

Liedekerke, Saturday 4/12/2021



**Subject: corona education measures from 12.6.2021**

Dear Parent (s)

Together with you I heard yesterday for the third<sup>time</sup> in a row corona new measures.

I certainly realize that many of you may be frustrated about the measures and no longer know what is still possible and allowed. I share this concern with you and regret the lack of decisiveness from politics and various governments.

But..., the situation and additional guidelines are what they are. I therefore ask that you follow this up so that we can lower the corona curve together and relax the measures as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, you can always contact us via Smartschool, e-mail ([direction@debij.be](mailto:direction@debij.be)) or by telephone (053/46.33.00).

Best regards

Stanny De Block

Director GO! Primary school De Bij

### Overview new guidelines from Monday 6/12/2021 obligation

- **UPDATE** - The mouth mask will be extended to children from 6 years old.
  - o For our school, this applies from the 1<sup>st</sup> grade to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The few children who in the three<sup>kindergarten</sup> attend follow the rules in the nursery and do not need to do this.
  - o **We ask all parents to give their child a mouth mask.**
  - o Sufficient time will be taken in class together with the teacher to teach children to wear a mouth mask.
  - o If the students are sitting at their couch in class, there is sufficient distance and ventilation (good CO2 value), the mask can be removed.
  - o The mouth masks can be removed outside if students can avoid intense physical contact.

**We absolutely realize that this is not an obvious measure (certainly not for our youngest children) and will therefore deal with it with the necessary patience.**

- **UPDATE** – Tightening quarantine strategy among students.
  - o From Wednesday 8 December, event of **2 or more infections in a class** the procedure against cluster outbreaks will come into effect in the. That means this class will be quarantined for 1 week.



- **UPDATE** – **Extracurricular activities/trips are cancelled.**
  - o Sports and swimming activities may still take place. We follow the safety guidelines of Sport Vlaanderen. If they still cancel this, we will inform you.
- **UPDATE** – **Extra week of Christmas holidays for primary education.**
  - o The Christmas holidays start a week earlier. In concrete terms, this means that the holiday for the children already starts from Saturday 18/12/2021.
  - o No distance learning in the form of live sessions will be offered during the extra week of vacation. In primary school, a remedial bundle with work per day will be given to each child. The teachers will also post exercises on the various practice platforms so that students can do this (if possible).
  - o It is not yet clear in what form emergency care will be offered. Several boards will meet next week to work out a system. More information about this will follow shortly.
  - o Ordered hot meals will not be invoiced (or credited with a subsequent payment).

### Overview of existing guidelines that have already been communicated and will be maintained.

- There is no longer class-breaking work (eg level groups between L1A and L1B, reading groups, ...). In this way we try to avoid that class groups are mixed with each other. Every class again lives as much as possible in a 'bubble'.
- Students are given a permanent place as much as possible. Of course we still want to give the class group the opportunity to work in a differentiated way. The teacher maintains a class arrangement when the students work in groups within the class.
- Presence of third parties/externals at school is strictly limited and only allowed when they are necessary to achieve the curriculum goals or to meet the specific care of certain children.
- **CLB test and tracing strategy**

Due to the extra high infection pressure within the schools due to Covid-19 and the influx of reports, the CLB currently has to set priorities. For this reason, the CLB will no **low-risk letters** longer deliver for COVID. The CLB will focus on detecting cluster infections, high-risk contacts, mandatory quarantines for a class, ...
- **Mouth mask for parents, staff, ...**
  - o Staff members of all grades in primary education also wear a mouth mask in class when they can't keep their distance, so also when they walk around. This is highly recommended for pre-school teachers.
  - o Everyone who walks on the school domain is **obliged** to wear a mouth mask (also in open air). We also ask that you always apply the principle of social distancing and that you always keep a sufficient distance (at least 1.5 meters) when waiting for your child. **So you can still wait at the buildings where your child is.**
  - o The buildings remain accessible only when necessary. When you have an appointment with a staff member or you visit the secretariat, a mouth mask is also mandatory for both parents and staff.
- We continue to apply regular hand hygiene and/or disinfection to prevent virus spread (after playtime, before eating...).



- Before and after school care will remain open, but only for parents who really need it for their work. In case of doubt, an employer's certificate can be requested.
  - o The toddlers will continue to have the K0/1 block as a shelter.
  - o Primary school care continues in the refectory. There the students per class / bubble sit together at a table **OR** everyone separately with sufficient distance from each other. The choice depends on the moment and numbers and is made by the reception staff.
  
- Warm meals are preserved. However, the children eat their hot food per class / bubble at a table **OR** separately with sufficient distance from each other. The children who eat sandwiches still do this as usual in the classroom with the teacher.
  
- Ventilating and ventilating remains very important to stop the coronavirus (and other viruses). Our classrooms and other areas all already have a CO2 meter. When we determine that the threshold value has been exceeded and the air quality is no longer good, the teacher will ventilate extra or leave the classroom if necessary.
  
- If your child is absent due to quarantine/isolation, it will be looked into internally whether distance learning can be started and in what form this will take place. This is discussed with the parents. If it is not possible to organize this (eg due to too many absentees at school), we will also inform the parents involved.
  
- **Increased vigilance for symptoms of illness**
  - o We want to continue to focus on health and ensure a safe learning and working environment for the children and staff at the school. In addition, we want to try as much as possible to avoid people coming to school sick, spreading the virus and then taking it home with others.
  
  - o So there remains an increased vigilance for symptoms of the coronavirus.  
These symptoms are: excessive cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, stuffy nose, sore throat, loss of sense of smell and taste, diarrhoea, ... .  
If your child is present at school with 1 (or) more of the above complaints, we will contact you by telephone. If your child has such symptoms at the start of the school day, we ask that you keep him/her at home and consult a doctor if necessary.