



Gaesdonck Parents Letter

No. 28/2020-21

21.01.2021

Dear Gaesdonckers, dear parents,

The day before yesterday, the prime ministers, together with the Chancellor, extended the current lockdown until mid-February, as expected. This presents many families with not inconsiderable challenges. We hope that you and your families will continue to do well in the family "home office".

As best we can, we try to ensure as much "normality" as possible in this special situation. At least from our end of the line, it looks like the distance learning (we will probably not forget this word any time soon...) has started without any problems in all classes and levels. Finding the right balance between too much and too little is, of course, not always easy. In the first few days, it was perhaps a little leisure-friendly here and there in the lower and middle classes, while in the upper school it was a little too much of a good thing in some places - but we can see that the students are having a good exchange with their class teachers or level leaders.

We are very pleased about this because the intensive preparation for this situation in the last few weeks has paid off - both on the pedagogical and the technical side: today, two stable gigabit fibre optic cables connect the Gaesdonck campus with the network, we have just expanded our in-house server structure once again, all teachers and educators are equipped with appropriate hardware (lap tops and/or iPads), and so on. That was a lot of work behind the scenes and we would like to thank everyone who helped!

In the meantime, all present boarding students have been "cleared" by two consecutive Covid tests, which enables us to live together in a good way in this somewhat unusual "domestic community". In this context, there is also the possibility of travelling to the meeting on the coming Sunday:

Next arrival for the boarding school

Next **Sunday, 24.01.2021** is the next possible arrival date for students in our boarding houses. With regard to the special hygienic requirements and framework conditions we refer once again to the [parents letter no. 25](#) of 07.01.2021.



Please note the following procedure:

- Arrival is **between 18:00 and 18:30**.
- Access is only possible via the main car park.
- Please go to the music school first upon arrival. The first quick test will be carried out there. Then wait in the car park until the test result is available. (approx. 15 minutes). The rapid test is carried out in cooperation with a local doctor's practice. For each test, € 39 will be charged to the parents' account.
- If the test result is negative, please register your child at the administration office. Please hand in the test certificate and the completed arrival form there. Please enter both the music school and the administration as usual only individually or as a small family and keep a minimum distance of 1.5m from other persons.
- After registration, please say goodbye to your child. Unfortunately, it is currently not possible for parents to enter the campus.

Please adhere to the above time frame. No doctor will be on campus for a test after 6.30 pm!

For planning purposes, we kindly ask you to send us your feedback by Friday evening at 6.00 p.m. directly by e-mail to the boarding school director at gysbers@gaesdonck.de.

Interim reports

The interim report cards for the current school year will be issued on **Friday, 29.01.2021** and sent to you by post on the same day. If your child's report card has not arrived by the middle of the following week, please contact the school office.

Boarding students currently present at the campus will receive their report cards personally from their educators. International students who are not currently present in the house will receive a scan by e-mail from their educator in advance. The original will be given to them upon their return.

Reimbursement of school bus costs

The Gaesdonck Parents association „Förder- und Freundeskreis“ informs that the bus costs for the month of January will be reimbursed in full. The reimbursement will be offset against the February collection. A decision regarding the February fees will be made at the end of February, depending on further developments. If you do not participate in direct debit, please simply suspend the February payment.

Reminder: Emergency care

For the pupils of the Sexta and the Quinta we continue to offer **emergency care**. For pupils of the day boarding school, this also extends to the afternoons if required.

For reasons of planning security, we would like to ask you once again to notify us of a possible need for childcare by e-mail to poststelle@gaesdonck.de by 6 p.m. on Friday for the following week. Should a short-term need arise after this deadline, we will certainly find a solution. Please provide your children with work materials for emergency care and - if available - a terminal for participation in digital lessons. (A limited number of laptops are available).

Please note that the buses do not run during the times of suspended face-to-face classes.

Digital kick-off event for confirmation preparation

The digital kick-off event for this year's Confirmation preparation will take place on Sunday, 24.01.2020 at 5.00 pm. Students involved have already received more detailed information from Spiritual Director Schwerhoff.

Also at the end of this parents letter our wish to you is: **Please stay healthy!**

Yours sincerely from the Gaesdonck Campus

Dr Markus Oberdörster
Director

Doris Mann
Headmistress

Michael Gysbers
Head of Boarding Houses