



# Gaesdonck Parents Letter

No. 38/2020-21

22.03.2021

Dear Gaesdonckers, dear parents,

The **Covid-19 self-tests** for our pupils announced by the Ministry of Education have arrived. The school management and the teaching staff have already prepared intensively for this situation in the last few days, so that we can start the tests in classes before the Easter holidays.

The tests are so-called "nose-front" tests (anterio-nasal swab) approved for laypersons. For this purpose, the pupils are given a cotton swab, which they insert into their own nostrils about 2 cm deep in the anterior nasal region and then place in a test solution.

The teachers will guide the students step by step through the self-testing process, making sure that the sampling takes place in a hygienic, well-ventilated and at the same time pleasant atmosphere. Finally, the pupils will receive a form on which they can document their personal test results themselves.

## **Covid-19 self-tests for the students of the A groups in the coming days**

Tests are scheduled from tomorrow for the presently present students of A-groups of the following classes:

Tuesday, 23.03.2021	1 <sup>st</sup> lesson	<b>5a and 5c</b> <b>6a</b> <b>8a</b> <b>9d</b> <b>10a</b> <b>EF - GK D; GK E5; GK KU; GK M</b>
Tuesday, 23.03.2021	2 <sup>nd</sup> lesson	<b>10c</b> <b>Q1 - LK BIO; LK D; LK E5; LK EK LK PH; LK EK</b>
Wednesday, 24.03.2021	1 <sup>st</sup> lesson	<b>6b</b> <b>10 b</b>

Testing for the Upper Primary (Q2) takes place by individual arrangement.

The extent to which short-term testing can be organised for the **remaining classes** before the Easter holidays is still unclear at the moment. The colleagues in the timetabling department are working on possibilities at the moment. We will keep you informed.

Before we start tomorrow, we would like to repeat the following **notes**:

- 1) A rapid test is a rapid test - nothing more, nothing less. Even a **positive result** does not mean that your child is actually infected or has Covid-19. In such a case, you as parents will be contacted by telephone by the school office and asked to collect your child and have a PCR test carried out by a doctor. Only this test provides a reliable statement about the presence of an infection!
- 2) Although the Directorate strongly encourages your participation, testing is **voluntary**. For students up to the age of 18, parents may object to their child's participation in the testing. For this purpose, please use the form of the state government linked [here](#) and make sure that your child has the original with your signature on the day of testing (not valid for boarding students).

General information on self-tests at school can be found on the overview page of the Ministry of Education in the education portal: <https://www.schulministerium.nrw/selbsttests>.

Independently of or in addition to the state government's testing programme, all Gaesdonck pupils still have the **possibility of individual testing** at any time for a fee of € 4. If the pupil is interested, please contact Dr Oberdörster directly via Teams.

### **Mandatory masks on the school bus**

Finally, we would like to use this letter to parents to point out once again that there is also an unrestricted obligation to wear a medical mask on our school buses. There was still a little room for improvement this morning.

(Once again, a friendly hint in the same direction also goes to our upper school students who are commuting together in the car...)

Yours sincerely from the Gaesdonck Campus

Dr Markus Oberdörster  
Director

Sabine Schleede-Schmalz  
Headmistress

Michael Gysbers  
Head of Boarding School