in July 2013, MHLW sent local governments a notice⁷² to provide support for the families in need of childcare support during pregnancy and in the early stages after delivery, to inform about and promote the use of parenting support programs intended for childcare support, to enhance publicity and teaching activities, to work toward early detection, quick response and support in cases of child abuse and to conduct verification without fail to prevent recurrence. It also provides support for studies on and training regarding child abuse conducted by the “Japan Information and Training Center for Problems related to Child Abuse and Adolescent Turmoil” (common known as: Children’s Rainbow Center)⁷³ and is conducting a study under a Health and Labor Sciences Research Grant.

2 Enriching social care

(1) Promoting family-based child care

- MHLW sent out a notice, “Promotion of Family-Based Childcare and Downsizing of Child Care Facilities (A Guide to Downsizing)”⁷⁴ and informs readers of the significance of downsizing and its challenges.

(2) Promoting adoption and support for foster parents

- MHLW is promoting adoption based on the “Adoption Guidelines,”⁷⁵ which clearly set forth the principle of “adoption first.” It is promoting local governments’ activities by implementing projects for institutions to support foster parents and by allocating counselors specializing in supporting foster parents to children’s homes and infant homes⁷⁶.

(3) Expanding measures for self-reliance support for older children

- MHLW sponsors the Program to Provide Support for Children’s Independent Lives (Independence Support Homes), which is run by prefectural governments. It is also implementing the “Aftercare Program for Discharged Children” to provide support for their life in the community and their independence after they are discharged from facilities.

72 http://www.mhlw.go.jp/bunya/kodomo/pdf/130725_1.pdf

73 <http://www.crc-japan.net/index.php>

74 <http://www.mhlw.go.jp/bunya/kodomo/pdf/tuuchi-92.pdf>

75 http://www.mhlw.go.jp/bunya/kodomo/syakaiteki_yougo/dl/yougo_genjou_11.pdf

76 The local governments that have raised the adoption rate have been making various efforts. These include assigning staff in charge of adoption to child consultation centers, improving institutions to support foster parents, holding meetings to present their experiences with adoption, publicity work in collaboration with municipalities, and word-of-mouth communication through NPOs and citizen’s activities.

(4) Improving the functions of institutions

- MHLW is improving the quality of the operation of institutions by deciding the policies on how children’s homes are operated, the policies on child care at foster parents’ homes and family homes and the standards for third party evaluations.

(5) Preventing children placed in child care facilities from being abused

- MHLW is preventing children placed in child care facilities from being abused based on the “Guidelines for Responses to Abuse of Children Placed in Childcare Facilities.”⁷⁷

3 Measures against crimes that endanger the welfare of children and young people

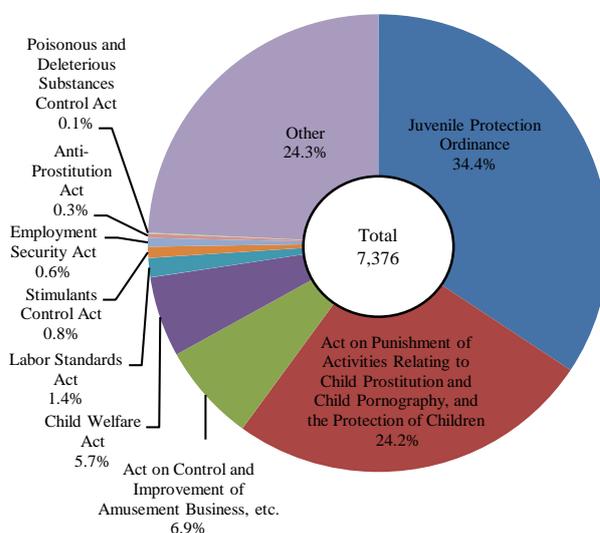
(1) Enforcement of regulations

- The police are striving to actively enforce existing regulations and to find and protect victims (Figure 16).
- Public Prosecutors’ Office actively applies relevant laws and regulations to these cases and is striving to have strict punishments imposed.

(2) Issues of child prostitution and child pornography

- The government formulated “The Second Comprehensive Measures to Eliminate Child Pornography” in May 2013. The relevant ministries are jointly promoting these measures to eliminate child pornography⁷⁸ (Figure 17).

Figure 16 Number of criminals arrested for endangering the welfare of children and young people (Under each act, in 2013)



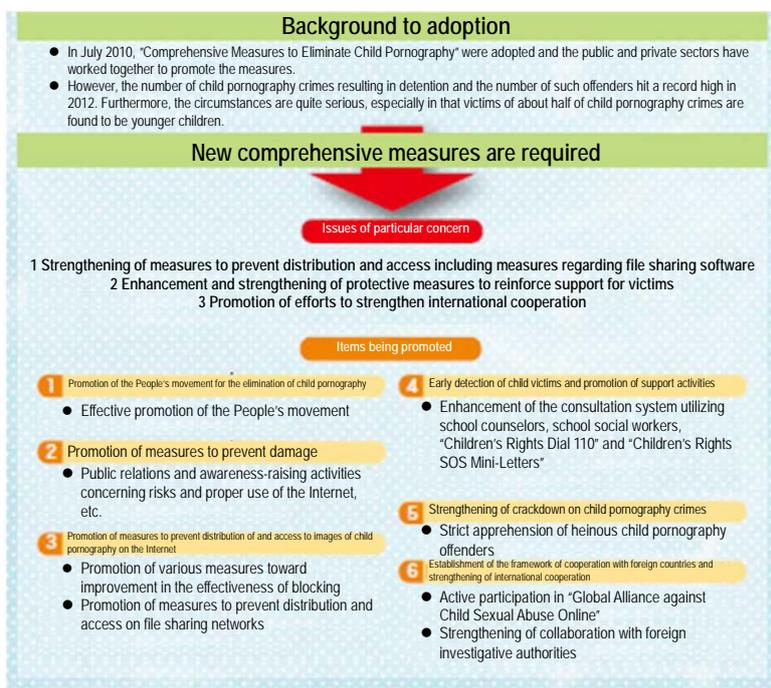
Source: “Status of arrests due to child abuse and welfare-related crimes,” NPA

77 http://www.mhlw.go.jp/bunya/kodomo/syakaiteki_yougo/04.html

78 <http://www8.cao.go.jp/youth/cp-taisaku/index.html>

Figure 17

Outline of Second Comprehensive Measures to Eliminate Child Pornography



Source: Cabinet Office website (<http://www8.cao.go.jp/youth/cp-taisaku/>)

- The Cabinet Office holds meetings of the Council for the Promotion of Measures to Eliminate Child Pornography (Chair: Senior Vice Minister of the Cabinet Office). It also holds public symposiums to broaden the national campaign for the elimination of child pornography.
 - The police are striving to actively enforce regulations under the "Act on Punishment of Activities Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children." In 2013, 1,252 people were arrested in 1,644 cases. Also, service businesses disguised as legal restaurants and massage parlors that actually make children perform indecent acts for customers have recently appeared. The police are striving to promote understanding of the actual situation, analyze the information on these businesses, and actively enforce regulations.
- (3) Issues of "online dating sites" and "community sites"**
- The police make arrests for violations of the Act Concerning Regulation of Actions that Lure Children through Internet Dating Services; for violations of the Act on Punishment of Activities Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children; and for violations of the Juvenile Protection Ordinance.
- (4) Preventing children from becoming victims of crime (Safety management at school)**
- MEXT is promoting safety management at school based on the "School Safety Promotion Plan"⁷⁹ (Cabinet decision in April 2012). Also, school guard leaders, who are former police officers, patrol schools and train school safety volunteers. In addition, as a "Project for Children's Safety," MEXT provides support for workshops for teachers who teach crime prevention classes held by prefectural boards of education.
- (Use of information obtained from relevant institutions and organizations)**
- NPA is provided by MOJ with information related to the release of prisoners who have committed violent sex crimes against children and use that information to accelerate the investigation and

79 http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/kenko/anzen/1320286.htm

- prevention of other such crimes.
- The police are developing an information-sharing system among police stations, schools and school boards, so that information on the cases of child victims, suspicious approaches to children, and stalking children can be swiftly provided for guardians. Prefectural police departments make this information publicly available on their websites and distribute information via e-mail. In addition, a private organization commissioned by NPA is operating “Anonymous-Report Hot Line” which accepts reports from citizens by phone or over the Internet.

4 Taking care of children and young people who have become victims of crime and their families

- The police continue to give counseling to victims of crime and to provide guidance and advice through juvenile officers. “Counseling Advisors for Juvenile Victims,” commissioned external experts, give the police appropriate guidance and advice to provide support for victims. The police have also commissioned volunteers, “Juvenile Victim Supporters,” to visit victims frequently. In collaboration with these people, the police are promoting support activities.
- MEXT has school counselors and school social workers provide support for children who have become victims of crime to ease their suffering.

5 Measures for bullied children and suicides

(1) Measures for bullied children

(Enactment of “Act for the Promotion of Measures to Prevent Bullying”)

- The “Act for the Promotion of Measures to Prevent Bullying” was enacted as a lawmaker-initiated bill in June 2013 and became effective in September.

(Development of the “Basic Guidelines for the Prevention of Bullying”)

- MEXT developed the “Basic Guidelines for the Prevention of Bullying” in October 2013 based on Article 11 of the “Act for the Promotion of Measures to Prevent Bullying” after review by the “Council for Development of Basic Guidelines for the Prevention of Bullying” and is striving to publicize it. (Figure 18)

Figure 18 Basic National Policy to Prevent Bullying

1. Matters related to basic intent of measures to prevent bullying
 - Definition of bullying, understanding of bullying
 - Basic attitudes toward prevention of bullying
2. Matters related to contents of measures to prevent bullying
 1. Measures that the government implements to prevent bullying
 - Drawing up basic plans for prevention of bullying, establishing councils for measures to prevent bullying (provisional), etc.
 - Measures that the government should implement to prevent bullying
 - ① Prevention of bullying (developing rich minds, promoting children's proactive activities, securing human resources engaged in measures such as prevention of bullying and improving their quality and abilities, conducting research, dissemination and teaching)
 - ② Early detection (enhancing educational consultation systems, promoting collaboration with communities and families)
 - ③ Responses to bullying (supporting solution of problem by utilizing various external human resources, responses to cyberbullying)
 - ④ Establishment of a system in which teachers can face children
 2. Measures that the local governments should implement to prevent bullying
 - Drawing up the basic local plans
 - Establishing associations on measures against bullying problems
 - Establishing the institutions associated with boards of education stipulated in Article 14, Paragraph 3
 - Measures that local governments should implement
 3. Measures that schools should implement to prevent bullying
 - Drawing up basic plans to prevent bullying at school
 - Organizations for measures to prevent bullying at school
 - Measures to prevent bullying at school
 - i) Prevention of bullying
 - ii) Early detection
 - iii) Measures against bullying
 4. Responses to serious cases
 - (1) Investigation by designated personnel of school or school
 - i) Occurrence of serious cases and investigations on them
 - Investigative party: designated personnel of school or school
 - Organization to conduct investigations
 - It is necessary to maintain fairness and neutrality in investigations through the participation of third parties with expertise and experience recommended by professional organizations, universities and academic societies.
 - Conducting investigations to clarify the facts
 - a) If it is possible to hear from the bullied children: conducting investigations, placing top priority on protecting the bullied children or children who provided information
 - b) If it is impossible to hear from the bullied children: listening thoroughly to the demands and opinions of the children's guardians.
 - ii) Provision and report of investigation results
 - ① Responsibility to appropriately provide bullied children and their guardians with information
 - ② Report of investigation results
 - (2) Reinvestigations and measures by local governments
 - i) Reinvestigation
 - ii) Measures based on the results of reinvestigation

Source: MEXT materials

(Comprehensive promotion of measures against bullying)

- In 2014, MEXT will comprehensively promote efforts against the bullying problem through various activities including the following items.
 - Promoting efforts for adjustment and support to solve bullying problems by utilizing various external professionals.
 - Precautions (promoting moral education, etc.)
 - Early detection/early response (expanding allocation of school counselors and school social workers, publicizing the 24-hour bullying consultation hotline, etc.)Also, to address bullying using the Internet or cellular phones (cyberbullying), it will distribute leaflets to raise the awareness of children and guardians, manuals for schools and teachers and collections of examples of cases and efforts about school net patrols to boards of education, etc.

(Provide counseling for bullied children)

- MEXT provides 24-hour telephone counseling on bullying. The phone number (0570-0-78310)⁸⁰ is the same across the country so that children can call and receive counseling on bullying anytime from anywhere in the country, including at night and on holidays. In FY 2013, the number of flyers for the telephone counseling distributed to each school will be increased from the equivalent of the number of students in one grade to that of students in four grades to make it more widely known.
- The police are developing an environment that allows bullied children to feel free to receive counseling. This approach includes establishing youth support centers outside police facilities, setting up a youth counseling service, making the telephone number for youth counseling toll-free and starting e-mail counseling services⁸¹.
- The Human Rights Organs of MOJ provide the “Human Rights Counseling Service on the Internet” (SOS e-mail)⁸² and the “Children’s Rights Hotline” toll-free telephone counseling (0120-007-110)⁸³. They also distribute “Children’s Rights SOS Letter-Cards” (letter paper with envelope)⁸⁴ to elementary and junior high school students (Figure 19). In 2013, the human rights counseling desk was further publicized.

(2) Measures against suicide

- The relevant ministries of the government are jointly promoting comprehensive measures against suicide based on the “General Principles of Suicide Prevention” under the Basic Act on Suicide Prevention.
- MEXT is considering necessary reviews of the “Guidelines for Investigation when a Child Suicide Has Occurred.” It also has been convening the “Conference of Co-researchers on the Prevention of Suicide of Pupils and Students” to study ways to conduct education for suicide prevention.

Figure 19

Children’s Rights SOS e-Mail, Children’s Rights SOS Letter-Cards



Source: website of MOJ.
(http://www.moj.go.jp/JINKEN/index_soudan.html)

80 http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/shotou/seitoshidou/1306988.htm
81 Refer to Part 2, Chapter 3, Section 1, 3, (2) “Prevention of delinquency, counseling activities”
82 https://www.jinken.go.jp/soudan/PC_CH/0101.html
83 <http://www.moj.go.jp/JINKEN/jinken112.html>
84 Children write down what they want to receive counseling for, remove the envelope from the back, put the letter into the envelope and mail it. It will be delivered to the nearest legal affairs bureau and district legal affairs bureau. There is no need to put a stamp on the envelope.
http://www.moj.go.jp/JINKEN/jinken03_00013.html

6 Education to prevent harm

(1) Safety education

(Safety education at school)

- MEXT is providing support for the holding of “crime prevention classes,” “traffic safety classes” and “disaster preparedness classes.” In addition, it has implemented a model project designed to develop new methods for providing disaster preparedness education based on the lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake.

(Crime prevention education and traffic safety education provided by the police)

- The police hold crime prevention classes at kindergartens, nursery schools and elementary schools in collaboration with schools and school boards. The police also provide traffic safety education at nursery schools and other schools in cooperation with the relevant institutions and organizations.

(Various activities concerning disaster preparedness)

- The Cabinet Office holds a disaster preparedness poster contest intended for people of all ages.
- The Fire and Disaster Management Agency has set up “Child Disaster Preparedness e-Land” on its website. This web page explains in an easy-to-understand way how to prepare for disasters such as earthquakes and damage caused by storms and floods as well as how to respond to them for children ranging in age from toddlers to junior high school students⁸⁵.
- The Japan Meteorological Agency provides disaster preparedness education through various programs in collaboration with educational institutions.

(2) Improving the ability to use media

(Promoting information moral education)

- The New Government Guidelines for Teaching for elementary schools and junior high schools prescribe that students shall “learn information morality” through instruction in each subject and that teachers shall “pay attention to the instructions regarding information morality” in moral education classes. The New Government Guidelines for Teaching for high schools prescribe that information morality shall be taught in a compulsory, common subject “Information.”
- MEXT is distributing “Guidance Concerning Digitization of Education,”⁸⁶ which gives teachers concrete examples for teaching and “Practical Guidance on Information Moral Education,”⁸⁷ which provides reference materials to help elementary school teachers and junior high school teachers teach information morality. Also, it has created instruction manuals for teachers intended to give proper guidance in response to troubles that occur with the widespread use of smartphones and social media, such as “Internet addiction,” has informed boards of education about them and distributed them to the boards of education.

(Improving media literacy)

- The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications has enriched the contents of the program to comprehensively develop children’s ICT media literacy.⁸⁸

(3) Violence against women

- The Cabinet Office provides “Seminar Program of Trainers on Preventing Intimate Partner Violence” for people in the position of providing educational and awareness-raising programs to the youth.

85 Intended for toddlers, preschoolers and children in the lower grades of elementary school (<http://open.fdma.go.jp/e-college/eland/nyuutai.html>)

86 http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/shotou/zyouhou/1259413.htm

87 <http://www.nier.go.jp/kaihatsu/jouhoumoral/index.html>

88 http://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/joho_tsusin/kyouiku_joho-ka/media_literacy.html