

## Englisch - English

### Information for parents on voluntary non-expert self-testing for Coronavirus in reception classes – to be sent out by the school

Dear parents,

Since the March holidays, rapid tests have been used extensively for pupils at all schools in Hamburg, with good results. Even younger children have found it easy to perform these high-quality tests, quickly and reliably showing whether a child is healthy or whether there is a suspected case of Covid-19. As a result, school has become much safer and the risk of infection has been significantly reduced.

Recently, several primary schools and parents have approached the school authorities and asked whether children in the reception classes might also be able to take part in the tests, at least on a voluntary basis. Therefore, due to the large amount of positive feedback about the tests, and in order to increase the safety in schools, the reception pupils (Vorschulklassen – VSK) will also take a rapid test at school twice a week, starting on Monday, 19 April 2021.

We would like to make sure that you are well-informed about these voluntary tests. The tests are free of charge, have been subjected to careful medical examination, are very easy to carry out, and are neither painful nor unpleasant. The test stick only needs to be inserted very briefly into the nostrils. Anyone who has ever picked their nose – and is said that schoolchildren occasionally do – will have no difficulty in carrying out the test. Two videos explain this in a manner which is easy to understand: <https://www.hamburg.de/bsb/14961744/torben-erklaert-den-coronatest/> and <https://www.youtube.com/embed/A0EqaSBurX0>. Please watch both of the videos.

As the children will carry out the test themselves, no explicit declaration of consent from you as parents is necessary. However, please let us know if you specifically do not want your child to take a rapid test independently and under the guidance of the reception class leader. We will, of course, make a note of this and take it into account.

If a test is **negative**, the usual rules of hygiene must of course still be observed, as the test result never represents anything more than a momentary snapshot of a person's state of health.

If a rapid test is **positive**, you as parents will be informed immediately by the school and asked to pick your child up from school. Your child will then need a PCR test, which is much more accurate. You will receive a notification form for this from your school, along with information on where the PCR test can be arranged. Your child must go into quarantine until the final result is available. The school will take care of notifying the responsible health office of the suspected case.

Please let us know if the PCR test is negative – your child can then come back to school if he or she does not have to recover from a “normal” infection first. If the PCR test also turns out to be positive and a Covid-19 infection is confirmed, please then coordinate the next steps with the responsible health authority yourself.

BSB sample info letter to the parents of reception class children/14 April 2021

With kind regards,

School Management