

Dear parents,

You are probably wondering how your child or children's daycare will continue during the second lock-down. We are only separated from the federal state of Berlin by a river. However some decisions regarding daycare centers differ again in the two federal states, so that it is easy to get mixed up.

Nurseries and kindergarten

Nurseries and kindergartens remain open in Brandenburg. Our Christmas closing times in the communal daycare centers (I cannot speak for the independent institutions, please ask the director directly) apply as usual.

In the last few weeks, due to the increased absence of educators due to the weather and corona, we have had to go so far that we have restricted opening times in order to ensure that the children are supervised. In one case we only had to close a house for a few days. I don't want to put you under pressure or unsettle you. It is my aim to tell you transparently how the situation is. In any case, you can be sure that we will examine every single situation in every single day care center and weigh up our steps very responsibly. After all, your child should be fine when they come to us at daycare.

However, please to take into consideration the appeal by Minister Dr. Ernst, who asks you "if possible, to leave your children at home and not to bring them to child day care unless it is absolutely necessary" (see letter from the minister to the parents).

The obligation to pay parental contributions, even if the offer is used to a limited extent, continues to apply. Please refer to the information provided by the MBSJ at <https://mbsj.brandenburg.de/kinder-und-jugend/weitere-themen/corona-aktuell.html>.

Hort (after-school care)

The after-school care centers are open until the Christmas holidays from December 21, 2020. Since December 14th, 2020 you can decide whether your child will take part in face-to-face classes.

From January 4th Until January 10th, 2021, distance learning takes place in primary schools from 1st to 6th grade. This is mandatory, which means that your child must take part in it at home. The children get tasks from the school that they have to accomplish.

However, since there are parents who work in so-called critical infrastructure areas (system-relevant areas), emergency care is ensured for these children in school and after-school care. The schoolchildren concerned can then work on the tasks they have received from their teacher in the school and visit the after-school care center in the afternoon.

Unfortunately, I cannot tell you today which activities belong to the critical infrastructure areas. These should be communicated in this lock-down in the state of Brandenburg, so that we have to wait for the details.

As soon as we have further information, you can find out about it on this website and / or from your after-school care center. There will certainly be an application again, which we publish here. We would

then ask you to submit the application at short notice so that care for your child can be organized for January 4th, 2021.

I wish you a healthy and peaceful Christmas.

Solveig Haller
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