

Three-Levels Plan for the Beginning of the School Year 2020-21

Information for Parents and Legal Guardians

By Bayerisches Staatsministerium für Unterricht und Kultus (7 September 2020)

The authorities have developed a three-level plan depending on the infection rate, which is based on the numbers of the seven-day incidence per 100,000 inhabitants in a district or an urban district. Up-to-date data on the 7-day incidence are published at:

<https://www.lgl.bayern.de/>

https://www.lgl.bayern.de/gesundheit/infektionsschutz/infektionskrankheiten_a_z/coronavirus/karte_coronavirus/index.htm

- In the school year 2020-21 all persons on the school premises must wear a mask until further notice – however, in the classroom the mask needs to be worn if this is expressly provided for the respective level (see below)
- For grade 5 and above, the following special regulation applies in the first two weeks of lessons (i. e. up to and including 18 September 2020): During this time, the obligation to wear a mask also applies in the classroom during lessons

Level 1 – regular operation under hygienic conditions

Seven-day incidence < 35 per 100,000 inhabitants

- Regular operation takes place in compliance with the general hygiene

Level 2 – mask requirement in class

Seven-day incidence 35 - < 50 per 100,000 inhabitants

- Students at secondary schools from grade 5 onwards are obliged to wear masks also in the classroom during lessons if a minimum distance of 1.5 meters cannot be guaranteed
- At primary schools (grades 1-4) no masks have to be worn in the classroom during lessons

Level 3 – change model and mask requirement

Seven-day incidence more than 50 per 100,000 inhabitants

- Division of classes and lessons in weekly or daily alternations of on-campus and online lessons (exception: a minimum of 1.5 m can be maintained on site even with full classes) and
- Obligation to wear a mask also in the classroom during lessons for students of all grades of all school types

The threshold values mentioned do not automatically trigger the next higher level. The final decision on this is made by the responsible health department (in coordination with the school inspectorate, i.e. Schulamt). This means that different regulations can be made for individual communities within the same district, if e. g. new infections can be identified locally.

Levels 1 – 3 are also used to decide how to deal with symptoms of illness and colds of children and adults. Please see below:

Dealing with illness and cold symptoms of children and adults in schools

What are the symptoms of illness that my child has to stay at home for?

Students are not allowed to go to school if they have acute, flu-like symptoms such as:

- Fever
- Dry cough
- Sore throat or earache
- Severe stomach-ache
- Vomiting or diarrhea

Please consult a doctor if needed. Your doctor will decide whether a Covid-19 test is necessary and discuss the next steps with you until a return to school is possible.

The conditions under which school attendance is possible again depends on the number of infections on site:

- In levels 1 and 2 your child must be symptom-free for at least 24 hours after the illness has been overcome (except for a slight runny nose and occasional cough); the fever-free period should be 36 hours
- In level 3, a negative Covid-19 test or a medical certificate is also required

Can my child go to school with mild cold symptoms (runny nose, occasional cough)?

This depends on

- How old the student is
- How high the infection numbers are on site

School attendance for students of Grades 1-4

- Is possible in levels 1 and 2 with mild cold symptoms mentioned above
- Is possible in level 3 only after a negative Covid-19 test or with a doctor's note

The following applies to students from Grade 5 and above:

- Going to school is not allowed on the day the symptoms appear
- In levels 1 and 2, school attendance is only permitted if no fever has developed after at least 24 hours after the onset of symptoms
- In level 3, a negative Covid-19 test or a doctor's note is also required before going back to school

This is not an official translation. In case of doubt the German version is binding.