



Dealing with cold and illness symptoms in children and adolescents in kindergartens, daycare places, and schools

The corona pandemic poses new challenges for all of us. After the lockdown, when opening kindergartens, daycare places, and schools, we are still placed in the area of tensions between the task of protecting everyone involved as good as possible and at the same time implementing the right to education and state welfare for children and adolescents.

The state capital Potsdam has issued recommendations on how to deal with symptoms of colds and illnesses in children and adolescents.

Many parents are now asking themselves the question: What happens in autumn and winter when the first sniffles come, the throat scratches and some wave of colds roll through the kindergartens, daycare places, and schools? If a child or an adolescent has a runny nose only, he or she can still go to kindergartens, daycare places, or schools. We all - parents, doctors, and educators - have to take a very careful look when children and adolescents develop cold symptoms in autumn without panicking to prevent the coronavirus from spreading. Children who are clearly ill do not go to childcare/school (like before the corona pandemic).

This explanation is based on the recommendations of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Integration in Baden Württemberg and the current scientific findings in conjunction with the recommendations of the Robert Koch Institute.

The recommendations were made by the state capital Potsdam over the entire period of the pandemic. If you have any questions, please contact the Infection Protection Department at the Health Office. An adjustment of the regulations may be necessary at any time depending on the epidemiological situation or new scientific knowledge. These regulations reflect the status of October 7th, 2020 in the state capital Potsdam.

Further information:

<https://www.potsdam.de/corona-updates-fuer-potsdam>

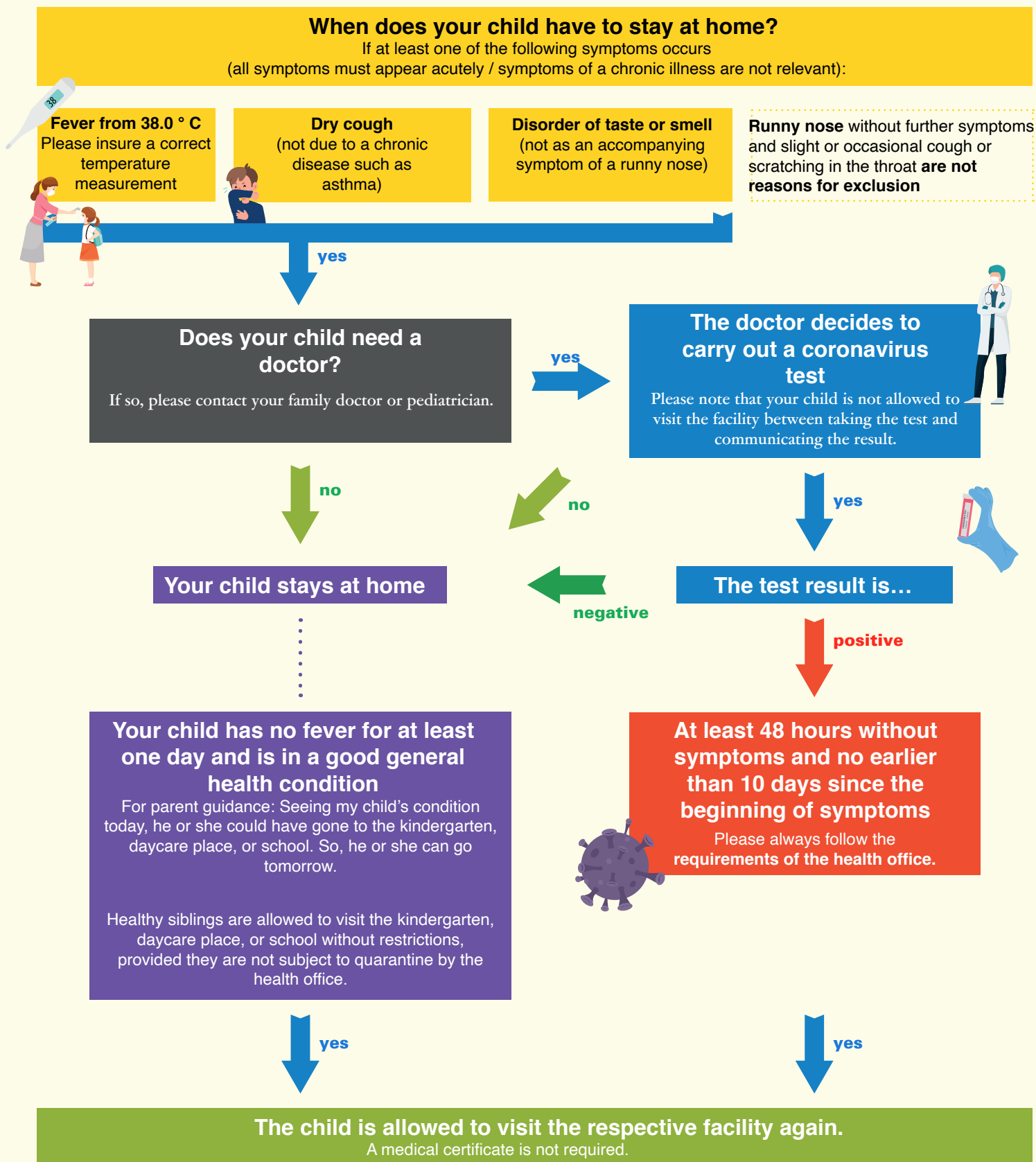
Contact:

Protection against infections – Health Office Potsdam, area of protection against infections, environment and hygiene monitoring

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Indications for parents, educators, teachers, and staff

One of the three symptoms is sufficient so that your child will have to stay at home or to see a doctor.

As this was the case before the corona pandemic, children who are clearly ill are not brought to kindergartens, daycare places, and schools. Mainly the parents will still have to assess whether their child is ill. If children are brought to the facility when they are obviously sick or if they fall ill while being in the kindergarten, daycare place or school, the facility can arrange for them to be picked up.

What to do if symptoms occur

If one of the following typical symptoms of COVID-19 occurs in children or adolescents, exclusion from participation and entry ban will be applied:

Fever (38.0 ° C and above)

For the parents: Please ensure that the temperature measurement is carried out correctly.

Dry cough

Without phlegm and not because of a chronic disease such as asthma. A slight or occasional cough or an occasional scratching in the throat does not lead to automatic exclusion.

Disorder of taste or smell

(not as an accompanying symptom of a runny nose)

All symptoms must be acute (symptoms of a chronic illness are not relevant).

A runny nose without any further symptoms is explicitly not a reason for exclusion. Depending on the child's state of health, the parents have to decide whether to contact a doctor by telephone. The test indication is provided by the attending doctor. Healthy siblings who are not subject to quarantine requirements by the health office are allowed to visit the kindergarten, daycare place, or school without restriction. There are no requirements for contact persons of contact persons.

Procedure for readmission to the kindergarten, daycare place, or school

If no contact is made with a doctor, the child or adolescent should not have had a fever since at least one day and should be in a good general health condition before he or she is allowed to go to childcare or school. The following rule of thumb has proven to be very effective for parents: "Seeing my child's condition today, he or she could have gone to the kindergarten, daycare place or school. So, he or she can go tomorrow."

If the parents seek medical advice, the attending doctor decides whether to carry out a SARS-CoV-2 test to detect coronavirus. If no test is carried out, the above-mentioned prerequisites apply (no fever since at least one day and a good general health condition) for re-admission or depending on the individual requirements of the doctor. If a test is carried out, the children or adolescents stay at home until the results are communicated. If the test result is negative, the above-mentioned requirements for re-admission apply: no fever since at least one day and a good general health condition or depending on the individual requirements of the doctor. If the test result is positive, the following rule applies: The child or adolescent must be symptom-free for at least 48 hours and may return to the kindergarten, daycare place, or school after at least 10 days following the beginning of symptoms. In general, neither a negative test nor a medical certificate is required for readmission. If the kindergarten, daycare place, or the school sees that it is necessary to present a medical confirmation in case of doubt, they can get a written confirmation from the parents stating that, according to a doctor's testimony, participation is possible again. Confirmation of the medical statement by a parent or legal guardian is usually sufficient. The enclosed form can be used for this.

Further advice

Healthy siblings are allowed to visit the kindergarten, daycare place, or school without restrictions, provided they are not subject to quarantine by the health office.

The requirements and regulations of the health office are always to be followed with priority.

Confirmation for readmission to the kindergarten, daycare place, or school

(To fill out by parents)

Concerning my child

.....
(First name, family name)

and according to the statement of the attending doctor:

.....
(Name of the doctor)

.....
on
(Date)

Readmission to the kindergarten, daycare place, or school

.....
starting from
(Date)

is possible again.

.....
Date

.....
Signature of the parents or legal guardian