



Gaesdonck Parents Letter

No. 36/2020-21

11.03.2021

Dear Gaesdonckers, dear parents,

Some of you - and certainly some of your children - are already curiously waiting for this letter to parents. From Monday, 15.03.2021, it will be time for all pupils to start attending classes again, at least on a daily basis. Before we have to talk about the numerous challenges that are associated with this, we would first like to say: **We are looking forward to seeing you!**

At the same time, however, it is also important to note that it is difficult to completely reconcile all the demands that school is currently supposed to meet. So, right up to the teachers' conference at midday today, we have been working together and thinking about how we can create a meaningful and at the same time as safe and secure an environment for our pupils and colleagues here at Gaesdonck for this first reunion after the long weeks of lockdown. And as has been the case for many months now, it will not work without a few annoying rules and a certain amount of discipline.

Hygiene concept

We therefore repeat here the most important elements of our hygiene concept:

1) Prerequisite for school and boarding school attendance

Participation in attendance classes and travel to the Gaesdonck boarding school is generally only possible if the pupil concerned and all persons living in his/her household

- feel healthy, do not show any symptoms typical of Covid 19 (fever, cough, shortness of breath, muscle/joint pain, sore throat, headache, nausea/vomiting, diarrhoea). In the case of a simple cold without further signs of illness, it is recommended that the child first be observed at home (or in the boarding school) for 24 hours, in accordance with the guidelines of the Ministry of Education. If no further symptoms appear, the child can attend classes as usual. However, if further symptoms appear, a diagnostic clarification is necessary.
- have not been in contact with a person diagnosed with Covid-19 or SARS-CoV-2 in the last 14 days. If the information is unclear (e.g. if there is a category 2 contact person in the family), we ask the parents to contact us in order to agree on the further procedure. If necessary, it is possible to participate in lessons by team.
- As a school and boarding school community, we trust that our pupils participating in the attendance classes as well as our pupils arriving at the boarding school will respect and comply with the rules of conduct set out in the CoronaSchVO in mutual responsibility.

II) Distance regulation

Outside the boarding school community, a **minimum distance of 1.50 m from** other persons is to be maintained at all times on the entire campus, if possible; group formations are to be avoided. This also applies outdoors.

III) Mandatory masks (FFP2; KN95; OP masks)

A **medical mask** according to the FFP2 or KN95 standards, or at least a medical surgical mask, must be worn at all times on the entire Gaesdonck premises, including during lessons in the classrooms and on the bus. A face visor or a so-called "everyday mask" is not sufficient. If a mask is forgotten, a disposable surgical mask can be obtained from the school office in exceptional cases.

Outside of school lessons, the boarding school forms the home environment for the boarding students. Therefore, "free tested" boarders may move around within the boarding school without a mask and without the obligation to keep their distance from each other.

In order to prevent the Sars-CoV-2 virus from entering the boarding school as far as possible, it is compulsory for boarding school pupils to wear an FFP2 mask at all times during lessons. The boarding school provides its pupils with a sufficient number of FFP2 masks.

IV) Zoning of the campus



Internatsbereich

- Betreten und Befahren verboten
- Ausnahmen: Schülerinnen und Schüler im Vollinternat; Erzieher/-innen; Lehrer/-innen; Mitarbeiter/-innen; Schülerinnen und Schüler im Tagesinternat während des Nachmittags
- Zugang zur Mensa zum Mittagessen und Nachmittagskaffee für Schülerinnen und Schüler im OEx frei (Pflicht zum Tragen einer MNB)

Schulbereich



- Betreten während der Unterrichtszeit erlaubt
- Pflicht zum Tragen einer Mund-Nase-Bedeckung
- Juvenat ab 13:10 Uhr Internatsbereich

V) Entering the campus for students

According to the current CoronaSchVO and CoronaBetrVO, external students are only allowed to enter the approved areas of the campus during their own lesson time. This includes free periods between lessons. In the case of alternating weeks, access is only possible during the attendance weeks.

Alternating model between presence and distance learning

Under these strange circumstances, we are very much looking forward to seeing the students of all year levels back on campus in stages from Monday. In order to best meet the various requirements of the state government for this step, all year groups from the Sexta to the Upper Secondary will be taught in a **weekly alternation of presence and distance until** further notice. For this purpose, the class groups up to the Lower Secondary and the Upper Secondary are each divided into A and B groups.

Up to the upper third, classes are divided by the class teacher. As a rule, **boarding students belong to group B**. The division of the Lower Secondary remains the same as in the previous weeks.

We start on Monday, 15.03.2021 with the **B-week** (odd week) and thus with the B-groups.

In detail, the following applies to the:

- **Year 13** (Q2): Continuation of the current procedure
- **Year 12** (Q1): Continuous lessons for all pupils (no weekly change)
- **Year 11** (EF): Separation of level by alphabet into A-/B-group
- **Year 10:** Continuation of the present procedure
- **Year 7 to Year 9:**
 - Mixture of face-to-face and distance learning
 - Regular timetable
 - Diff courses are omitted
 - In the distance week, assignments via Moodle
 - Video lessons no longer take place, but teacher contact and counselling are possible.
 - Class tests are suspended until Easter; smaller learning success tests are possible
 - 2nd foreign language
 - French Fr. Caton 7a: A-week, 7b: B-week
 - French Fr. Burdich 8a: A-week, 8c: B-week
 - 9 a, c, d: all 2nd foreign languages: Assignments via Moodle during the lesson in the respective classroom; Subject teachers are present for questions;
 - 9 b Latin with Mr. Rose takes place in presence.
- **Year 5 and 6:**
 - Mix of face-to-face and distance learning
 - Regular timetable
 - School fairs are cancelled
 - In the distance week, assignments via Moodle
 - Video lessons no longer take place, but teacher contact and counselling are possible
 - Class tests are suspended until Easter; smaller learning success tests are possible

Lunch in the refectory

In order to ensure a distance of 1.50 m between pupils during lunch, the number of seats in the cafeteria remains significantly reduced.

In order for all pupils to be able to eat lunch in a pleasant atmosphere, mutual consideration and a high degree of **time discipline** are necessary. **The last two weeks have already shown that this can work well!**



The following time periods are compulsory. 5 minutes before the end of the respective period, the pupils are made aware of the impending change by a bell, if necessary:

- 12.00 - 12.30 Preferential meal option for **all pupils with free periods**, in particular for the boarding students, and, if possible, for the staff.
- 12.30 - 13.00 Mensa reserved for the **Year 11**
- 13.00 - 13.30 Mensa reserved for the **Year 12** and boarding students with lessons
- 13.30 - 14.00 Mensa reserved for the **Year 13** and boarding students with lessons

In order to equalise the meal times, the 6th lesson for the Year 11 will be temporarily cancelled. For the Year 12, the 6th lesson ends at 1.00 pm. For the Year 13, the 7th lesson does not start until 14.00.

Unfortunately, external and day boarding pupils up to Year 10 still do not have the opportunity to purchase meal vouchers for lunch in the refectory.

Entering the cafeteria is still only permitted after **disinfecting hands** or washing hands immediately beforehand. During the main meal times between 12.30 and 14.00, compliance is checked by the supervisor at the main entrance.

Between 12.30 and 14.00 a **one-way system** applies in the refectory area: the refectory is entered exclusively via the main entrance and exited exclusively via the cloister.

In addition, the individual **dining rooms** are bindingly assigned to individual groups. The Primaner dining room is used by the staff between 12:00 and 12:30. The Stuck hall is only available to boarding school pupils until further notice.

In the entire cafeteria area, all students are required to wear a medical mask during lunch. Removal is only permitted at the seat and only during lunch.

Many thanks to our scouts!

In order to provide additional places to stay, for example during free periods in bad weather, our scouts have provided two group tents on the Marmorplatz. We would like to thank them for their uncomplicated and great support! This is a strong proof of what our own St. Augustinus tribe is able to achieve.

If your child is interested in getting to know the Gaesdonck scout community, the leaders are looking forward to hearing from you:

kontakt@dpsg-gaesdonck.de



Note on arrival on Sunday

With the resumption of face-to-face classes (Week B - see above), we expect all boarding students back on campus **between 18:00 and 20:00** next **Sunday, 14.03.2021** at the end of the homecoming weekend ahead.

Please keep to the above mentioned time also this week.

Once again, a Covid-19 rapid test will be carried out on departure before entering the campus. In this context, we would like to remind you once again **not to drink or eat anything at least 30 minutes before the test!**

From the following week, we will also change our testing strategy from the previous saliva samples to the latest generation of antero-nasal swab tests. Once again, thanks to the help of a Gaesdonck pupil's father, we were able to obtain these tests at favourable conditions, so that we can carry out a test for € 4 after the changeover.

We would like to point out once again that the **possibility of testing is also available to our external students**. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Oberdörster through Teams.

No day boarding before the Easter holidays

The current CoronaSchVO and CoronaBetrVO still do not allow afternoon care. Even though the form of attendance of our day boarding school does not formally fall under the guidelines of open all-day programmes, we have decided to follow them and not to offer any care within the framework of the day boarding school until the Easter holidays. This is a painful decision. Boarding school life is simply not complete without our day boarding students. We look forward to better times and seeing you again!

The day boarding school fees for the month of March will be refunded according to the familiar model and will be offset against the collection for April.

Continuation of emergency care

During the weeks of distance learning, **emergency care** continues to be available for students in Years 5 and 6. For students of the day boarding school, this also extends to the afternoons if required.

For reasons of planning security, we again ask you to notify us in good time of any care that may be required by sending an e-mail to poststelle@gaesdonck.de using the form linked [here](#).

School bus transport

With the resumption of classes on Monday, our bus routes will also be running according to the regular timetable (without Corona supplementary lines). Download [here](#).

We wish our boarders and their families a good weekend at home together. Our wish for all Gaesdonckers this week is again: **take care of yourself and stay healthy!**

Yours sincerely from the Gaesdonck Campus

Dr Markus Oberdörster
Director

Sabine Schleede-Schmalz
Headmistress

Michael Gysbers
Head of Boarding School

Call of the school council

Dear parents, dear pupils,

the Catholic Parents' Association in the Diocese of Münster e.V. is conducting a survey on the topic of "Learning at Home in Lockdown" for the second time. Around 10,000 took part in the first survey last summer. The anonymous online survey is being conducted nationwide and is aimed at all types of schools that are under diocesan sponsorship.

Students, teachers and parents are interviewed. You only need 10 minutes to answer the questions (self-test). The survey ends on 26.03.2021.

The authors of the study try to put the answers together into "a big picture" to support political demands.

[Click here](#) to access the parent survey.

[Click here](#) to access the survey for students.

Best regards

Elke Schax