



Nr. 18/2019-20

13.05.2020

Dear Gaesdonck-families.

I warn you before: this will be a long letter to parents. Perhaps you percieve it like us: when everyday life needs to be reinvented, it becomes clear how many little things in our life need to be regulated, planned or organized, so that at least a piece of "normality" can return even if the conditions are changed.

Well, "normal" in the sense of "as before", school and boarding school life will probably no longer become in the long term from the current perspective. Nevertheless, many colleagues here at Gaesdonck are working hard to provide our students with the best possible form of teaching in a reasonable combination of classroom and digital classes.

An example: Usually the timetable for an entire school is drawn up over several weeks during the summer vacation. The task now was to set up several timetables in just a few days or hours. Another: Normally, the supervision of our boarding students focuses on the afternoon and evening hours. For weeks now we have been working around the clock 24/7 with the team of education, not to forget the kitchen and housekeeping. All of this is only possible through a high level of personal commitment and I would like to thank all of my colleagues who have helped.

My thanks also go to the many parents who have shown us their support in the past few weeks - not least because of the almost without exception continued payment of the fixed costs for the day-time boarding and OEx fees!

Even if a lot is different now, we can still say: the campus lives:

- Yesterday the high school exams started under strict hygiene requirements. We keep our fingers crossed for all our high school graduates!
- Grades 13 and 10 have been taught again since the week before last, grade 11 since the beginning of the week and grade 9 since today. From next week or week after next week on, all grades at Gaesdonck will have lessons on a daily base again. In this way, we make full use of the possibilities of the outline plans given by the Northrhine-Westfalia state government: for all grades, classroom instruction at Gaesdonck begins about a week earlier than at most public schools.
- Most boarding students returned after the Easter break. A complex procedure coordinated with
  the health authorities, including a 14-day spatial and organizational separation of returnees and
  continued students, ensures the best possible security. Two students who have returned from
  abroad are currently spending the legally required 14-day single quarantine on our timehonored "flower street": [Link]



- So far, the rules have worked out and the students are disciplined: all of our boarding students are still healthy and free of symptoms.
- You can still find up-to-date information as a live ticker in our Gaesdonck Corona blog: [Link]
- You can get an insight into everyday life on campus in our Corona diary, which is written by various students or employees: [Link]

## **Lessons start again for grades 5 to 6 and 11** next week or the week after next:

At the end of last week, the school ministry decided that from this week onwards, next to the Q1 students, further grades can come back to school if the required space and personnel are available. The management of Gaesdonck has decided that **in the coming week** the students of the **grades 5 to 7** will have their first days of school after the closure, **week after next week** we are happy to welcome back the students of **grades 8 and 11**. The exact days of your child's lessons can be found in the attached overview planning by the end of the school year. The EF will be grouped in the next week.

The following plans apply to grades 5 to 8:

- 1. The classes are divided to comply with the distance rules. Both groups of a class always have lessons on the same day. We will inform you of the exact grouping in good time.
- 2. On the non-teaching days, homework and the Moodle tasks of the subjects that are not taught are to be done at home.
- 3. The lessons take place in the Juvenat, for classes of grade 8 in the language center and in the French room. Each group stays in a fixed room for the entire day and each student in a fixed place for all hours.
- 4. To define a fixed schedule is not possible in the current situation, you will receive the schedule for the first day in good time.
- 5. Each group begins with a "class lesson", in which we want to enable exchange about the past weeks and information about the current special situation. This lesson is either taken over by the class teacher or by a colleague who knows the class.
- 6. Since a large number of teachers in our school belong to corona risk groups, changing teachers is unavoidable.

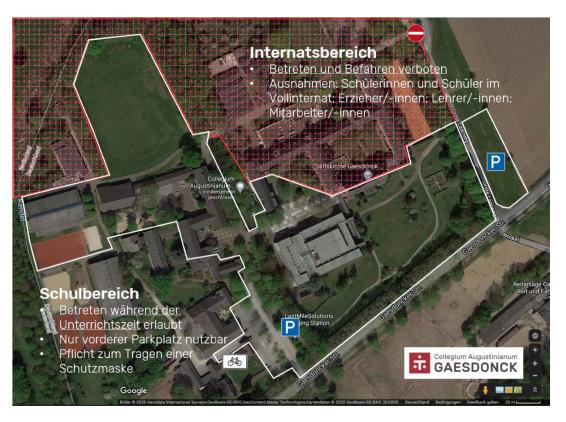
The Ministry of Education has determined that participation in this class is mandatory. If your child has relevant previous illnesses with regard to the corona virus (COVID-19), you decide - if necessary after consulting a doctor - whether your child is at risk from a health hazard school attendance could arise. In this case we ask you to contact us. At this point, we would like to refer to the letter to parents from April 22, 2020 on corona-relevant pre-existing diseases in relatives in the same domestic community.

A **requirement** for going to school is that your child is **healthy**, i.e. in particular, that there are no symptoms of a respiratory tract infection and, moreover, that there are no infections in the family home environment.

Finally, we would like to point out once again the **hygiene rules** that are <u>mandatory</u> for entering and staying on the Gaesdoncker Campus:



- 1. On the bus and on the premises, mouth-nose protection must always be worn outside the classrooms.
- 2. A **minimum distance of 1.50 m** should be maintained at all times if possible, group formation should be avoided.
- 3. The hands should be washed or disinfected regularly. Disinfectant dispensers can be found in the entrance to the main building, the Primanerhaus and the Juvenate.
- 4. From the bus or parking lot, the students immediately go to the classroom and leave the campus immediately after class, at the latest with the school bus.
- 5. The part of the Gaesdoncker Campus marked as boarding school area is the home environment of the boarding school students and may not currently be entered by external students:



Please inform your children of these rules. They serve for their and our protection!

Our **school bus service** is currently organized with four lines, so that there is a sufficient distance in the individual buses. Please support us in reminding the participating students of the importance of keeping a distance both at the stops and on the buses themselves! You can download the current special timetable <u>here</u>.

An unfortunate consequence of the lesson planning described above is that we **cannot offer childcare for the day time boarding school for the rest of the school year**. Affected parents of the day boarding school as well as the **upper grades external school** will also be reimbursed or not billed for the months of May to July the variable costs of the respective type of visit (childcare and catering costs). Since, other than public institutions, we can only make use of public funds to a very small extent, we ask you, if possible, anyhow to continue to contribute to the fixed costs according to of the parents' letter of April 24, 2020.



Next **Sunday, May 17, 2020**, between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., **boarding school students** will have the **next opportunity to return**. Since the lessons for all levels will start again in the weeks after, we expect all students who have not yet arrived at this time! For the safety of all existing students, we also follow the procedure coordinated with the health department of a spatial and organizational separation for the first 14 days. Detailed information can be found in a separate letter to parents: [Link].

Depending on the further course of the pandemic and the connected regulations and requirements, we hope that together with the responsible health authorities for the Pentecost weekend we will be able to determine modalities for a **possible first home-weekend** for the boarding school students. In this regard, however, I ask you to be patient. We have to wait for the next few days and weeks to develop - but we are working on it!

I hope you and your loved ones are doing well. Together with our principal Ms. Mann and our headmaster of the boarding house Mister Gysbers we wish you and your families all the best.

Continue to take good care of yourself and others and stay healthy!

Kind regards from Gaesdonck Campus

Dr. Markus Oberdörster Direktor



## Planungsgrundlage für den Präsenzunterricht bis zu den Sommerferien alles unter Vorbehalt (Stand 12.05.2020)

	Montag	Dienstag	Mittwoch	Donnerstag	Freitag
	11.05.2020	12.05.2020	13.05.2020	14.05.2020	15.05.2020
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Q1			Unterricht	Unterricht	Unterricht

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Juvenatsgebäude
P-Gebäude
Hauptgebäude