

## **Framework requirements for school lessons from 11.01.2021 to 31.01.2021**

Dear Legal Guardians,

In light of the high infection numbers, the Minister-Presidents of the Federal States together with the Chancellor took the decision on 05.01.2021 to extend the measures imposed from 13.12.2020 to 31.01.2021, which also continue to affect day care centres [KITAS] and schools and which also mean the suspension of school attendance except for students preparing for school-leaving examinations.

As a consequence, the following framework requirements apply to all comprehensive schools [Gemeinschaftsschulen] in Saarland up to the end of January 2021:

- **From Monday 11.01.2021 to 31.01.2021 school attendance for all classes and courses remains suspended except for students taking the lower secondary [Hauptschulabschluss], intermediate secondary [mittlerer Bildungsabschluss] and university entrance examinations [Abitur] in the current school year.** All other children will be schooled via the supervised 'learning from home' programme. In this case, the rules effective as of 16.12.2020 continue to apply.
- **As of 11.01.2021 students taking general higher education examinations at general education and vocational schools will return to school to attend regular classes until further notice.**
- **As of Monday, 18.01.2021, all students at general education schools taking lower and intermediate secondary examinations will also return to school to attend regular lessons until further notice.**
- Wearing a face covering continues to be compulsory.
- As before, **a modified educational programme on the respective school premises will be offered in the morning** to children in classes 1 – 6. Legal guardians should enrol their children on this programme by Tuesday at the latest for the following week.
- **The voluntary all-day school programme [FGTS] will continue for the children enrolled on the programme in the same manner as before. Legal guardians should also confirm participation in the FGTS programme by Tuesday for the following week.** In order to provide some relief during lockdown to families with children requiring care the Federal State of Saarland will pay two thirds of the FGTS parent fees for the month of January.
- The above rules also apply to **compulsory all-day schools [Gebundene Ganztagschulen]**. The previously mentioned modified educational programme will run

at school before the lunch break. As a general rule, a warm meal is provided in the lunch break. This is followed by leisure activities until **what would normally be the end of the school day**. The legal guardians of the children in classes 1 – 6 decide whether and to what extent their children take part in the activities mentioned. In exceptional cases, where there is a compelling reason, children from class 7 onwards may also attend. **In this case, too, legal guardians should enrol their children for the programme by Tuesday for the following week.**

- **Compulsory schooling** is generally applicable to children 'learning from home.
- The **rules in the current sample hygiene plan** issued by the Federal State of Saarland on 17.11.2020 also apply to school attendance programmes. Particular attention is to be paid to the rule that all children **must wear a face covering** the whole time that they are at school.
- The structure for the supervision by teachers of the '**learning from home**' programme is dependent on the organisational conditions prevailing at the school. **All schoolchildren will continue to receive learning material for learning at home.** This will be provided via learning platforms such as the Online School Saarland [OSS], by email or other digital or analogue channels.
- It is important that 'learning from home' is supervised by teachers and that the **children's availability is guaranteed.**

Naturally, we will advise you as early as possible on further provisions for lessons from 01.02.2021 onwards.

Best wishes and many thanks for your understanding and involvement.

Yours sincerely

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Elsner', written in a cursive style.

Karin Elsner

*Gleye*

Sabine Bleyer