



Handout for school operations during the COVID-19 pandemic

As of October 2022

Comment:

In order to deal with the difficult situation for everyone involved and to get a structured overview, there are a number of documents with information and regulations. This document provides an overview and shows how the DSSI implements the requirements of the Korean health authorities and the SMOE (Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education) with regard to school operations.

- A) New strategy for dealing with the corona pandemic and how schools are dealing with it (specifically: German School Seoul International)**
 - a) Changed strategy of the health authorities**
 - b) Dealing with corona cases / contact cases**
 - c) Specific regulations for the German School Seoul**
- B) General regulations for school operations**
 - a) General information, rules and duties**
 - b) Outside of school**
 - c) Measures in school**
 - d) What to do in the event of symptoms/ suspected cases**
 - e) Handling of a suspected case during school operations**

CAUTION!

Nobody is allowed to come to school or kindergarten when:

- Fever (over 37.5°C)
- COVID-19 symptoms (sore throat, cough, difficulty breathing, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, or loss of smell and taste)
- Taking fever lowering medicine
- Waiting for the result of a corona test that has been ordered by authorities or been taken based on symptoms. This also applies if such a test was carried out on a person living in the household.

For any ambiguity, please always inform the Corona Task Force: corona@dsseoul.org.

A) New strategy for dealing with the corona pandemic and how schools are dealing with it (specifically: German School Seoul International)

a) Changed strategy of the health authorities

Over the past few months, gradual changes have been made to the regulations governing the operation of schools under Corona conditions - new since the fall of 2022:

- Removal of the mask requirement for outdoors
- Abolition of the testing and quarantine obligation when entering from abroad
- Possibility to attend school, despite infected person in the same household (now also in DSSI - with conditions).

→ The following new regulations result:

b) Dealing with corona cases / contact cases

Student or staff member...	Official regulation for student or staff member	DSSI-Regulation for student or staff member
...is a confirmed Covid-case.	7 days of quarantine (the authorities are in charge of regulation)	No influence on regulation by authority School / kindergarten attendance possible after quarantine, if symptom-free (no more test necessary)
... had close contact with an infected person.	No longer tracked.	Consultation with Corona Task Force - Only possible after negative antigen test unless otherwise directed by authorities.

Student or staff member has a family member who...	Official regulation for student or staff member	DSSI-Regulation for student or staff member
...is a confirmed Covid-case.	Attending school is possible with 10-day monitoring 1) PCR test within the first 3 days 2) antigen test on day 6/7	For recovered (date of confirmed infection within 45 days): School attendance possible if symptom-free, no test necessary for all others: School attendance possible with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KF94 mask - Official test (PCR or antigen test at the doctor) before school visit - An antigen test on the 6th or 7th day of quarantine

c) Specific regulations of the German School Seoul (DSSI)

- In the event of an increased number of infections, the DSSI will follow these regulations and, if necessary, carry out (partial) closures in consultation with the Korean authorities. Regulations on **excursions, school trips, use of external sports facilities and on-site school events** are decided on a case-by-case basis by the Corona Task Force on the basis of the current Corona regulations.
- All communication must be carried out via the Corona Task Force. Only after written feedback (e-mail) is the school attendance possible in case of doubt.
- For Korean schools, there is no provision for online connection to lessons in school for students who are at home.
However, the DSSI connects students to the lessons online who:
 - are in quarantine due to COVID infection and symptom-free
 - or are healthy and symptom-free, but are not allowed to enter the school due to internal school regulations.

B) General regulations for school operations

a) General information, rules and duties

The mask requirement applies to everyone during school hours - exceptions:

- For taking food / drink for example in the classroom or in the cafeteria.
- During excursions that take place outside
- In the schoolyard during breaks.

→ **ATTENTION:** *Wearing a mask is of course also permitted in the cases above. No one will be forced to put on or take off a mask!*

As soon as a building is entered, a mask must be worn!

Entering the school premises

The premises may only be entered by employees, students and members of the Board of Directors. Exceptions are granted by the principal.

Everyone's responsibility

To protect other members of the school community, everyone must act prudently and precautionary. This includes taking the temperature every day and checking for corona-related symptoms (see b "Declaration of freedom from symptoms") not only on school days. If in doubt, always ask the Corona Task Force (corona@dsseoul.org)!

b) Outside of school (Measures before and after school)

Declaration of freedom from symptoms (former fever card)

The fever card used in the 2020/2021 school year to document the absence of fever and symptoms of students and staff was replaced by a one-time declaration for the entire school year after consultation with the Korean authorities. This eliminates the daily obligation to provide evidence on the fever card.

With the declaration at the beginning of the school year, all families are obliged to:

- Taking the temperature daily and checking their children for corona symptoms. This applies before going to school / kindergarten in the morning and on school-free days. When the child is sent to school / kindergarten, it is free of fever and symptoms.
- Not to send a child to school / kindergarten if there is a person in the same household who is waiting for a corona test result. (Exception: tests that are not (!) carried out on the basis of symptoms or contacts to infected persons, for example the corona test in order to travel).
- Reporting of quarantines in the child's home environment to the Corona Task Force (CTF). The CTF then checks whether the student can attend school / kindergarten.

c) Measurements in School

Entering the school is allowed

- for the kindergarten exclusively via the kindergarten entrance,
- for students of classes 1-12 via the main gate.

At a checkpoint at the entrance temperature is measured.

d) What to do in the event of symptoms / suspected cases

- **Child is not coming to school**, school will be notified!
- An antigen test must be carried out (at home) and you must react accordingly to the result.
- A **suspected case** in the school (e.g. through contact with a person infected with Corona) **will be decided since February by the school principal (CTF)**.
- If you have a suspicion yourself, please carry out an antigen test immediately and report this to the Corona Task Force. Do not enter the school until the test result.

e) Handling of a suspected case during school operations

- The person concerned will be isolated immediately and taken to the school's designated isolation area.
- The room in which the person concerned stayed is cleared, immediately ventilated and disinfected as best as possible (tables, chairs, handles, light switches are wiped with disinfectant wipes).
- Contact with the school community is avoided on the way to the isolation area.