

Information for non-German speaking parents or those entitled to custody with children in grades 1-6 at schools in Berlin

Because of the current corona pandemic, Berlin senate has ordered the **closing of all schools of general education from Tuesday, March 17, 2020 until and inclusive of Friday, April 17, 2020.**

The Senate Department for Education, Youth and Family is aware of the consequences of this decision for your personal situation. Nevertheless, we ask for your understanding because of this exceptional situation concerning the society as a whole. This action should help to counteract the expansion of the corona virus by reducing social contact.

For **exceptional cases** there will be an **emergency care** for **children in grades 1-6** in your trusted school.

The emergency care can only be made use of by parents, who work in fields that are categorized as relevant to the system by the senate, and who have no other option to provide care for the child or children. **Both criteria have to be met.**

In view of the essential reduction of social contacts we call upon you to only make use of the emergency care if absolutely necessary. In order to claim an emergency care, an **affirmation by the parents** is necessary. You will be provided with a **form** in which you will also find a list of professions relevant to the system. You can find further information also on our homepage (<https://www.berlin.de/sen/bjf/coronavirus/aktuelles/>).

Berlin senate has declared the following occupational categories as entitled for emergency care (day care centers and schools):

- police, fire service and aid organizations
- Justizvollzug (personnel for the execution of penal sentences and justice)
- staff of the crisis committee
- necessary operating personnel for BVG, S-Bahn, BWB, BSR, other ventures of the ÖPNV as well as sustenance and waste management, energy supply (electricity, gas))
- necessary operating staff in health (especially medical personnel, nursing personnel and medical employees, cleaning staff, and other personnel in hospitals, medical offices, laboratories, acquisition, apothecaries)
- necessary operating staff in nursing and care
- necessary operating staff and personnel with key functions in the field of public institutions and agencies of Bund und Länder, senate departments, district offices, state agencies and subordinate agencies, job centers, public frontline services and emergency services
- personnel, ensuring emergency care in day care centers and schools
- other necessary operating staff of infrastructure and provision with basic supplies¹

¹ Among others this includes stationary offers of the youth aid (Jugendhilfe) / and parenting and integration support (Erziehungs- und Eingliederungshilfe).