



KIRSTEN DINNEBIER

Stadträtin

At the end of the pandemic year

Dear parents and legal guardians,

the number of new infections with the Corona virus are rising again. At the same time politicians are discussing the end of the pandemic situation at the end of this month. In this difficult confusing situation the expert group Kita/Corona have convened and have communicated the further proceedings in the town of Marburg. We are glad about the fact that we can exchange the assessments of experts from several medical disciplines (health office, virology, hospital hygiene) with our carrier representations and facility administrations. Also the general parents' council has taken part in the discussions as your representation of interest.

At this time the Hessian state government has also released a Corona protection regulation which has adapted the regulations to the current situation. In this parents' letter we will summarise the most important new rules for you, which will from now apply to our Kitas. The expert group has agreed, to remain cautious and to reduce the amount of contacts in the facilities. Therefore we will continue (until the end of January 2022) to work in fixed groups after which the situation will be reassessed. The possibility remains to supervise the children outside or at off-peak hours.

With this measure we are trying to relieve especially you, the families. We want to avoid that a Corona case leads to the closure of entire large groups and a subsequent quarantine for many affected families. For largest possible protection of the supervision, fixed groups with transparent contact situations are still required.

Under certain conditions workers may transfer into other groups in order to cover for staff shortages. Although the staff in the Kitas is largely vaccinated, we still strongly recommend the application of rapid tests. According to the new regulation of the state of Hesse, unvaccinated staff is now obliged to get tested twice a week.

The pandemic demands a lot from you, as well as your kids and our staff. A sickness wave (flu, cold, gastrointestinal flu) is aggravatingly added to the current situation, which leads in most facilities to staff shortages. Therefore you must prepare for a more dynamic situation in the upcoming weeks: facilities may possibly need to enforce shorter opening hours so that the operation of the facility may continue.

I wish you a peaceful Pre-Christmas season in which the possibility of family encounters may also be given for a larger group, we all have a desire for meeting and contact!

Yours sincerely

Kirsten Dinnebier