

# COMPLETION REPORT

## **Seikatsu Ryouhou (Daily Life Therapy): Examine the strength of a Japanese education model for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders.**

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### (1) The missing links in the current Western principles of inclusive education for children with ASD

A continual missing link in the current Western principles of inclusive education for children with ASD is the reduced emphasis on the emotional development. An educational priority in *Seikatsu Ryouhou* is to enable children with ASD to achieve holistic development by strengthening the physical, emotional and intellectual skills. The emphasis of emotional stabilization in *Seikatsu Ryouhou* offers a renewed angle of enriching the educational experience of children with ASD which is currently missing in many parts of the world.

### (2) Empirical supports for the strength of *Seikatsu Ryouhou*

The empirical data obtained from this research supported that the interpretation of *Seikatsu Ryouhou* needs to be approached from a social model of education, rather than from a medical model of education. The social model of education emphasizes accessibility and equality of teaching and learning for all students, which is in line with Dr. Kitahara's principle of setting the same learning goals and expectations for all students in the Higashi schools, including students with ASD. In contrast, the medical perspective gives priorities to individual therapies and pull-out interventions to overcome individual shortcomings. It is possible that some past academic scholars had misinterpreted *Seikatsu Ryouhou* from the medical perspective, which had caused injustice in reporting the strength of *Seikatsu Ryouhou*.

In conclusion, the strength of *Seikatsu Ryouhou* lies in the strength of the Japanese cultural and educational system which emphasizes holistic, balanced, and whole-person development. The transferability of *Seikatsu Ryouhou* to a cross-cultural context is grounded on the recognition of the socio-cultural strength of this model and an appreciation of its Japanese philosophical base to ensure sustainability.

### Publication of the Results of Research Project:

Verbal Presentation (Date, Venue, Name of Conference, Title of Presentation, Presenter, etc.)

Thesis (Name of Journal and its Date, Title and Author of Thesis, etc.)

Two papers are in the writing process:

1. *Seikatsu Ryouhou: Conceptualizing and positioning a Japanese educational model for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.* - To be submitted to Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders
2. The strength in a Japanese education model for the remediation of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. - To be submitted to Asia-Pacific Journal of Education

Book (Publisher and Date of the Book, Title and Author of the Book, etc.)