



# Coronavirus info package

## Teachers, parents



### Coronavirus

What teachers and parents should know.

The coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) is a new virus which causes Covid-19 (Corona Virus Disease). At this time, there are no vaccines and no drugs to treat coronavirus, so containing the disease is the only option. Infected and ill people are placed in quarantine in order to protect healthy people.

### How can I protect myself?

- Ensure good hand hygiene.
- Sneeze and cough into your elbow.
- Use disposable tissues and dispose of them after use.
- Keep a distance of 1–2 metres from infected and ill people and avoid shaking hands.



**IMPORTANT!** If you suspect an infection, please do NOT go to your doctor or the outpatient department of your local hospital. Stay at home and call the health hotline 1450.



Stay at home and  
call the health hotline on 1450.

### How dangerous is coronavirus?

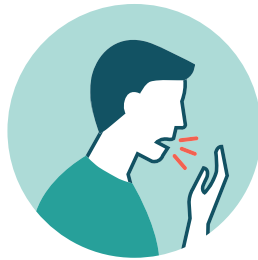
Even if it is not currently possible to make a long-term prognosis, the new coronavirus appears to be not as dangerous as, for instance, MERS (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome) or SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) in 2002 and 2003.

## Risk groups

Children and young people get coronavirus less frequently. In most cases, the course of the disease is mild for them. The older the person is, as well as any pre-existing illnesses such as cardiovascular diseases, diabetes or cancer are factors that influence the course of the disease and increase mortality. Men are more at risk than women.

## How is coronavirus transmitted?

The most frequent means of infection is human-to-human transmission, – in particular droplet infection via the respiratory tract. Like cold or flu viruses, corona viruses are spread via body fluids of infected persons, for instance from saliva or nasal discharge. A smear infection via contaminated surfaces or touch is also possible.



Coronaviruses are transmitted above all via droplet infection.

## How does the illness manifest itself?

There are infections without symptoms and mild courses of the disease with symptoms of a cold. Frequent signs of the disease are fever, coughing, throat ache, headache, shortness of breath and difficulty in breathing. In more severe cases, there may be pneumonia, severe acute respiratory syndrome, kidney failure and even death.



Fever



Coughing



Difficulty in breathing



Headache

## How is the illness treated?

Currently, there are no drugs or vaccines to treat coronavirus. Treatment is therefore done symptomatically (e.g. in cases of fever: drugs to bring down the person's temperature).

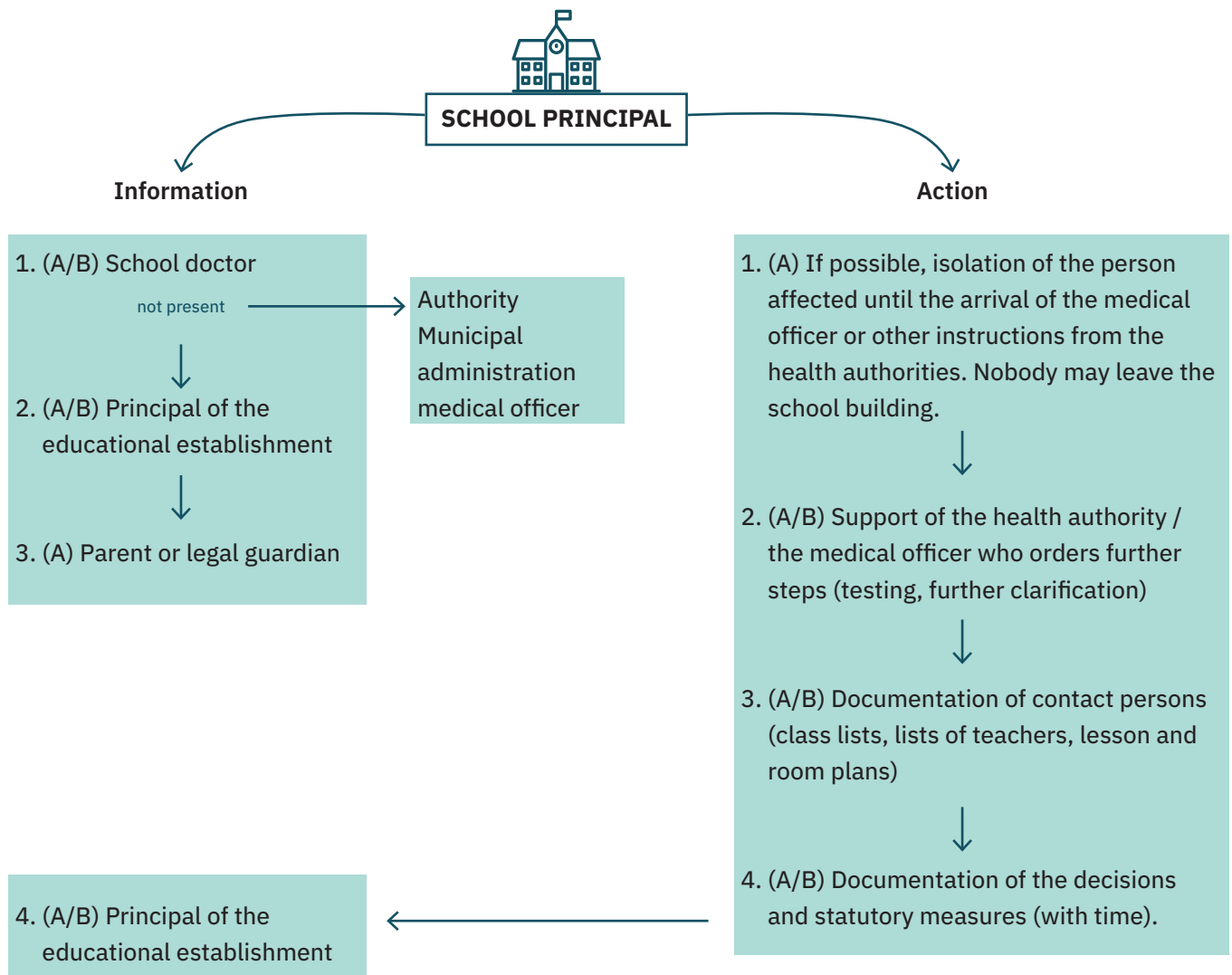
## Conduct if there is strong suspicion of a case at school

On the website of the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research, you will find current recommendations, guidelines and reporting obligations: [www.bmbwf.gv.at](http://www.bmbwf.gv.at)

### Conduct if cases are suspected at school

A) The person affected is present at school.

B) The person affected is not present at school.



## Do I need a mask?

More and more people are using face masks out of fear of getting an infection. Due to the increase in demand, many pharmacies have already sold out of them. Please note: face masks differ greatly with regard to the protection that they offer. A conventional surgical face mask is barely sufficient for the purpose of warding off viruses and special fine-particle masks are not suitable for everyday use. A face mask thus offers hardly any protection against an infection. The use of the correct kind of face masks on people who are already ill, however, protects healthy people from an infection.

## Should gatherings of people be avoided?

In times of rapidly spreading infectious diseases, such as is currently the case with Covid-19, any kind of crowd always constitutes a certain risk of aiding the spread of an infection. Therefore weigh up the risk beforehand. The following information may help:

- Location. Outdoors there is less risk than indoors
- Density of people: Higher risk with a density of people of more than 2 people per square metre
- Average age: The higher the average age of the group, the greater the risk
- Hygiene: If there are sufficient facilities for washing hands with soap on site, the risk is minimised.
- Obligation to report (Checklist of risk analysis at [www.sozialministerium.at](http://www.sozialministerium.at))



### Reliable information can be found here:

- Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research: [www.bmbwf.gv.at](http://www.bmbwf.gv.at)
- Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection: [www.sozialministerium.at](http://www.sozialministerium.at)
- Austrian Red Cross: [www.rotekreuz.at/corona](http://www.rotekreuz.at/corona)
- Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES): [www.ages.at](http://www.ages.at)
- Austrian Medical Chamber: [www.aerztekammer.at](http://www.aerztekammer.at)



### Hotlines (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

- **General information:**

Coronavirus info line – 0800 555 621

- **In cases of suspected infection:**

Health advice call centre – 1450