

**DEPARTEMENT
GESUNDHEIT UND SOZIALES**

Abteilung Gesundheit

Cantonal medical service

29 October 2021

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Dealing with Covid-19 cases at compulsory Aargau schools during winter 2021/22

Ensuring good school education and protecting the health of pupils and teachers are important. The consistent implementation of hygiene and protective measures as well as clear procedures and rules in the event that pupils or teachers fall ill at school with Covid-19 contribute to meeting both of these requirements.

We therefore kindly ask that you take note of the following points that will apply at compulsory Aargau schools from 1 November 2021:

- As a rule, the following always applies to all pupils and teachers: those with symptoms of Covid-19 should not attend school and should get tested. Covid-19 tests for people under 16 years of age are free of charge.
- Pupils and teachers with a positive test result must go into isolation and report this to the school immediately. The cantonal contact tracing centre (CONTI) will contact the affected individuals.
- If three or more confirmed cases occur in a class within a single week, the cantonal medical service will order a mandatory saliva test for all pupils in this class. The samples will be taken at school. Those who are absent must organise the test themselves and notify the school of the test result.
- Classes affected by three or more confirmed cases must refrain from singing in class and doing contact sports for a period of ten days. In the case of classes from primary school grade 5, it will also be made mandatory to wear masks indoors at the school for ten days. For classes up to primary school grade 4, no inter-class teaching will take place (with the exception of multi-class departments). Should the testing performed on the entire class not reveal any further positive cases, these immediate measures will be lifted without further ado.
- Orders issued by the cantonal medical service or CONTI are binding for everyone.

All of the aforementioned points aim to reduce the need for periods of (class) quarantine and to ensure that school operations can continue with as little disruption as possible. At the same time, the risk of infections and the further spread of Covid-19 should be kept low.

All schools still have the opportunity to participate in repetitive testing. It is strongly recommended that, where possible, all pupils participate here. Please support this simple but important measure to prevent the further spread of Covid-19 at schools to the greatest extent possible.

Detailed information can be found online at www.ag.ch/coronavirus-schulen (website available in German only).

The health authorities and the schools would be grateful for your support in achieving these goals. Thank you!