

ISF COVID-19 Hygiene Plan School Year 2021

The four factors crucial to the spread of communicable diseases include the infective agent, the source of infection, the mode of transmission and the host. Hence, the control of the spread of communicable diseases should focus on controlling all these four factors so as to break the chain of infection. COVID-19 is transmitted from person to person whilst talking, sneezing or coughing via air droplets. The virus is carried on the hands, mouth, nose, eyes mucosa and contaminated surfaces, so it can be transmitted directly or indirectly.

In order to reduce the transmission of infection, the school will follow the usual infection control measures as demanded by the **Infektionsschutzgesetz** plus follow the recommendations by the **Hesse Health Authority**. Decisions will be updated according to the current recommendations.¹

1. **School attendance Ban:** Persons who are suspected to have or have been diagnosed with contagious diseases are not allowed in school.
2. COVID-19 signs and symptoms: Fever, dry cough, breathing problems, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, body aches, stomach ache, nausea, vomit and diarrhea.
3. **Parents are expected to inform the school** about a contagious illness in their household. *Mitteilungspflichten der Betreuten bzw der Eltern (§34 IfSG)*
4. **The school is requested to inform the Health Department** of any infectious disease diagnosis or outbreak. *Meldepflichten der Kindergemeinschaftseinrichtungen an das Gesundheitsamt und Schulamt.*
5. **Infection Announcements:** *Meldepflichten und Aushang Infektionsschutzgesetz:* **In view of the current COVID situation-19, announcements will be made public to the school community on SDP. Names will not be announced as per Data Protection Act.**
6. **Vaccinations:** This is **NOT** applicable to COVID-19.
7. **To teach staff** how to carry out basic hygiene practises.
8. **All staff are requested to carry out and maintain infection control measures.**
9. In order to implement point 6 and 7, the hereunder Hygiene Plan has been adapted from the Gesundheitsamt Frankfurt ². Adaptations were made to ISF campus and procedures.

NOTE: KG Department has an infection control protocol in place that they follow. The procedures are to be followed as usual. Extra measures taken due to COVID-19 will be outlined in the following document.

¹ Gesundheitsamt Frankfurt am Main. (2019) Hygiene in Kindereinrichtungen. Retrieved 22.4.2020
[file:///C:/Users/Lilia/Downloads/Vortrag%20Hygiene%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/Lilia/Downloads/Vortrag%20Hygiene%20(1).pdf)

² Hygieneplan Corona für die Schulen in Hessen vom 22.4.2020. Hessisches Kultusministerium. Retrieved 23.4.20
file:///C:/Users/Lilia/Downloads/hygieneplan_fuer_die_schulen.pdf

COVID-19 Infection Control Plan

HYGIENE PROCEDURES

1. **SOCIAL DISTANCING:** Every student and staff member needs to comply with the strict social distance rule of 1.5 m. Avoid close contact at all times, no hand shaking, kissing or hugging allowed. [Please watch this video for further information](#)
2. **Proper sneeze and cough hygienic principle.** Remember to cover nose and mouth whilst coughing or sneezing by using the Vampire Cough - cross an arm over the nose and mouth and sneeze.
3. **Face mask obligation.** (see PPE below)
4. **Frequent HAND WASHING and hand rub.**

CDC & RKI recommends washing hands with soap and water whenever possible because handwashing reduces the amounts of all types of germs and chemicals on hands.

PROPER HAND WASHING with Soap and water is more effective than hand sanitizers at removing most bacteria and viruses.

Wash hands with liquid soap and water.

- **How?**
- Wash hands for 30 seconds.
- Use proper hand washing technique, covering all hand areas: between fingers, finger nails and wrist.
- Dry hands with disposable tissues and dispose in garbage or bin.
- **When?**
- When you arrive in school.
- before and after lunch
- when hands are visibly soiled
- hands are likely contaminated with body fluid, e.g. use of toilet, after coughing or sneezing
- After removing a face mask.

Use of hand disinfection should be done if soap and water is not available.

[Please follow this CDC handwashing demonstration](#)

5. Avoid touching face especially mouth, nose or eyes.
6. **Bathroom control:** No large groups are allowed in bathrooms. Bathroom use will be controlled by staff to ensure not more than 1 student at one time.
7. **Room air:** One large window in every class room will be available to open to ensure fresh air enters into the class rooms. **It can be opened solely under strict teachers 'supervision.**
8. Jacket hangers: Jackets should be hung on alternate hooks, not touching one another.
9. All staff are requested to make sure that the safety distance of 1.5 m between one working station to the next is maintained.
10. Information about general hygiene will be sent periodically to home room teachers. Nurses will support with education material or class visits. Staff will supervise and support students to maintain proper hygienic practices.
11. Announcements via loud speaker to keep the safety social distance and general hygiene practises will be made.

PPE – PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

1. Staff and students are requested to wear a face mask.

- In schools there is an obligation to wear a mouth and nose covering. If possible, medical face masks (so-called surgical masks) are to be worn in all grades.
- Face or chin visors are not sufficient
- Wearing a mouth and nose cover is mandatory for all persons on the school premises (teachers and other school staff, students, external parties).
- This obligation includes all rooms and meeting areas in the school building (such as classrooms, specialist rooms, gyms, corridors, stairwells, sanitary areas, break sales, cafeteria and administration area) and also in the school play grounds.
- Use of disposable gloves is not recommended.
Keep with frequent proper hand washing. However, the use of gloves is a personal decision and therefore must be self-provided for.

Proper use of a face mask

Cover nose and mouth

Do not to touch the inside and the outside of the mask

Remove by pulling the elastic ear straps or laces from behind

Wash hands before and after removal

Put in a separate bag after use

SAFETY SCHOOL MEASURES

1. **No sick students or staff members are allowed on the school premises.**
2. Temperature control should be done at home. Parents need to check their children for high temperatures and flu like symptoms every morning. Anyone with fever or a temperature above 37,5°C must not come to school.
3. Gate: The back gate will be closed. Front Gate will be opened and no use of revolving doors.
4. Strict pick up and drop off at the gate. Parents are not allowed on campus, except kindergarten and pre school parents for a quick drop off.
5. Parents need to be aware that they have to be on time for pick up as students cannot play freely during this time.
6. During school time, students and staff must maintain the recommended distance of 1.5 m from one another.
7. Full classes are .
8. Safety distance from desk to desk is 1.5 m.
9. **Doors will be kept open to avoid touching of handles.**
10. Students will be guided to enter through different doors according to grade.
11. Use of stairways will be according to direction.
12. Attendance of Vulnerable (high risk group) teachers/staff and students.

High risk groups as per the Robert Koch Institute:

- Age. The risk of complications if sick with COVID-19 increases with age, especially to persons above 60 years of age.
- People who have serious heart conditions.
- Respiratory diseases (e.g. COPD)
- Cancer patients.
- People who are immunocompromised due to an illness or treatment they are currently receiving.
- People with severe obesity.
- People with Diabetes Mellitus.
- People with chronic liver disease or kidney disease.
- People with co-morbidities.

According to the Hessische Kultusministerium the following procedures need to be followed:

- The participation in class of teaching staff who are **above 60 years** of age is on a voluntary basis.
- Teaching staff and students **under 60 years** of age who are in the high risk group and have a compromised immunity require a doctor's certificate to be excused from class participation.
- Teaching staff who live with a person from the high risk group are excused from participating in class. Permission is given with presentation of a medical certificate.
- Pregnant and breastfeeding staff should not participate in classrooms.

BREAK AND LUNCH TIME

1. **Canteen** is in use under strict hygiene measures, no self service, therefore the salad bar will be closed. Only pupils in a study group, class groups eat together in a certain section of the canteen, strict adherence to the rules of distance to other classes.
2. The **kiosk** is open, queues are supervised and only one class at one time.
3. Limited use of **water dispenser** to reduce contact transmission. Everyone to bring his/her own water bottle.
4. **The playing fields** will be open and used in staggered timings to avoid mixing of classes.
5. Supervisors need to ensure distance between students is kept on the playground.
6. Food preparation and food processing in the classroom is not permitted.

SUSPECTED COVID-19 CASES

1. COVID-19 signs and symptoms: Fever, dry cough, breathing problems, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, body aches, stomach ache, nausea, vomit and Diarrhea.
2. Staff and students need to stay at home if they are sick, they should call their doctor and if suggested by the doctor get tested. Either contact family doctor by phone, call emergency COVID-19 number 116117 or the Hessen Corona Hotline on 08005554666 between 8.00am – 8.00pm.
3. The resting room in the health centre will be declared an isolation room.
4. Any suspected case, will be given a face mask and must wait in the isolation room till pick up.
5. Once the parents arrive they inform the security at the gate and the security informs the health centre. The patient is accompanied by the nurse out of school.
6. The isolation room will be disinfected after the patient leaves.
7. **Parents need to be aware that they have to be on call all day to make sure that they can pick up their children as soon as possible.**
8. If a positive result comes out, the school has to be notified.
9. Infected persons need to go into quarantine for 14 days.
10. Nurses in cooperation with the infected person and the **Frankfurt health authorities (Gesundheitsamt Frankfurt)** have to immediately track down all persons who came in contact with that person. All in close contact with a positive person must go into a 14-day quarantine period and inform their doctor.
11. In case the school has a positive case, it will be announced to the school community via SDP but keeping with personal data protection. **No names will be announced.**
12. Parents are free to keep their children at home but they have to inform the director and the home room teacher. Students have to continue with online learning.

SCHOOL CLEANING PLAN

1. As a standard procedure, the school will follow cleaning procedures as recommended by the Hessen health authority.
2. School surface cleaning has to follow the norm DIN 77400. In the COVID-19 pandemic, the RKI recommends the use of normal cleaning methods of surfaces rather than the use of disinfection.
3. A cleaning plan will be adjusted to the number of students in school and the use of classrooms accordingly. Example: Tables in the hall will be disinfected during exam break.

TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

To prevent travel returnees from infecting others unknowingly and thus triggering chains of infections to the school community parents and staff are requested to keep with the travel procedure:

1. **Persons who enter Hessen by land, sea or air from abroad and have been in a Covid-19 risk area high-incidence or virus-variant area inform your health authority .**
2. **Please do this registration at <https://www.einreiseanmeldung.de> and carrying the confirmation with you when you enter the country to present it to your carrier or the federal police at the immigration checkpoint.**
3. **Anyone who enters Hesse from a Corona virus variant area must go immediately into quarantine. Testing to end the quarantine is possible after five days at the earliest. Even a corona vaccination or a disease gone through does not exempt from the quarantine obligation.**
4. Please read the following [website in German](#) to get information about the new regulations. There are some exceptions from the regulations.
5. This [list provided by the RKI](#) will be updated regularly, please follow up before you come back.
6. A travel declaration form has to be filled and send to nurse@isf-sabis.net, whenever a school community member or a household member **travels to a high risk area . This has to be done before coming to school** or provided to the security guard /supervisor before entering the school campus.
7. **The Hessen government ordered a compulsory and free of charge testing for travelers returning from risk areas.**
8. **If you have a negative PCR test PLUS a medical certificate you don't have to undergo quarantine. But you need both. The medical certificate must state that there are no signs of a SARS-CoV-2 infection. Also this certificate must be either in German or English.**
9. Teachers can take advantage of free Covid-19 testing for teachers, please check www.arztsuche Hessen.de.
10. **Please get information about the travel procedure from the Frankfurt health authority [here](#).** Parents and staff are requested to keep with the travel declaration procedure.

SAFETY CONTACTS

Here are some links to German websites and contact numbers you might find handy in times of the Corona crises and in general.

If you have more questions regarding COVID-19 infection control measures, travel possibilities, regulations etc, you can inform yourself [here](#).
Please be informed about the regularly updated [RKI](#) list with the foreign risk areas.

In case any school community member is sick, remember to stay home and contact your family doctor by phone or call the emergency COVID-19 number 116117 or the Hessen Corona Hotline on 08005554666 between 8.00am – 8.00pm.````

To stay informed about the COVID-19 infection situation refer to [the Robert Koch Institute](#) `

Feeling alone, need someone to talk to, [an open ear is available in different languages](#)

The Hessen authority has created an app that helps citizens keep up to date with various safety issues, applications online and with what is going on in your neighborhood. Have a look at the [Hessen warning App](#)

For more general information in Hessen [click here](#) (mostly in German language)

Thank you and stay safe.
School Nurses

References:

1. *Gesundheitsamt Frankfurt am Main*. (2019) Hygiene in Kindereinrichtungen. Retrieved on 22.4.2020
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