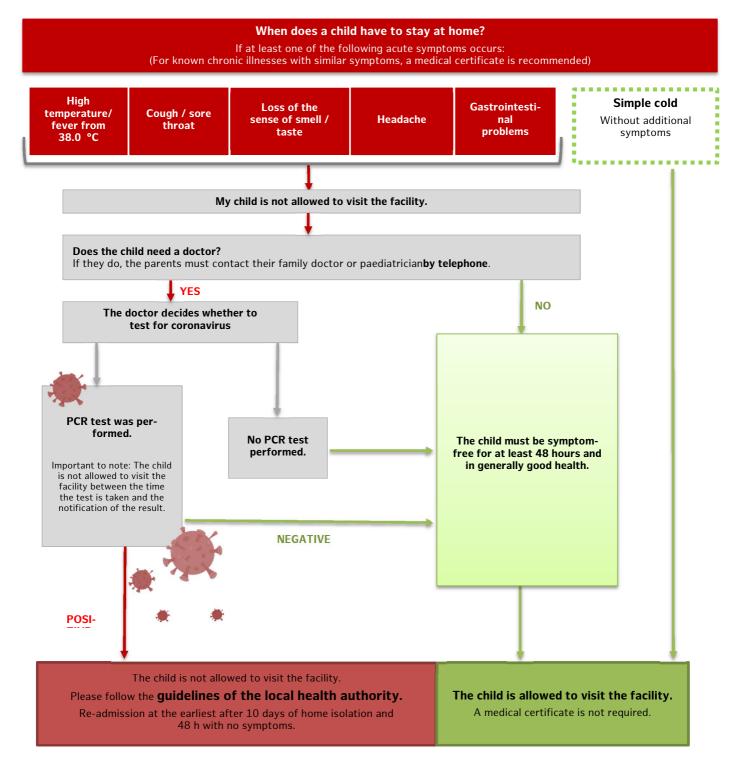
# Dealing with symptoms of illness or colds in children in day care and primary schools

# Advice for parents and employees



Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg Social Welfare Authority Billstraße 80 | 20539 Hamburg Tel.: +49 (0)40 428 37-0 Version dated: 06/2021



**INFORMATION IN BRIEF** 

# Dealing with symptoms of illness or colds in children in day care and primary schools

## Advice for parents and employees (see above)

The parents continue to make the assessment of whether a child is ill. If children are obviously ill when brought to the facility or fall ill during the time of care at the facility, the facility can arrange for them to be picked up.

As was the case before the coronavirus pandemic, children who are clearly ill should not be brought into the facility.

## What to do if symptoms occur

If any of the following symptoms typical of COVID-19 occur in children, exclusion from participation in the school/care programme and a ban on entering the school/care programme will apply:

- » High temperature and fever (from 38.0°C)
- For parents: Please ensure that the temperature measurement is carried out correctly, depending on the method and device you use. » A new cough and/or sore throat, which has no chronic cause
- » Headache
- » Gastrointestinal problems, i.e. vomiting and diarrhoea
- » Loss of the sense of smell/taste

Depending on how their child is feeling, the parents decide whether to telephone the family doctor or paediatrician.

A cold is still not a typical symptom of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and is therefore not an exclusion criterion for visiting the facility.

For known chronic illnesses with similar symptoms, a medical certificate is recommended.

### Procedure for readmission to care in primary school and child day care

If no contact is made with the doctor, the child must be symptom-free and in good general health for at least 48 hours before being allowed back into the facility. After these 48 hours, the following rule of thumb has worked well for parents in this context: "The way my child was today, they could have gone to the facility, so they should be allowed to return tomorrow."

If the parents seek **medical advice**, the attending doctor decides whether to carry out a SARSCoV-2 test for coronavirus. If **no test** is performed, the above-mentioned requirements apply (**at least 48 hours symptom-free and recovered / in good general health**) or the doctor's individual specifications for readmission.

If a PCR test is carried out, the children remain at home until the result is communicated.

If the test result is negative, the above-mentioned requirements for readmission also apply: at least 48 hours symptom-free and recovered / in good general health or the doctor's individual specifications.

If the test result is positive, the following rule applies: The local health authority decides when the child should be allowed back into the facility or when the period of self-isolation should end. The child must be symptom-free for at least 48 hours and is not allowed to return to the facilities until at least 10 days after the onset of symptoms.

As a general rule, "free testing" by means of a rapid antigen test is not possible.

Neither a negative virus certificate nor a **medical certificate** is required for readmission to a facility.

#### Further notes

**Healthy siblings** are allowed to attend facilities without restriction as long as they are not required to self-isolate by the local health authority.

Attendance at nursery and primary school is possible again in the case of a mild cough after recovering from a coronavirus infection that occurred more than 28 days and a maximum of 6 months ago, on presentation of proof of recovery.

The requirements and regulations of the **responsible health authority** must always be observed with priority.

The regulations reflect the status as of 29.06.2021 in the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg. An **amendment** may be necessary at any time depending on the epidemiological situation or new scientific insights.



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