



February 8, 2022

## Adapted Quarantine Regulations in Children's Day Care

Dear Parents,

our shared objective is that children's day care centers or children's day care facilities can remain open despite the currently high number of infections. Child care facilities are educational institutions. Furthermore, they are indispensable for the compatibility of family and career. Meanwhile, the Omicron variant is predominant also in Bavaria. This mainly leads to milder courses of the disease. This is why the quarantine regulations for the field of children's day care were adapted.

### **Infected Children**

Infected children are still not allowed to attend the day care center. This shall already apply in case of a positive self-test. All contacts have to be reduced immediately. A positive self-test should be confirmed by a PCR-test (e.g. in a test center). The public health department will then inform the parents about the next steps and impose isolation.

**Please immediately inform the institution/facility about a positive test result of your child, irrespective of the type of test and irrespective of the fact who has carried out the test.**

#### **- Duration of the isolation**

The isolation imposed by the public health department usually lasts for 10 days. It may be terminated after seven days if the child has no symptoms typical for Covid-19. For this purpose, the children need a negative test. Sufficient in this case is a rapid antigen self-test carried out by a qualified medical employee or a comparable person trained for this purpose. This test is e.g. available in a pharmacy or a test center. The isolation ends with the transmission of the negative test result to the public health department.

- **Daily proof of test**

Applicable in the future: as long as only individual children are tested positive for the coronavirus, the remaining children may continue to attend the institution. A tracing of contacts by the public health departments will no longer take place in case of individual cases in the day care centers.

If a case of infection becomes known in a group, then the children in this group have to furnish a daily proof of a test for the following five days of attendance. This shall apply to all children, also for children who are considered vaccinated or recovered. The parents are able to get special vouchers for the additional tests required for this purpose. Thus, the additional tests may be obtained free of charge via the pharmacies, if required. The institutions will inform all parents about the necessity of additional tests.

### **Closing of Groups**

The provider of the institution shall close the group if there is a clustering of infections. Clustering means that more than 20 percent of the children of a group cannot attend the institution due to a positive testing for Sars-CoV-2. Therefore, it is important that you immediately inform the institution about a positive test of your child. The institution will inform the parents about a closing of groups.

- **Duration of the der closing of groups**

The closing of groups lasts five weekdays (weekends and holidays included). The closing of groups only begins one day after the day the clustering of infections was detected and the parents were informed by their institution about the closing of groups. If the 20 percent threshold is e.g. exceed on a Thursday, then the closing starts on Friday and lasts until Tuesday.

After the return from the closing of groups (closing of a group), the children have to furnish proof of a test even if this day would not be a "test day". The regular regulations regarding the obligation to provide proof of a test shall apply in this case.

- **Exceptions from the closing of groups**

In case of a closing of groups, all children of the group can principally not attend the group for the following five weekdays. We also ask the parents of recovered or vaccinated children to refrain from an attendance of the institution and to reduce the contacts of your child.

## **Quarantine Directives**

Irrespective of the closing of groups by the provider, the public health department may additionally impose a quarantine for the children of a group in case of a clustering of infection cases. As a general rule, the public health department will no longer hand over the quarantine directive to the parents individually but will issue a collective directive for the entire group. The institution will forward this directive to the parents. This directive is issued by the public health department, even though it is handed over via the institution. Therefore, if you have any queries regarding quarantine, please contact your (local) public health department.

- **Exceptions from the quarantine**

Children who are considered vaccinated or recovered do not have to be subjected to a quarantine even if the public health department imposes quarantine for the entire group. Detailed information regarding exception of the quarantine are available under <https://www.stmvp.bayern.de/coronavirus/>. However, the children who are exempted will usually not be mentioned by name in the quarantine directive. Therefore, it is the parents' responsibility to check whether the own child falls within the exception in case of a collective quarantine directive. For further questions regarding exceptions, please contact your public health department.

Even if your child is not subject to the obligation to quarantine, we kindly ask you to refrain from attending a day care center if possible. The educational staff has been working under the most difficult conditions for months. Additional organizational workload should therefore be avoided as far as possible. In any case, we recommend to restrict your child's contacts to the private sphere.

- **End of the quarantine**

A quarantine usually lasts for 10 days. However, in case of children, it may be terminated after five days (release from quarantine/testing with negative result). Children need a negative test for this purpose. Sufficient in this case is a rapid antigen self-test carried out by a qualified medical employee or a comparable person trained for this purpose. Such a rapid test is e.g. available in a pharmacy or test center. A release from quarantine (proven by a negative test result) is subject to the condition that the child does not have any symptoms typical for Covid-19. This testing is within the parents' personal responsibility. There will be no check by the institution or the public health department.

After the return from quarantine, the children have to furnish proof of a test for the attendance of the institution as usual even if this day would not be a “test day”. The regular regulations regarding the obligation to provide proof of a test shall apply in this case.

Once again, we would like to thank you and your family for supporting us in fighting against the corona pandemic and wish you all the best!

Your Department V3 – Children’s Daycare