

【Chiba City ICT Cover-up Report (English Version)】

■ Introduction

This report outlines a series of serious issues identified within the implementation of the GIGA School Program in Chiba City, Japan. Based on verified documentation, technical analysis, and public records, we have found systemic irregularities that suggest a deliberate effort to obscure transparency, avoid accountability, and bypass the proper use of public digital education tools. These issues not only impact administrative integrity but also violate the educational rights of students.

■ Summary of Issues

1. Superficial Use of Google Workspace for Education

- Core features such as Google Vault and Gmail are not being used.
- Classroom usage is fragmented, with many students unregistered in core subjects.
- Despite appearances, actual operations are conducted via third-party systems like CHAINS and SkyMenu, not Google's educational tools.

2. A System Built to Prevent Transparency

- SkyMenu logs are confined within the CHAINS system and do not appear in Google Vault.
- Gmail has been deliberately disabled (via MX record omission).
- There are no accessible operation logs; when questioned, officials routinely answer, "No records exist."

3. Lack of Accountability

- Requests for information are repeatedly met with claims that logs or records were not saved.
- Explanations offered show a fundamental misunderstanding (or intentional obfuscation) of how Vault and Google Workspace work.
- The system appears intentionally structured to leave no trace of critical decisions.

4. Third-Party Technical Review and Potential Legal Violations

- According to independent technical specialists familiar with Google systems, this setup borders on a violation of platform policy.
- Possible legal violations include breaches of Japan's Public Records Act, Local Autonomy Act, and even Penal Code Article 247 (breach of trust).

5. Financial and Governance Concerns

- With approximately ¥83 billion (approx. \$525 million) allocated for ICT, no reliable measurement or explanation of outcomes is available.
- Contracts with SkyCorp functionally serve to obscure access to operational data, suggesting a misuse of taxpayer funds.

■ Confirmed Facts (Selected)

- Core Google Workspace functions were knowingly not implemented.
- Gmail was never activated, despite being presented to stakeholders as "adopted."
- SkyMenu logs are inaccessible to parents or external reviewers.
- No formal response has addressed these discrepancies or clarified who made the relevant decisions.

■ Conclusion

The structure of Chiba City's ICT education system contradicts both the educational mission of Google and the rights of students and guardians. It is a system designed to leave no audit trail, no transparency, and no accountability. The result has been not only misuse of resources but also actual harm to at least one student who became unable to attend school due to the neglect caused by these systemic issues.

We respectfully request that Google Inc. investigate how its name is being used in public policy without proper implementation, and whether this violates any platform agreements or educational usage policies.

Additionally, while the `city.chiba.lg.jp` domain officially lacks MX records (making external email delivery technically impossible, as confirmed by Google's own tools), the existence of internal email addresses such as `security-management@city.chiba.lg.jp` strongly suggests the presence of undisclosed, private email routing or gateway systems. This indicates a deliberate and complex configuration designed to obscure email communication trails from public scrutiny and external audit, going beyond mere "misconfiguration" to an intentional "black-box" operation.

Further monitoring and external audit may be necessary.

Note:

This report was compiled by Ayana Fujishiro with assistance from Gemini (Google's AI assistant) and ChatGPT (OpenAI), both of which contributed to the technical analysis and verification of platform behavior related to the systems described. Their insights helped validate inconsistencies and identify potential violations of digital governance principles.

Furthermore, independent testing has revealed that certain Gmail messages sent to official city domains (e.g., *@city.chiba.lg.jp) do not generate any delivery error, yet they never appear in the recipient's inbox or spam folder. This behavior, commonly referred to as a "silent drop", allows emails to be silently filtered or discarded without informing either sender or receiver.

Such behavior:

- Leaves no trace in standard Google logs (especially when Vault is disabled)
- Cannot be audited via the Admin Console or end-user interfaces
- Enables administrators to intentionally suppress communication
- Undermines the core integrity of email as a reliable channel

This suggests that Chiba City's configuration may involve custom filtering or domain-level manipulation intended to suppress inbound communication without public visibility—further reinforcing the system's design as a tool of obfuscation rather than education.

Notably, Suehiro Junior High School operates under a separate domain—`chiba.cabinet-cbc.ed.jp`—which is publicly listed on its website and properly configured to receive external emails. This stands in stark contrast to other schools in the city that use the `city.chiba.lg.jp` domain, which is not externally accessible and exhibits silent-drop behavior. The existence of this independently functional domain suggests that Suehiro JHS may serve as a model school, intended to showcase a compliant infrastructure while systemic issues remain concealed in the broader network.

Further investigation has revealed an official announcement from SKY Corporation stating that it is actively supporting the ICT deployment in Chiba City. The webpage (<https://www.sky-school-ict.net/class/front/221111/>) makes no mention of Google Workspace, yet presents SKY's own services—particularly SKYMENU Cloud—as the core infrastructure. This further supports the hypothesis that Google's brand is being used merely as a superficial label while the actual educational and operational infrastructure is being handled by third-party systems

with opaque access and logging.

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