



## Subsequent procedure for schools

Primary school pupils and the pupils of grades 1 to 4 in the special schools returned to the classroom on 22 February 2021. On **8 March 2021**, grades 5 and 6 are to begin with alternating classes. The other grades at general and vocational schools are to follow on **15 March 2021**. Students are obliged to participate in the attendance phases.

The graduating classes, which already come to the schools on a daily basis, will continue to be taught in the schools under social-distancing conditions.

Emergency supervision options remain in place.

## Health and infection protection:

- Where a minimum distance of 1.5 m cannot be observed, the learning groups are divided and taught alternately. Where the distance can be maintained without the class having to be divided, entire classes can be taught in person.
- The mask obligation applies in the classroom. Excluded from this are students in integrated development education who cannot wear or tolerate a mask due to their disability. The mask obligation is to be implemented according to the pedagogical requirements and the age of the children. Regular mask breaks must be taken into account. Teachers and other supervisory staff in all schools, as well as secondary school pupils, should wear medical masks. Medical masks are recommended for students in grades 1 to 4, but everyday masks are also allowed.
- In the event of incidence levels above 100 in individual districts or cities, the local health authorities will assist the school inspectorate in the decision on further opening measures.
- The schools have been and will be equipped with additional medical and FFP-2 masks. It was also possible for all school employees to be tested for the coronavirus at any time without having to provide a reason.
- The quarantine regulations have been tightened: quarantine generally ends after 14 days.
- The further opening measures will be based on the science. The Landesuntersuchungsamt's Surveillance Investigation into the transmission risk of COVID-19 in schools and kindergartens as well as the Sentinel Investigation at selected schools will continue. This includes the occurrence of virus mutations.
- The basis for the implementation of the Infection Protection Act (Infektionsschutzgesetz) is the Hygieneplan-Corona for schools in Rhineland-Palatinate, in the 7th revised version, valid from 22 February 2021.