

School year 2020/2021:

Three-stage plan for teaching at Bavarian schools

Information for parents and legal guardians

During the school year 2020/2021, school life and lessons at Bavarian schools will have to be organized depending on current numbers of corona infections.

Therefore, a **three-stage plan** has been developed. This plan is based on the number of new infections with the coronavirus during the last seven days per 100,000 inhabitants (*7-Tage-Inzidenz*) in an administrative district (*Landkreis* or *Kreisfreie Stadt*). Current infection numbers for each administrative district are provided on www.lgl.bayern.de.

- Until further notice, on school premises **everyone** (including pupils, members of staff, external visitors) **has to cover mouth and nose** (i.e. by wearing a mask, a scarf, etc.). Whether or not children have to cover mouth and nose while sitting in their own seat in the classroom depends on the current stage in effect (see below).
- In addition, the following applies for pupils in **grade 5 and higher**: **During the first two weeks of the school year** (until up to and including September 18, 2020), all pupils have to keep mouth and nose covered **while being seated in the classroom** (regardless of the stage in effect in the respective district).

Stage 1: Regular teaching with additional hygiene requirements (*Regelbetrieb unter Hygieneauflagen; 7-Tage-Inzidenz below 35*):

- **Regular teaching**; current hygiene requirements (*Rahmen-Hygieneplan*; cf. www.km.bayern.de/hygieneplan) have to be observed

Stage 2: Obligation to cover mouth and nose during lessons as well (*7-Tage-Inzidenz between 35 and 50*):

- **Grades 5 and higher** (schools of general education as well as vocational schools): **Obligation to cover mouth and nose during lessons as well** (while pupils are seated in the classroom). This obligation does not apply if a minimum distance of 1.5 meters between the pupils can be guaranteed.
- **Grades 1 to 4** (elementary schools and schools for children with special needs): No obligation to cover mouth and nose while pupils are being seated in the classroom.

Stage 3: Alternation between teaching at school and studying at home plus obligation to cover mouth and nose (*7-Tage-Inzidenz over 50*):

- Division of classes. Teaching and studying will take place either at school or at home (daily or weekly alternation of study groups). Exception: Minimum distance of 1.5 meters can be guaranteed with all pupils in attendance.
- Obligation to cover mouth and nose while being seated in the classroom applies for all pupils in all grades (regardless of age and type of school).

If the number of infections in a certain district exceeds one of the thresholds, this does **not automatically** put the next stage in force. The final decision will be taken by the local health authority (*Staatliches Gesundheitsamt*) in accordance with the local school board (*Schulaufsicht*). It is therefore possible to have varying regulations in different communities within the same district (e.g. if the rise of infection numbers can be traced back to one specific source or event).

How **pupils with symptoms of illness or cold** are to be treated also depends on the stage currently in effect in an administrative district (see instructions below).

Guideline for parents:

How to deal with children's symptoms of illness and cold

Pupils mustn't go to school if they show...

... acute, flu-like symptoms such as

- fever,
- dry cough,
- a sore throat,
- earache,
- severe stomach ache,
- vomiting or
- diarrhoea.

In case your child needs medical assistance, please contact a doctor. The doctor decides if a COVID-19 test should be conducted and will give further instructions.

Whether or not it is possible for your child to go back to school depends on local infection numbers:

- In **stage 1** or **stage 2**, your child **has to be free of symptoms** for at least **24 hours** (except for a running nose and occasional coughing). The **temperature has to be back to normal** for at least **36 hours**.
- In **stage 3**, a negative COVID-19 test or a doctor's certificate is required additionally.

Is my child allowed to go to school when showing mild symptoms of a cold (running nose, occasional coughing)?

That depends on

- the child's age and
- the local infection numbers.

For pupils from grades 1 to 4 attending school with mild symptoms of a cold is possible

- without restrictions in **stage 1** and **stage 2**;
- in **stage 3** only if a negative COVID-19 test or a doctor's certificate can be provided.

Pupils in grades 5 and higher attending school with mild symptoms of a cold

- are **not allowed** to attend school **on the same day they have developed symptoms**.
- In **stage 1** and **stage 2** attendance of school is possible if **no fever has developed at least 24 hours since the symptoms have occurred**.
- In **stage 3**, a negative COVID-19 test or a doctor's certificate is required **additionally**.