

Frequently Asked Questions

COVID Response Protocol

- **What is a suspected case?**
 - A suspected case is generally defined as an individual who has received a positive test result from a rapid test but has not yet had the results of a PCR test to confirm the infection status of the individual.
- **What is a confirmed case?**
 - A confirmed case is defined as an individual who has received a positive test result from a PCR test.
- **Will my child's class go into quarantine?**
 - This is decision made by the Health Ministry. They will proactively contact the school if too many confirmed cases have been found in the class within a short period of time. Until otherwise notified by the Ministry, students are not required to quarantine and will continue to have in-person instruction in school. Generally, the Health Ministry is relying on the effectiveness of the hygiene policies – especially the use of masks—to prevent the spread of the virus in the classroom.
- **Can my child stay home from school as a precautionary measure?**
 - At present, the requirement for students to attend school (*Präsenzpflicht*) remains in force. Exceptions are possible only via written permission from the school. This must be requested in writing with a detailed explanation as to the circumstances and supported by any possible documentation, such as a note from their doctor.
- **What happens when a student receives a positive test result from a rapid test at school?**
 - The student is immediately removed from the classroom and sent home. The class will now begin daily rapid tests for 5 days. The student in question is required to quarantine until they are able to take a PCR test. There is no need for other students in the class to quarantine at this stage. If the PCR test is negative, the student in question can return to school. If the PCR test is positive, then the student in question must follow the quarantine procedures described in the Quarantine Guidelines.
- **What happens when a student receives a positive PCR test?**
 - **The parents should inform the school immediately**, including the date on which the test was taken. The child must follow the quarantine guidelines shown in the Quarantine Guidelines. In these cases, the school will do an internal assessment to ensure that the hygiene measures have been enforced for the “table neighbors” of the infected student. If the students followed the hygiene measures, they are not considered Contact Persons. There is no general requirement for the entire grade to quarantine, but the class will begin daily rapid tests for 5 days.
- **Who is considered a “Kontaktperson” for the purposes of quarantine?**

- A “Kontaktperson” is someone who is suspected of having exposure to the infected individual without the preventative hygiene measures in place. This would mean, for example, a student who was not wearing a mask during the lesson. A “Kontaktperson” can also be a member of the household of an individual who has received a positive result to a PCR test.
- **My child has tested positive on a rapid test—what should I do next?**
 - The parents of the student are responsible for scheduling a PCR test. This can be done by contacting the Coronavirus hotlines for your respective city or by contacting your child’s doctor. The parents must inform the school as soon as the result of the test is known, including the date on which the test was taken.
- **A member of my child’s household is a suspected case – should my child stay home?**
 - There is no quarantine requirement for students who have a suspected case in their household, provided that they are currently not showing any symptoms. If they are showing symptoms, they should follow the “Sniffle Plan”.
- **A member of my child’s household is a confirmed case – should my child stay home?**
 - If a member of a student’s household has a positive PCR test – i.e. are a confirmed case of infection – then they are considered a “Kontakt Person” and should follow the quarantine requirements shown on the Quarantine Guideline.
- **My child is showing symptoms related to the Coronavirus – what should I do?**
 - Please follow the “Sniffle Plan” – i.e. all students should be symptom free for 48 hours before returning to school.