



EUROPÄISCHE SCHULE FRANKFURT AM MAIN • Praunheimer Weg 126 • D-60439 Frankfurt



Hygiene Plan

During and after a Pandemic

Last update: 5 October 2021

Index

- 1. Guidance/instruction 3
- 2. Test obligation – self-testing in case of in-situ teaching 3
- 3. Procedure in case of positive test results 4
- 4. Quarantine Regulations 4
- 5. Entrance area – Mouth-Nose-Protection..... 4
- 6. Parking area / Route guidance 5
- 7. Classrooms, common rooms, offices and corridors 5
- 8. Group size 5
- 9. Organisation of breaks 5
- 10. Canteen 5
- 11. Sport, Music 5
- 12. School Trips, Teaching Trips and School Excursions 5
- 13. School events and parents’ meetings 6
- 14. Risk groups 6
- 14.1. Deployment of Staff 6
- 14.2. Pupils 6
- 15. Conferences / In-service trainings..... 6
- 16. Sanitary area 6
- 17. Annexes..... 6

Resuming teaching during/after a pandemic with a limited number of pupils

1. Guidance/instruction

The hygiene plan of the European School Frankfurt is continuously adapted to the hygiene plan of the State of Hesse.

With reference to the Coronavirus Protection Regulation, which came into force on 16 September 2021, and the Eighth General Decision of the City of Frankfurt am Main suspended as of 16 September 2021, it is no longer mandatory to wear a mask at the seat on this basis. However, the use of masks at seats is still a safe method of avoiding infection and quarantine measures.

Annex No. 1 of the Hessian Plan describes the planning scenarios for the organisation of teaching in the school year 2021/22. An automatic change between levels is no longer linked to incidence rates.

The Health Authorities (*Gesundheitsämter*) continue to be responsible for instructing all measures directly based on the Infection Protection Act (e.g. (partial) closure of a school, quarantine measures of (individual) pupils and teachers).

On re-entry into school pupils were introduced to the hygiene rules (e.g. washing hands, coughing, sneezing, keeping distance, wearing a mouth-nose protection) by their class teacher and the rules were discussed in a way appropriate to their age. Self-testing was also explained to the students by the teachers. In addition, the importance of protecting others, also in the family environment, is a continuous subject of the lessons. The responsibility of each individual for the protection of others has to be emphasized.

Furthermore, it is pointed out that there must be no touching, hugging or shaking hands.

Publicly accessible objects such as door handles or elevator buttons should not be touched with the full hand or fingers, if possible use the elbow.

The correct handling of a mouth-nose-protection has been explained. If possible, medical masks (so-called surgical masks) should be worn and changed at least daily. Parents are asked to provide their children with fabric bags (no plastic) for storing the masks when they are not being worn. Make sure to use a suitable and age-appropriate mouth and nose protection and to bring along a spare one.

Pupils can enter the school from 8.05 a.m. and go directly to their classes. Please do not come to school much earlier.

The regulations for travelers returning from high risk areas and risk variant areas must be observed.

It is recommended to use the Corona-Warn-App.

2. Test obligation – self-testing in case of in-situ teaching

In the school year 2021, in situ teaching is subject to a **compulsory COVID 19 test**. All pupils and school staff are required to either present proof of a negative COVID test (valid for a maximum of 72 hours) or to perform the antigen self-test made available by the school. Students test themselves at school and school staff test themselves at home. Students who are not tested are supervised in distance learning mode. The compulsory antigen self-tests do not apply to Nursery children.

Pupils, teachers and other staff are exempt from this testing obligation: after 14 days of the second vaccination or after full recovery from a COVID-19 infection (at least 28 days after and for at most 6 months or after 14 days of the first vaccination). Proof of this must be presented to the school.

For the period of the first two weeks of school the test frequency is increased to 3 tests per week as a preventive measure. In the following weeks, the number of tests per week will again be reduced to 2. After the autumn holidays, a further preventive phase with 3 tests per week will be introduced.

3. Procedure in case of positive test results

If a child tests positive by rapid antigen test, he/she is segregated and must undergo a PCR test. Until the PCR result is available, the child remains at home. From this moment on, the pupils in the class will also wear a medical mask at their seat until the PCR result of the classmate is available. Seatmates do not automatically go home.

If the result is negative, the student comes back to class, no further action is to be taken.

If the result is positive, the mask requirement remains in place in the class for a total of 14 days from the last contact, in addition the whole class will be tested daily for a total of 14 days. Sport can take place if all risks of transmission can be eliminated (sufficient distance, mask indoors).

Since the probability of transmission in schools can still be considered extraordinarily low, quarantine measures for fellow pupils and teaching staff are only necessary in individual cases.

If a child/teacher is reported as PCR-positive, quarantine measures will be taken in individual cases, depending on various scenarios (e.g., initial infection). If a child/educator is reported as PCR-positive, further action will be decided by the Health Authority on a case-by-case basis, depending on various initial scenarios (e.g. attendance times and duration, wearing a mask, etc.).

For the Nursery school teachers, separate measures are ordered by the Health Authority and agreed with the management in individual cases.

4. Quarantine Regulations

The ESF is in close contact with the Health Department and will comply with the regulations prescribed in each case.

Siblings or children of employees: Pupils are not allowed to attend classes and other regular events at the school if they themselves or members of their household show symptoms of infection with the corona virus. The same applies if members of the same household are subject to an individually ordered quarantine due to a possible infection with the virus (see annex 1 = annex 4 of the Hessian Hygiene Plan).

Siblings of pupils who have tested positive (antigen rapid test) may no longer come to school if the positive antigen test is confirmed with a positive PCR test. Until then, they are allowed to attend school.

5. Entrance area – Mouth-Nose-Protection

When entering the school, please disinfect your hands. Wearing a mouth and nose protection (MNP) is still obligatory for all persons on the school premises (teachers and other school staff, pupils of all classes of the Primary school and the Secondary school as well as external persons). During the first two weeks of school, this duty applies to all rooms and meeting areas in the school building (such as classrooms, subject rooms, sports halls, corridors, hallways, staircases, sanitary facilities, canteen and administration area). Care should be taken to ensure adequate rest periods from wearing a mouth and nose protection and its regular change at least on a daily basis. After the two prevention weeks (also after the autumn break), the wearing of a MNB at the seat during lessons and outdoors can be suspended.

The children of the Nursery school (younger than 6 and as long as they still attend Nursery school) are exempt from wearing a mouth-nose protection.

To the extent necessary for the regular classroom teaching and permitted according to the infection control regulations of the State of Hesse, it is possible to deviate from maintaining the minimum distance, especially between pupils of an individual class, their teaching and support staff, especially in the Primary school. Generally, a minimum distance of 1.5 m should be maintained between pupils and teaching staff.

Persons who are ill (especially those with fever and infectious diseases) are not allowed to enter the school (see Annex 1 = Annex 4 to the Hygiene Plan of the State of Hesse).

6. Parking area / Route guidance

It has to be ensured that not all pupils enter the class rooms and school yards via the corridors at the same time and that distance markings and pathways are observed.

7. Classrooms, common rooms, offices and corridors

Teaching is organised in the respective classes and learning groups. Where possible, cross-year groups should not be formed. All other hygiene rules remain in force. Sharing any objects should be avoided as far as possible (no exchange of tools, pens, rulers, etc.).

With regard to the wearing of a mouth-and-nose-protection please see point 2. Teachers, parents, staff and adults continue to keep a minimum distance from each other and wear a mouth and nose protection.

This obligation applies to all teachers, pedagogical staff and administrative staff outside as well as inside their respective offices if a minimum distance cannot be maintained.

A regular exchange of air is an essential measure to prevent infection. Intensive ventilation must be ensured. Every 20 minutes, a sudden airing or cross-ventilation through completely open windows is to be carried out for a period of 3-5 minutes. Tilt-up ventilation is largely ineffective. If shock ventilation or cross-ventilation is not possible, e.g. because the windows cannot be fully opened, sufficient air exchange must be ensured by prolonged ventilation and opening doors.

These measures not only apply to classrooms, but to all rooms. Organisational measures must also be taken, for example, for staff rooms, secretariats or assembly rooms, which enable the best possible implementation of hygiene rules.

8. Group size

Teaching is organised in the respective classes or learning groups. Subject lessons can take place in the designated subject rooms, as long as they are not rooms for food preparation. In cross-classroom teaching, pupils should be allocated fixed seating areas as far as possible.

9. Organisation of breaks

As far as possible, breaks are organised in separate areas. During the prevention weeks it is mandatory to wear a mouth-and-nose-protection everywhere on the school premises. This does not apply to Nursery children.

10. Canteen

The school canteen is open, buffet and salad bar for self-service are not available. The meals are pre-portioned. The kitchen staff wears a mouth and nose protection and serves the food in compliance with hygiene measures. The pupils of the Nursery School (food served in class) will initially eat together with their learning group. No food prepared at home may be distributed to classmates. Water distribution is not possible, so self-catering with drinks is recommended. The kiosk of the Secondary School is open.

11. Sport, Music

Physical education and physical activity in all age groups can take place under the protective measures foreseen. In Primary and Secondary School physical education is organised in classes or courses at the school, if possible, outside. The size of the groups must be adapted to the space constraints, especially when teaching in the sports halls. Direct physical contact is to be reduced to the minimum necessary for the specific type of sport. Mouth-and-nose-protection is to be worn in the changing-room. Cross-school sports competitions are suspended until further notice.

Music lessons may be given subject to the foreseen protective measures.

12. School Trips, Teaching Trips and School Excursions

School trips, excursions and school outings take place to a limited extent during this phase.

Before upcoming school trips lasting several days, it is recommended to wear the MNP consistently for 14 days, also at the seat, in order to avoid possible quarantine measures and thus the cancellation of the school trip.

13. School events and parents' meetings

School events are organised on site to a limited extent if hygiene rules are observed, or alternatively take place online.

Parents' meetings can take place online or in situ. Only one parent per pupil is allowed at parents' evenings or parent-teacher meetings at school.

14. Risk groups

14.1. Deployment of Staff

School staff shall be subject to the "vulnerable staff" scheme adopted by the Board of Governors of the European Schools on 31 August 2020.

In general, self-protection is possible in any situation if the hygiene and infection prevention measures and the minimum distance are observed.

Teachers who cannot be deployed in *in-situ* teaching must perform their duties from at home or from another protected area (including the school).

The Hessian Hygiene Plan no longer provides for a general allocation to a risk group.

14.2. Pupils

It is possible to exempt pupils from the mandatory attendance of *in-situ* teaching. For these pupils distance learning replaces *in-situ* teaching, however, there is no entitlement to certain forms of teaching. Regular participation must be guaranteed.

15. Conferences / In-service trainings

Conferences and further training take place in a restricted manner in compliance with hygiene rules and/or are organised digitally; only indispensable meetings are held.

16. Sanitary area

The school provides sufficient liquid soap, possibilities of hand disinfection and disposable towels. Disinfectant dispensers are available per floor.

Gathering of people in the sanitary area is to be avoided.

17. Annexes

1. Hygiene Etiquettes
2. Survey – Who is allowed to come to school? (Annex 4 to the Hygiene Plan of the Hessian Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs)
3. Chart – Antigen Self testing procedure