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Senatsverwaltung für Bildung, Jugend und Familie ■ Bernhard-Weiß-Str. 6 ■ D-10178 Berlin

www.berlin.de/sen/bjf

**To all parents of children
in Berlin day-care centres**

11th May 2021

**Parent information on the opening of the day-care centres
in regular operation with limitations from 17.05.2021**

Dear Parents, Dear Sir or Madam,

The 7 day incidence (the number of new infections per 100,000 inhabitants over the past seven days) in Berlin has reached the figure 93,7 (by 11.05.2021) and by that it is significantly below the level of the week before. In the day-care centre children groups, the numbers have recently also been declining.

Based on this positive development, and as we know how much the closure since 08.04.2021 has been a burden for you, the Senate has decided, in its last meeting, to reopen the day-care facilities for children.

From 17.05.2021 on, the care offer of the day-care centres is open again to all families and children in regular operation with limitations under pandemic conditions.

In detail, the following is envisioned:

- (1) All children with a childcare contract shall have access to the day-care centre. There is no restriction to individual target groups. The "KRITIS" list of key professions will no longer be applied.
- (2) The day-care centres shall offer families a scope of care that is as needs-based as possible and that meets at least the legal requirement of 7 hours, irrespective of need. At least one group shall be offered with a daily care time in accordance with the full-day-care certificate.
- (3) The limited regular operation under pandemic conditions remains committed to the goal of minimizing the number of cases and the traceability of infections. Care should be provided in stable groups as much as possible. For organisational reasons, the groups can be reassembled once if necessary, but must then work in stable settings again.
- (4) If staff shortages or organisational circumstances make it necessary, restrictions in childcare operations are possible in coordination between parents and the day-care centre as well as the day-care centre supervisor.
- (5) The applicable hygiene measures must still be followed.

We kindly ask you to continue to limit your individual care needs to the necessary extent and to coordinate this regularly with your day-care facility.

This opening will take place under ongoing continuation of the accompanying measures to support the health protection of the employees and the children. This includes, in particular, the continuation of the testing and vaccination strategy.

We will continue to pay close attention to and evaluate the incidence of infection in the facilities even after the start of limited regular operation under pandemic conditions, so that we can respond as necessary.

Furthermore, we would like to inform you about the following points:

Meal costs:

With the start of a regular operation from 17.05.2021, the Senate Department for Education, Youth and Families generally foresees that all parents from May 2021 participate again in the meal costs of the amount of 23 euros per month. This also applies if your children do not yet attend the day-care centre again. However, we have appealed to the day-care centre operators to waive payment if your children have not actually used the care offer for more than 10 days in the month of May.

New admissions / familiarisation

New admissions as well as settling in are now basically possible again for all children.

Compulsory testing for recovered children:

Recently, we have received inquiries regarding exceptions to the testing requirement for recovered children in day-care centres. In this regard, § 6c of the Second Infection Prevention Measures Ordinance applies, which provides for an exemption from the testing obligation for, among others "Convalescents who can provide a positive PCR test result for a SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus infection that has been done at least 28 days ago and is not older than 6 months".

This also refers to recovered children in day-care centres when they would otherwise be required to undergo testing.

Dear Parents,

We thank you for your support in coping with the current situation. We hope that the opening of the day-care facilities, which is now approaching, will make it easier for you to organise your everyday life and at least allow you and your children to return to a little more of a normal family life.

The parent hotline of the Senate Department for Education, Youth and Families is still available for any questions you may have. You can reach them at 030 - 90227 6600 on all working days from 9 am to 1 pm.

With kind regards,

On behalf of
Holger Schulze
Head of the Department for family affairs and early childhood education