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Coronavirus – Information for Parents of Lower-Secondary Students

Dear parents,
Dear students

As you will be aware, the first cases of the new coronavirus (Covid-19) have been reported in Switzerland. Although Covid-19 is usually not a serious illness, there are certain measures that must be taken. In the following, we would like to inform you about these measures:

There are no regulations concerning travellers returning from abroad. Adolescents who have been abroad in the last few days may attend school if they are healthy.

Exceptions:

- Adolescents who have been in close contact with a person or persons suffering from Covid-19 or with anyone from a severely affected area.
- Adolescents who have returned from a severely affected area in the last 14 days and are displaying cold symptoms. These adolescents must stay at home.

In such cases, you must contact a doctor by phone. During your call, you must mention your concern that your child might be suffering from the coronavirus, and you must indicate where he/she was in the past 14 days or whether he/she has been in close contact with any affected persons.

To delay any further spread of the disease, you are advised **not to visit** a doctor's office or hospital **without phoning them first**.

As usual, students who are sick and have a fever are not allowed to attend school. Schools are instructed to send home sick students immediately or to have them picked up by their parents. Those students are required to stay at home until they are well again (without any signs of illness) for at least one day. If there is a reasonable suspicion of coronavirus infection, the schools will contact the parents to have them pick up their child from school and contact a doctor or call the medical hotline to discuss further action.



Whether brothers or sisters can attend school or kindergarten must be decided in each individual case by the responsible doctors.

We would be grateful if you could continue to ensure that your children observe hygiene standards at home, such as frequent hand washing.

We also ask for your understanding if schools or childcare facilities cancel events. Due to a specific local situation, this measure may be necessary to avoid the spread of infection. Information sheets on correct hand washing in six languages are available at www.sg.ch/coronavirus.

Up-to-date information on the coronavirus can be found at www.bag.admin.ch. If you have any questions, please contact the Coronavirus Infoline at +41 58 463 00 00 (24/7). Further documents can be found at www.sg.ch/coronavirus.

Yours faithfully

Amt für Volksschule