



10 September 2021

Information for parents

whose children attend day-care facilities or nurseries

Information for providers, management, staff

of day-care facilities or nurseries

New regulations concerning quarantines at day-care facilities as of 11 September 2021

Ensuring regular operations of day-care facilities in North Rhine-Westphalia continues to be of the highest priority. Therefore, quarantines at day-care facilities will be limited to proven infections.

Infected children, staff and day-care workers will be subject to a 14-day quarantine in accordance with Section 15 of the North Rhine-Westphalian Coronavirus Test and Quarantine Regulation [Corona-Test-und-Quarantäneverordnung – CoronaTestQuarantäneVO].

In such cases, all other persons may continue to attend the day-care facility. However, the other children, non-immunized staff and non-immunized day-care workers will be required to take 3 coronavirus tests per 7 days for 14 days. Test dates will be specified by the facility or day-care worker. The first test must be performed before returning to the facility after an infection. Antigen tests and self-tests may be used for children and antigen tests (citizen or employee tests) may be used for non-immunized staff and day-care workers.

Self-tests may be performed at the day-care facility in the morning or evening to provide flexibility to parents when performing tests on small children.

If a day-care facility offers pooled PCR testing, participation in such testing will satisfy the testing requirement.

Children, non-immunized staff and non-immunized day-care workers who fail to comply with this testing requirement must be suspended from the day-care facility for 14 days following an infection.

Persons who do not attend a day-care facility regularly during these 14 days must be included in testing upon their return. They must also be tested before returning to the day-care facility.

Parents must confirm the performance of tests in writing. Parents' assurances of testing and test results must be presented to the day-care facility management or staff (see sample form) and submitted to be filed after 14 days.

Certain cases may nonetheless require the competent authorities to identify and order quarantines for close contact persons (e.g., if there are several infections at a day-care facility or nursery). Such persons may have PCR tests performed after 5 days or high-quality antigen tests listed by the Paul Ehrlich Institute (see https://www.pei.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/newsroom/dossiers/evaluierung-sensitivitaet-sars-cov-2-antigentests-04-12-2020.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=55 (German)) after 7 days in order to be released from their quarantine.

Such tests must be performed by a pediatrician or family physician and are free of charge.

Supplies of self-test kits for children

To ensure sufficient availability of necessary self-tests in case of infections, supply quantities for the 37th and 38th calendar weeks will be increased by 1 self-test kit per child. This will create stocks of 1 test kit per child per week, should additional testing be necessary. In case of infections and use of this stock, more test kits may be requested via an automated procedure to be prepared for further infections.

**Ministry for Children, Family, Refugees and Integration
of the German Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia**