

Dear ISU families,

It is a little over two weeks until we welcome returning and new students to school. I am sure most of you have been following the news with regard to the Covid-19 pandemic over the summer. As you are aware, ISU has a series of protocols for an epidemic/pandemic. More especially, we will follow advice from the German health authority, *Bundesministerium für Gesundheit*, and *Schulamt* about the appropriate course of action.

ISU priority is to ensure the well-being and interests of students, families and staff while providing a conducive learning environment for our students.

Please see below lengthy yet important information on the COVID-19 situation and how this affects ISU. Your support in this matter is essential.

COVID-19 TRAVEL

The German federal government has recently updated its list of international risk areas. This may affect some ISU families who may be travelling and consequently may have to subject themselves to quarantine.

If you are coming from abroad and have been in a risk area at any time within 14 days before entry, you are obliged to

- Go straight home and quarantine for 14 days after entry and
- Report to the authority responsible for you (usually the health authority) stating your name, your address, the date of entry and the country from which you entered.

In the area of responsibility of the District Office in Neu-Ulm, the notification must be sent by email to Gesundheitsamt Neu-Ulm (gewerberecht@ira.neu-ulm.de) and for the area of Alb-Donau-Kreis to the Landratsamt Alb-Donau-Kreis (kontaktmeldungen@alb-donau-kreis.de). If another district office / health office is responsible for your place of residence, please report there.

You can find a continuously updated list of risk areas on the RKI homepage ([please find the list of high risk counties/regions here](#)).

Exception when entering with a test/medical certificate:

- If you have a negative corona test and a corresponding medical certificate in English or German upon entry, please also send this to the health authority responsible for you.
- The Corona test and the medical certificate must be taken no more than 48 hours before entering Germany. The test must have been carried out in a country listed by the RKI ([please find the list here](#)).
- Please clarify with the responsible authority whether the quarantine may be ended prematurely after submission of the negative test and medical certificate and have this confirmed in writing.
- Please note that any exception to the quarantine requirement is not possible if you have symptoms that indicate an illness with Covid-19.
- German border police may provide more information at the point of entry.

Entry without a test / medical certificate:

- If you are entering Germany without a previous corona test and medical certificate, please clarify the procedure directly with the authority responsible for your area.
- Please clarify in particular whether and under what conditions testing and, if necessary, early termination of the quarantine can take place.
- German border police will provide more information at the point of entry.

Please note that the entry/quarantine regulations and the list of risk areas can change at any time. We, therefore, recommend that you keep yourself informed about the current status of entry from abroad.

ISU Reopening 19 August

As communicated before the summer holidays, the Bavarian Ministerpräsident Söder stated in late May that schools will open in September as normal. The *Bayerisches Staatsministerium für Unterricht und Kultus* have developed a rooming and hygiene concept for school (please see attachment). Please find this document attached. *Schulpflicht* (legal requirement with regard to school attendance) is in operation unless a student has a doctor's notes.

At ISU we will have the following measures in place:

- In addition to our regular evening cleaning, disinfecting and cleaning will continue during the school day;
- Disinfectant stations, gels, and wipes will remain readily available;
- School computers, laptops, tablets, musical instruments and art supplies will be disinfected after every use;
- Students are not to exchange any materials;
- Student arrival: students may arrive from 8:00 and will enter the building as follows:
- EYP 1-3 and Grade 1 via the main entrance;
- Grades 2 and 4 via the playground entrance;
- Grades 3 and 5 via the side entrance;
- Grades 6-12 via the main entrance;
- Upon entering the school students wash their hands and go directly to their homeroom.
- End of day dismissal: students will be exiting the building from the same point they entered in the morning;
- Anyone with symptoms, however mild, will be asked to stay at home;
- No assemblies and limited cross-grade learning opportunities until at least the end of October;
- Physical distancing of 1.5 m is not required in most classrooms but is required in all areas outside the classroom;
- Where there may be small group mixed level classes such as EAL or SEN and then a 1.5m physical distance must be maintained;
- Access to the building will be restricted and parent meetings are to take place after 15:45;
- Students from Grades 1-12 are to wear masks when outside the classroom. These masks are to cover the nose and mouth. Face shields on their own will not suffice.
- ASAPs will start in early October and will be confined to the ISU campus and gym;
- No competitive sports events are to take place with other external teams during the first semester;
- No residential trips are to take place in the first semester. MSUS Trip Week will be postponed until late in the second semester;
- Day trips are postponed until at least October;
- Catering will not be available for the first few weeks. We will monitor the situation and communicate accordingly. Therefore, students must bring their own drinks, snacks and lunches;
- PE as normal but additional hygiene measures will be in place such as the disinfecting of hands and no activities involved the passing of items with hands;
- Early morning care and after school care will run as normal from 24 August;
- Large ISU community gatherings will be postponed until further notice;
- Lower School and Middle/Upper School Back to School Nights will be done virtually.

Thank you so much for your patience and understanding as we have been adjusting, like you, to this evolving situation.

More information about the start of the school year will be sent next week.

Warm regards,

Liam Browne

Director