

To all

Parents and legal guardians

of the Wolfsburg day-care centers and schools

Regulations for day-care centers and schools in the current Lower Saxony Corona regulation

Dear parents and legal guardians,

Since the end of the autumn holidays, we have been receiving information about corona cases at Wolfsburg schools and day-care centers.

This goes hand in hand with great concern among you, the educators, the teachers and, last but not least, the children and young people as to how to react in such situations.

First of all, I can assure you that we at the city of Wolfsburg have been very vigilant since the beginning of the corona pandemic in order to protect the health of our population as good as possible.

For this purpose, the city of Wolfsburg coordinates closely with the daycare providers and schools in the city area in weekly discussions.

Last week the federal and state governments agreed on further measures to combat the corona virus. That is why I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with the most important information and regulations for daycare centers and schools in our city.

According to the Lower Saxony state ordinance, the applicable regulations to contain the corona pandemic depend on the 7-day incidence value per 100,000 inhabitants in the respective municipality. The city of Wolfsburg determines this incidence value on a daily basis on the basis of the current figures from the health department and publishes it on [wolfsburg.de/corona](https://www.wolfsburg.de/corona) and on its social media channels. This incidence value calculated by the city of Wolfsburg is decisive in accordance with the provisions of the general decree of November 2nd, 2020. Understandably, the state of Lower Saxony cannot provide the latest figures as quickly as the local municipality itself.

In its current Corona ordinance, the state of Lower Saxony has made provisions for the ongoing operation of day care centers, child day care, other care offers and schools in a municipality. I would like to briefly explain these to you below:

Day care centers and day care:

If the 7-day incidence value of 50 is exceeded, the daycare centers and day care centers remain in the so-called regular operation based on the Lower Saxony law on day care facilities for children. This means:

- All children can visit daycare centers and day care and the previous and known distance and hygiene regulations continue to apply (e.g. regular ventilation, mask requirement when bringing and bringing children, documentation of presence in the facilities for contact tracking, etc.)

If the 7-day incidence value of 100 is exceeded, the Wolfsburg Health Department can order the daycare center to be switched to restricted operation. It means that:

- all children can still attend daycare centers,

BUT:

- the distance and hygiene regulations are tightened,
- the care is only provided in fixed groups,
- open group concepts and the mixing of groups are then no longer allowed and
- early and late services can only be restricted and the pick-up and delivery times can be changed accordingly.

If the number of infections continues to rise, the health department can also decide that individual day care centers should be closed: then care will again be offered in the form of emergency care for people in a position necessary for the company or of general public interest.

Schools:

The 7-day incidence value of 50 has now been reached in Wolfsburg.

- All students have classroom instruction and the previous and known distance and hygiene regulations continue to apply (e.g. regular ventilation, mask requirement outside the classroom)
- It is now compulsory to wear a mouth and nose cover during lessons in secondary level I and II as well as at vocational schools, as well as on all areas of the school premises and on the routes to and from the bus stop. Exceptions to this are catering and school sports.

- Primary schools and primary levels are exempt from this regulation.
- This regulation remains in force even if the incidence value falls below 50 days. The extent to which a mask requirement can be waived again depends on the development of the incidence value and is decided by the crisis team. Your school will inform you of any changes.

If the 7-day incidence value of 100 is reached and an infection protection order has been issued by the health department for a school, e.g. a quarantine for a class, a cohort or an age-group, the school switches to scenario B.

This means:

- The lessons then take place in a combination of face-to-face lessons and learning from home, with a maximum of 16 people in face-to-face lessons and a minimum distance of 1.5 meters in the learning groups.

If the number of infections continues to rise, the health department can also order schools to be closed. Then emergency care in small groups will again be offered for the children in the school kindergartens and grades Experience in recent weeks has shown that the legal situation with regard to the infection process can change at short notice. We will inform you as soon as there are any changes.

Further information can be found on the website of the Lower Saxony Ministry of Culture:

<https://www.mk.niedersachsen.de/startseite/aktuelles/schule-neues-schuljahr-190409.html>

With a consistent containment strategy - always based on the recommendations of the RKI -, a lot of commitment and collegial action, we have so far managed to master the situation in Wolfsburg very well.

At this point I would like to thank you as parents and legal guardians, but also all children and young people, for your level-headed behavior and your cooperation.

I ask you to keep your distance, follow hygiene rules, reduce travel and private meetings and wear a mask wherever necessary.

I wish you all the best in this difficult time for all of us.

Sincerely yours



Iris Bothe

City Councilor for Education, Youth and Integration