

URGENT! Summer Vacation at Risk! 2025

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1. Overview of the Issue

Since 2020, Chiba City has operated GIGA School devices distributed to children for home use, citing pandemic emergency measures. However, this regime has continued for over **4 years without informed parental consent, clear guidelines, or any transparency.**

Key Findings:

- Devices are highly suspected to collect and transmit home Wi-Fi SSIDs and connection logs without any disclosure to families.
- Strict filtering policies block content (YouTube, Amazon, etc.) even in private homes.
- No explanation was given about whether forced VPN tunnels were active.
- Other municipalities, such as Sendai, operated the same devices with far fewer restrictions.

Implications: This amounts to systemic child data exploitation and pervasive monitoring and control over minors' digital activities, extending into their private households. It constitutes a grave breach of fundamental data protection principles and educational fairness, effectively creating a "structure of life control" over children.

2. Testimony and Evidence

Child Testimony:

“大翔がYouTubeも見れんって怒ってた時、22時ブロック、ニトリNGでIKEAだけOK。IKEA信者でもおるんか？”

- No initial explanation or consent documentation was provided.
- No instructions were issued regarding monitoring or support contacts.
- In Sendai, YouTube and Amazon were accessible without restriction.

Technical Evidence:

- Video recordings showing blocked access to major websites.
- Chrome settings locked or inaccessible.
- SkyMenu automatically launching.

(Video link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1h2EXTX2l9vbKXfD9AqO1GWPO_CAslIDI/view?usp=sharing)

Parental Experience:

- No notification of monitoring scope.
- No confirmation of VPN usage.

- Repeated requests for disclosure denied.
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3. Urgency of the Situation

From July 22, 2025, summer vacation will start. Tens of thousands of devices will remain in children's homes, effectively functioning as unconsented surveillance systems.

This is a critical breach of international data protection norms (GDPR, COPPA) and a human rights concern.

4. Requests for Action

We request:

1. Immediate investigation by Google Education governance teams.
 2. Confirmation whether forced VPN or equivalent routing is active even when devices are connected to home Wi-Fi.
 3. Clear recommendations for compliance and parental rights, including mechanisms for parental access, review, and deletion of collected data, and a robust informed consent process.
 4. Escalation pathways to international data protection authorities.
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