

2026

8.26 (wed.) 12:10 ~ 12:50

12:10-12:15

◆ Introduction

12:15-12:40

◆ Seminar
(Presentation)

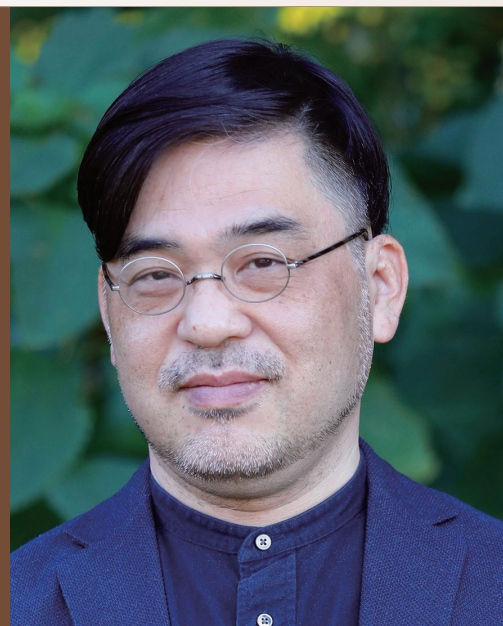
12:40-12:50

◆ Q&A

Online
(Zoom)Scan here for
Registration ▶▶https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_b3tnxGMjQ6eAQQOo0LUPHw

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What Happens to Children After Summer Vacation



Key Words

End of Summer Vacation

Children

Suicide

School Refusal

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Reiji Sasaki, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor in the Department of Clinical Psychology, Faculty of Human-Environment Studies, Kyushu University. He holds a Ph.D. in Education and is a licensed Clinical Psychologist and Certified Public Psychologist in Japan. After serving as a Lecturer at Kyoto Bunkyo University, he joined Kyushu University in 2009.

His research interests include clinical psychology, drawing-based assessment methods such as the Landscape Montage Technique, clinical psychological research methods, telepsychological support, and the study and practice of children's *ibasho* (community spaces for children). As part of this work, he has been operating a children's *ibasho* in Itoshima for the past seven years. In recent years, he has also been actively sharing information through social media, communicating the importance of clinical psychology and children's *ibasho* to a wider audience.

It is widely recognized that the number of child suicides increases following the end of the summer vacation. If we consider this fact logically, it becomes evident that, for some children, school is a place that causes such profound distress that they do not want to face its reopening. Why, then, do we as adults continue to reopen such a place as a matter of course? And why do we assume that it is natural and unavoidable for children to attend it? From this perspective, school refusal can be understood as a highly rational choice rather than a problem in itself. Based on this premise, this lecture will explore how adults should rethink their assumptions and actions in order to create a society in which children are not driven to choose death.