

DONATUSSCHULE

Kath. Grundschule der Bundesstadt Bonn
Offene Ganztagschule



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Bonn, March 4th, 2021

Dear Parents,

the first two weeks of alternating instruction are now almost over and the rotating classes will continue until the Easter vacations, which begin on March 27, 2021. In the following, I would like to send you a few additional informations related to the last letter to parents.

Subjects of Lessons

As already described in the last letter to parents, the main subjects to be covered in the face-to-face lessons are German, mathematics and science. In principle, however, all subjects can be taught in face-to-face classes in such a way that the pupils' performance must be assessable, according to the guidelines of the Ministry of Education. For this reason, we have decided that all subjects will also be taught proportionally in face-to-face lessons, as far as this is possible from the organizational point of view.

The days so far have shown that learning and working in the smaller learning groups is significantly more intensive for the children, so that both the material of the main subjects and that of other subjects (religion, music, art, sport) can be worked on without any problems. The children have demonstrated an extraordinarily high level of receptiveness to the large amount of learning material.

Sport

Physical education classes are to be held outdoors, weather permitting. In the gym, the children must wear an everyday mask. It may only take off during periods of intense endurance exertion. This regulation also applies to sports lessons in the schoolyard, as this is part of the school property where masks are compulsory according to the current Corona Protection Ordinance of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia.

Unfortunately, the construction work on the cafeteria (see below) and the staggered pause times do not always make it possible to do sports with all classes in the schoolyard without causing group mixing. The school is currently looking for alternatives for physical education classes. Regarding a possible use of the external sports field in the neighboring Gotenschule and the Nicolaus-Cusanus-Gymnasium, I am in discussion with their school administrations. This means that we currently have to use the school's own gymnasium even in good weather

conditions. However, its windows are opened before classes begin, so that the hall is well ventilated throughout the morning.

Emergency care

We continue to provide emergency care for children whose parents are unable to provide care on distance learning days.

Change:

If your child is already registered for emergency care, but the hours of need change, please always notify me by email to info@donatusschule.de no later than 12 noon on Thursdays for the next week.

Initial Need:

Should there be a need for childcare for your child for the first time for the coming week (08.-12.03.2021), I kindly ask you to register your child with the registration form from the last parents' letter, which is also available in English on our homepage (www.kgsdonatusschule.de) under "Welcome" (Willkommen) - "Parents' Letters" (Elternbriefe), by no later than Friday, 05.03.2021 at 12 noon by email to info@donatusschule.de.

Further demand until the Easter vacations:

Should there still be a first-time childcare need for the last two weeks until the Easter vacations (15-26 March 2021), please always register your child for the new week by 12 noon on Thursdays at the latest by sending the registration form by e-mail to info@donatusschule.de.

Construction

The first preliminary work for the construction of the cafeteria has begun and we are waiting daily for the construction site to be set up. As soon as this is the case, the main entrance of the school building (door to the foyer next to the Hausmeister's room) will be expected no longer be accessible from the gate on Donatusstraße. In order to be able to continue to implement the hygiene concept currently required, a few more classes will have to use the gate on Sibyllenstraße instead of the gate on Donatusstraße. The affected classes will be informed about this by the class teachers.

Mask obligation

The Corona Protection Ordinance of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, as amended on February 22, 21 specifies that all persons who are in a school building or on school property during school use are required to wear a medical mask in accordance with the second sentence of Section 3 (1) of the Corona Protection Ordinance.

"Medical masks in the sense of this regulation are so-called surgical masks, masks of the standard FFP2 and higher standards in each case without exhalation valve or the comparable masks (KN95/N95)."

To the extent that students through grade 8 cannot wear a medical mask due to fit, an all-day mask may be worn as a substitute; this is especially applicable for the primary classes.

"For the purposes of this regulation, everyday masks are textile mouth-nose coverings (...) or equally effective coverings of the mouth and nose made of other textiles."

The obligation to wear an all-day mask or a medical mask does not apply during break times for eating and drinking, when the children are sitting at their fixed places in the classroom and when one person is in a closed room or in the outdoor area. In addition, the teacher can decide on a situational basis if wearing a mask at times or in certain lessons is not compatible with the pedagogical requirements and the goals of the lesson; this applies in particular to physical education lessons. Unfortunately, no further information or guidance was received from the NRW Ministry of Education on this topic.

In order to allow the children to take further "free breath breaks" in addition to the breakfast break, we have decided that, if necessary, the children may individually go to an open window or - depending on accessibility - to an outside door during the lesson in order to take off their masks there for a short time. In physical education, the teacher also decides whether the masks can be removed, depending on the intensity of the exercises.

I hope that we all stay healthy and that school operations are not disturbed by new infections for the remaining weeks until the Easter vacations.

The current nice weather at least facilitates the necessary regular airing. The planned vaccinations for educators and teaching staff give hope that a more normal learning and working in the school will be possible again soon.

Stay healthy!

With kind regards



Uta Becker
Headteacher