無償の中等教育について、日本の高校生たちの意見

Views of Japanese High School Students on Free Secondary Education

2025.6.6 ／June 6th 2025

1.背景　Background

セーブ・ザ・チルドレンは、国連人権高等弁務官事務所による「Call for submissions for Open-ended intergovernmental working group on an optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child」に応え、子どもたちから集まった声をここに提出する。

Save the Children Japan hereby submits the voices collected from children living in Japan in response to the "Call for submissions for the Open-ended intergovernmental working group on an optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child" by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

セーブ・ザ・チルドレンは、日本の子どもの貧困問題解決を目指して、給付金提供や食料品支援などの事業を行っている。2025 年 5 月 17～18 日、経済的困難のある世帯で、こうした支援事業を利用したことがある東京都・千葉県・宮城県に在住する高校生 9 人と、高校生の教育にかかる費用について話し合うワークショップを実施した。

Save the Children Japan has been implementing programs such as cash assistance and food support, with the aim of addressing child poverty in Japan. On May 17 and 18, 2025, we conducted a workshop with nine high school students residing in Tokyo, Chiba, and Miyagi prefectures, all of whom are from households experiencing financial difficulties and who have accessed our support programs. The discussion focused on the costs associated with high school education and their daily school life.

このワークショップでは、高校生が、自分たちのまなびとお金に関わることについて意見を出し合い、日本の国会議員に伝えたいさまざまな課題や要望をまとめた。彼らからはまた、中等教育の無償化に関係する意見を OHCHR に提出したいという希望があった。それゆえ、セーブ・ザ・チルドレンは、子どもたちに代わってその意見を提出することとした。

In the workshop, the students shared their thoughts and experiences related to education and

its costs, and identified various issues and requests they wished to convey to members of the Japanese Parliament. They also expressed their desire to share their voices regarding the issue of free secondary education with the OHCHR. Therefore, Save the Children Japan compiled and translated their views for the submission.

2.ワークショップ概要　Workshop Outline

イベント名：「高校生の声を国会議員に届けよう！～高校生のまなびとお金について～」

Title: "Let's Bring High School Students' Voices to Members of Parliament! – Education and the costs "

実施日：2025 年 5 月 17～18 日

Dates: May 17th–18th, 2025

実施場所：セーブ・ザ・チルドレン東京事務所

Venue: Save the Children Japan Tokyo Office

参加した高校生：9 人　*名前は本人が決めたニックネーム、年齢は参加当時

Participants: 9 students * Nicknames were chosen by themselves; ages are as of the workshop

- ✧ 高校 1 年生：ひまり（15 歳・女）、りょうが（15 歳・男）
  1st-year high school students: Himari (15 years old, female), Ryoga (15 years old, male)
- ✧ 高校 2 年生：りか（16 歳・女）、すが（16 歳・男）、みお（16 歳・女）、まっつん（16 歳・男）
  2nd-year high school students: Rika (16 years old, female), Suga (16 years old, male), Mio (16 years old, female), Mattsun (16 years old, male)
- ✧ 高校 3 年生：さくら（18 歳・女）、みぃ（18 歳・女）、りゅうと（17 歳・男）
  3rd-year high school students: Sakura (18 years old, female), Mii (18 years old, female), Ryuto (17 years old, male)

3.無償の中等教育に関する子どもたちの声　Children's voices on free secondary education

- Q1：教育水準　あなたは中等教育を受けていますか（中学校や高校に通っていますか）？
  （Educational level　Do you attend secondary education?）

セーブ・ザ・チルドレンのワークショップの参加者は、皆、高校に通っている。高校の課程は、全

日制、定時制、通信制とさまざまである。

All children who participated in the Save the Children workshop are currently attending secondary school (high school) in Japan. The forms of schooling vary and include full-time (day), part-time (evening), and correspondence (remote) courses.

- Q3：子どもたちが中学校や高校に通うことを難しくしていることは何ですか？それは子どもたちにどのような影響を与えていますか？（What makes it difficult for children to attend secondary school and how does this affect them?）

高校生からは、日本では高校の授業料無償化と言っているけれども、お金の関係で友人が高校を辞めてしまったという共有があった。また、通信制の高校生については、社会的な理解がなく、差別的な視線が向けられているという意見もあがった。

Some high school students shared that, although Japanese government claims to provide free tuition for high school, they had friends who dropped out due to financial reasons. Additionally, some participants also expressed that students attending correspondence high schools face a lack of social understanding and are often subjected to discriminatory attitudes.

- Q4:公立の幼稚園/保育園/こども園、中学校や高校に通うことが、他の子どもたちと比べて特に大変だったり、難しかったりする子どもたちはいますか？（Do some children have a harder time / greater challenges attending public pre-primary and secondary school than other children?）

高校生からは、高校に通うための困りごととして、制服や副教材など、学校に通うために家庭が支払わなくてはならないものがあることがあげられた。ほかにも高校に通うときの食事について、費用がかかり大変であり、特に定時制高校の場合は昼から授業があるため、昼食代と夕食代が必要という声もあった。学校に通うための交通費が負担であるという声もあった。また、パソコン代について、用意することが難しいので助成がほしいという声もあった。その他、在学中に資格を取得す

るための受験料や交通費を用意することが大変という声もあがった。

The students identified several difficulties their families face in covering the costs necessary to attend school. These include expenses for school uniforms, supplementary materials, and other items required for attendance. Some students also raised concerns about the cost of meals. In particular, those attending part-time (evening) high schools shared that, since classes start in the afternoon, they need to pay for both lunch and dinner. Transportation costs were also mentioned as a burden. Additionally, students expressed the need for financial support to purchase a personal computer, noting that it is difficult for them to afford one. Furthermore, the costs of taking certification exams and traveling to exam sites were cited as difficult for families to cover.

- Q5: すべての子どもが公立の幼稚園/保育園/こども園、中学校や高校に無料で通えるように、各国の政府がするべきことは何ですか？（What should governments do to make sure that all children can attend public pre-primary and public secondary education for free?）

この質問に関連する声を以下に紹介する。

The following are actual voices of children who participated in the workshop.

✧　りゅうと（高校 3 年生・男）

僕は高等学校の完全無償化について伝えたい。高等学校の完全無償化を目指してほしい理由は、貧困な家庭でも問題なく学校に通えるようになったり、学習意欲はあっても資金の問題で学校に通えていない人が通えるようになったりするからだ。また、学校に通うお金はあるけれども塾や資格を取るためのお金がない人や塾や資格を取れるようになったり、そのような目標がなかったとしても学校にかかるお金を生活にかかるお金に回したりできるからである。

だが、今すぐ完全無償化するというのは、かなり難易度が高いと思うので、まずは完全無償化する条件をあらかじめ決めておいて、一部の世帯に完全無償化を目標にしてほしい。もしくは完全とまでいかなくても一部の授業料や教材費、ジャージ、制服などの費用を削減してほしい。

- Ryuto (Male, 3rd-year high school student)

“I want to share my opinion about making high school education completely free.

The reason I hope for this is because it would allow students from low-income families to

attend school without difficulty, and enable those who are motivated to learn but cannot afford it to receive an education.
Also, for those who can afford to attend school but cannot pay for cram schools or qualifications, making high school free could give them the chance to pursue those opportunities. Even for those don't have such goals, the money saved on school expenses could be used for daily living costs instead.
However, I understand that making high school completely free right now would be really difficult. So, I would like the government to set clear conditions in advance, and to start by making high school free for the households that are struggling the most. Even if it's not completely free, I hope that at least part of the costs—such as tuition, textbooks, gym clothes, or school uniforms—can be reduced. ”

✧　みぃ　（高校 3 年生・女）

私は義務教育を高校生までひきのばすことについて伝えたい。
現在の日本は中学校までが義務教育となっているが、中卒は、クラスに数人いるかどうかである。
数字を見ても、高校に行くことが普通という意見が多いのが現実だと思う。
実際、今の時代で中卒の子を会社や店が雇う所は少ないこと、募集していても不利な状況になることもある。でも、身の回りに中退する人も少なくはない。さまざまな理由から「義務教育を引きのばすこと」について考えた。

- Mii (Female, 3rd-year high school student)

“I want to talk about extending compulsory education to include high school.
Currently in Japan, compulsory education ends after junior high school, but in reality, there are usually only a few students in each class who don't go on to high school. Looking at the numbers, it's clear that attending high school is considered the norm.
In today's society, it's rare for companies or stores to hire someone who only graduated from junior high school, and even if they are hiring, those applicants are often at a disadvantage. At the same time, I also know people around me who have dropped out of high school for various reasons.
That's why I started thinking seriously about the idea of extending compulsory education to include high school. ”

✧　まっつん　（高校 2 年生・男）

お金のことで、自分の希望する進学先や、友だちとの付きあいをあきらめて自分のやりたいことができていない人、そして夢を叶えられない人がたくさんいる。
自分も取りたい免許、資格などにお金がかかり何回かあきらめたことがある。進学できても、進学先でどんどんかかるお金により、暮らすのが難しくなり、学校をやめてしまった友人が実際いる。子どもたち一人ひとりの夢や希望がお金によりあきらめるのはあってはならないことだと思う。
なので義務教育を高校まで引き伸ばすか、高校に通うためにかかる色々なお金を無償化してほしい。高校まで義務教育とすれば、一人ひとりの未来への道を広げることができるし、また、高校に通うためにかかるお金を無償化することで、親の負担は、学ぶお金、遊び代、昼食代、塾代やそれ以降の大学だったり進路、未来に有効活用できると思う。大人が一人ひとり輝いているように、子どもたちが学んで、楽しく遊んで過ごせる、輝ける場所が高校などの学びの場であってほしい。

- Mattsun (Male, 2nd-year high school student)

“There are many children who, because of money, have had to give up going to the school they hoped for, spending time with friends, or doing what they truly want—and some who have had to let go of their dreams altogether.
I myself have had to give up on getting licenses or qualifications several times because of the cost. Even when someone manages to go on to the next stage of education, the increasing expenses can make life difficult—some of my friends have actually had to drop out of school for this reason.
I believe it is unacceptable that children have to give up on their dreams and hopes because of money.
That’s why I want either compulsory education to be extended to high school, or for the various costs of attending high school to be made free.
If high school becomes part of compulsory education, it would open up more opportunities for each child’s future. And if the costs associated with attending high school were covered, it would ease the burden on parents—allowing that money to be used for things like learning, play, meals, cram school fees, or even saving for college and future goals.
Just as each adult shines in their own way, I want places of learning—like high schools—to be places where children can shine too: by learning, playing, and spending time joyfully. ”

✧　すが　（高校２年生・男）

私は奨学金について伝えたい。なぜなら私も高校に入る時に給付型、貸付型の奨学金の利用を考えていたが、卒業後に長期間の返済をしないといけなかったため断念したからだ。貸付型の奨学金利用者の返済負担が大きく、また給付型や無利子奨学金が十分に整備されておらず、所得連動返済型の設計にも問題がある。なので今よりも給付型や無利子奨学金を増やしてほしい。具体的には各家庭の困窮度に応じて給付型奨学金枠を拡大し、無利子・返済不要の支援を強化することだ。

- Suga (Male, 2nd-year high school student)

"I want to talk about scholarships.
I was thinking about applying for both need-based and loan-type scholarships myself when I entered high school, but I gave up because I didn't want to deal with long-term repayments after graduation.
Many students who use loan-type scholarships struggle with a heavy burden of repayment. In addition, there are not enough need-based or interest-free scholarships available, and even the income-based repayment systems have some problems. I think there should be more support through need-based and interest-free scholarships. For example, I hope the government will increase the number of need-based scholarships depending on each household's financial situation, and provide more support that does not require repayment or charge interest."

✧　りか　（高校 2 年生・女）

通信高校生の地位向上とデジタル環境の支援について伝えたい。
世間の偏見や差別がまだ通信制高校生に対しては向けられている。そういった差別などを払拭できるよう政府が啓発活動や支援を積極的に取り組んでいくべきだと思う。
具体的にはデジタル機器の無料贈与や貸し出しなど。企業などはパソコンを買い替えることが必要なので、そういったもの買い替えたあとのパソコンを利用してやってみてはと思う。学びの多様化を近年はうたっていると思うが、全然できていないと感じる。その理由は、まだ学校へ行く、授業を対面で受けるということを大多数の普通とする流れがあって、それ以外を選んだ人への差別感情や疎外など強いというのが今も変わっていないから。
制服や給食などがそもそもない場合も通信などはあるので、そういった場合は制服や給食の補助をしても、根本的な補助になっていないので、通信生だけの補助というのも何か考えてもらいたい。

- Rika (Female, 2nd-year high school student)

  “I want to talk about improving the status of correspondence high school students and supporting their digital learning environment.

  There are still prejudices and discrimination against students attending correspondence high schools. I believe the government should take active steps to raise awareness and provide support to eliminate such discrimination.

  For example, this could include offering free or loaned digital devices. Since companies regularly replace their computers, they could consider donating or lending their old devices for this purpose.

  Although people often talk about diversifying ways of learning these days, I feel like it hasn’t really happened yet. That’s because the majority still see going to school and attending face-to-face classes as the “normal” way to learn, and there are still strong feelings of discrimination and exclusion toward those who choose different options.

  Also, correspondence students often don’t have uniforms or school lunches in the first place. So even if subsidies are provided for uniforms or school meals, they don’t really meet the actual needs. Therefore, I hope there can be some special support designed specifically for correspondence students.”

参考までに、その他の参加者からは、スポーツができる環境の整備、学習スペースの拡充、学校外の活動への支援などがあげられた。

For reference, other participants mentioned the need for a better environment for sports, expanded study spaces, and support for activities outside of school.

【参考】ワークショップの様子　Photo of the Workshop





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