

PROTECTION POLICY



effective 12.10.2020

GOAL

The protection policy will serve to curb the spread of the Coronavirus, allowing for a "responsible normality" in the education and care of children.

Main Idea of the Protection Policy

According to an explicit statement by the BAG, "small" children play a minimal role in the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. Based on this information, restrictions intended to curb the spread such as **maintaining distance between small children and between children and caregivers, and rigid regulation of group sizes and composition** are disproportionate. Adults will maintain distance from other adults as much as possible.

Daily Life at the Daycare	
Group Structure and Free Play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In principle, groups may be larger than 5 children. • New group constellations (e.g. mixed group projects, combining groups) will be avoided. • Activities that include both groups in each set of double groups are allowed. • English do not take place as well as our Kindergarten Project. • As much time as possible should be spent outside on our playground, or at Erlenpark or Lettenplatz. • Employees will maintain distance (1.5 m) from other adults. • The 1.5 m distance need not be observed between employees and children or between children and other children. Providing for children's basic needs and positive development supersedes these rules and is of the highest priority – more so the younger the child.
Activities and Projects where possible while maintaining hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care will be taken to ensure that planned projects and activities do not include any "hygienically questionable" games (e.g. blowing water with straws). • Creative measures will be built into the everyday rhythm (e.g. "Toy-free project". Fewer toys = less need to sanitize).
Rituals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rituals will resume, as they are important in providing the children with structure and security (e.g. waving goodbye). • Hand holding in the circle/ while singing will be avoided.
Outdoor Activities The KiGa may use the bus for P.E. classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Stay at home" for us means "stay at the childcare facility". Outdoor play should take place on our playground, or at Erlenpark or Lettenplatz as much as possible, or at least at playgrounds, in forests, or on familiar nearby trails that are accessible by foot. • When outside, employees will maintain the required distance of 1.5 m from other adults, including colleagues. • The use of public transport will be avoided.
Parents meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents meetings take place. Parents must wear a mask and maintain distance.
Mealtimes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wash hands before preparing meals (including snacks and baby food/ milk). • Children will not be allowed to share food. • Food will be served with serving cutlery.
Sleep and Rest Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rooms will be thoroughly aired out. The Dyson air purifier will be used.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hygiene measures will be observed: e.g. individual head sheets for each child.
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Transitions	
Bringing and Collecting Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents must wear a mask at our Lil' Mouse House. At the Big Bear House parents handover their child in front of the door. Same process as before. Infants and children who need support re-acclimatising to the day-care may be accompanied by one parent/ guardian. Bodily contact between adults – particularly hand shaking – is to be avoided. Contact with parents should be kept short (e.g. by skipping the morning “feeling barometer”) In place of regular in-person exchanges, telephone conversations can be substituted. Request that only one parent/guardian bring and collect their child(ren). Ideally, siblings should wait outside. Children should put their personal items in their own locker, preferably by themselves in order to avoid hand-to-hand contact between adults.
(Re-) Acclimatisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If it is necessary for a parent to accompany their child, it should be coordinated so that there are not multiple parents present at once. The accompanying parent should keep a 1.5 m distance from the day care workers and from other children (in any case, according to the “safe haven” argument, parents should remain at the edge of activities and not actively insert themselves).
Transitions from Play to Eating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pay attention to hygiene, wash hands, and lay aside toys that have not been cleaned, to be washed as soon as possible (e.g. toys that were in a child’s mouth should be immediately washed in the dishwasher). Wash hands before preparing food.
Employees Transitioning back to the Group after Meetings/ Breaks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hygiene measures: wash hands and maintain distance.

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Personal	
Distance between Employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain a distance of 1.5 m. • For meetings and interviews, ensure a large enough room and maintain distance in the seating arrangements.
Protective Masks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have sufficient masks. Employees who get sick while at work should leave immediately. Employees who need to isolate a sick child will wear a mask until the child is collected by a parent/ guardian. Attention should be given to the child's comfort. • Each group has a packet of masks in the group room. • Employees who use public transport wear a mask.
High-Risk Employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High-risk employees should continue to stay at home. • Salaries will still be paid. As much work as possible should be done whilst at home.

Rooms	
Hygiene Measures in the Rooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular and thorough handwashing with soap. • Provision of soap dispensers, disposable towels, and disinfectant. • Regular cleaning of surfaces and items, as well as rooms and areas that are frequently touched, such as door handles, light switches, handrails, or faucets. • Regular airing out of rooms and use of the Dyson air purifier.

Procedure in Case of Sickness	
Recommendations of the BAG	<p>The BAG recommendations regarding procedures when exhibiting symptoms of sickness, or when coming into contact with sick persons or high-risk individuals are still in effect!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employees who live in the same household as or who have been intimate with someone with an acute respiratory sickness (e.g. coughing, sore throat, shortness of breath, with or without fever, feverishness, or muscle pain) may, as a precaution, not enter the daycare facility for 10 days, and should observe their health (self-quarantine). Returning to the workplace is permitted after a negative test result.
Contact with suspected cases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employees who have been in close contact with anyone suspected of having Corona must wear a mask at work for 10 days, or until they receive a negative test result. • When wearing a mask during the workday, employees may take more regular breaks outdoors in order to get enough fresh air, by arrangement with their supervisor or group leader. • Employees who, due to exhibiting the above-mentioned symptoms, have to take a Corona test, will work from home- to the extent that their health allows – until they receive the test result.
Occurrence of Acute Symptoms at the Daycare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employees exhibiting symptoms will leave the daycare facility immediately. • If a child displays acute symptoms, they will be immediately isolated until they can be collected by a parent. Employees who isolate themselves with a symptomatic child must wear a protective mask.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In general, children younger than 16 years will not wear masks.
Returning from high-risk countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ALL PERSONS, including children, who return to Switzerland from a high-risk country, are required to self-quarantine and follow the BAG guidelines.• Failure to follow these regulations may result in a family being temporarily suspended from attending the institution.

Update 28.08.2020 – highlighted text

Update 12.10.2020 – pink highlighted text