

## **Information at a glance for parents/those with care and custody of children - Testing concept for children in children's daycare in the preschool sector**

The current version of the **regulation for the containment of SARS-CoV-2** does **not lay down any nationwide testing obligation for children** in the preschool sector. This does not rule out the option for administrative districts or independent cities to decide otherwise and make a separate general ruling in this regard on the grounds of infection protection.

The comprehensive self-testing offering is an **optional offering** for supporting authorities and parents/those with care and custody of children.

- The majority of the results of antigen self-tests are accurate, however self-tests are not as reliable as PCR tests.
- **If a suitable antigen test (self-test/rapid test) provides a positive result, this points initially to a suspected SARS-CoV-2 infection. This does not however as yet represent a diagnosis of a SARS-CoV-2 infection.** The diagnosis is made only after the subsequent PCR test and medical assessment.
- **This means therefore that even if a self-test provides a negative result,** what is stated in the *Supplements to the hygiene plan for infection protection and occupational health and safety in daycare centres in Brandenburg in relation to the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2/COVID 19* applies: **Children with symptoms typical of COVID-19 or within whose immediate family there are cases of illness suspected to be COVID-19 should not be brought and/or sent to daycare centres.**

### **Who will receive a test kit and from whom?**

You will receive test kits for your children who are in attendance/being cared for from the management of the daycare centre or from the childminder in line with the testing approach taken at the establishment.

The tests are designed in such a way that even parents of younger children can use the tests for them. The tests are simple to do, there is no risk and no pain. ~~The explanatory video is available here:~~ <https://www.covid-selbst-testen.de/>.

### **Where and by whom will the tests be done?**

**Self-tests are as a rule done at home.**

Supporting authorities and/or childminders may in certain individual cases decide to do tests at the establishments also. Where self-testing is done in daycare centres or at children's daycare sites by trained and/or duly instructed staff, this must always be done in the presence of the parents/those with care and custody of the child and with their consent. There is however no right to expect supporting authorities and/or establishments to offer testing also at the establishment/children's daycare site. Such an offering is rather dependent upon on-site resources in terms of staff and space and organisational facilities and is as a rule limited only to well-founded individual cases (e.g. disability-related special educational needs).

***How and when should the tests be done?***

The **supporting authority for the establishment and/or the childminder** will inform the parents/those with care and custody of the child about this.

**Children who have recovered must not be included as part of the testing concept.** If a child was already ill and has demonstrably recovered and is symptom-free, then this child no longer has to be tested. The parents/those with rights of custody are responsible for deciding whether the child should be tested.

***Positive test result - What next?***

If the result of the self-test is positive, then the children concerned must be isolated from other people.

- a. If the self-test was done at home, the children may no longer be brought to the daycare centre/children's daycare – the daycare centre/children's daycare must be notified of this. You are required to arrange for diagnostic confirmation without delay at a testing centre or by a general practitioner or paediatrician.
- b. If the children were tested in the Kita in the presence of their parents/those with care and custody of the children, they must be immediately separated from the other children. You must leave the daycare centre/children's daycare immediately together with your child. You must arrange for diagnostic confirmation without delay at a testing centre or by a general practitioner or paediatrician.
- c. Only if the PCR test is equally positive is this actually a case of a demonstrable SARS-CoV-2 infection.
- d. Up until receipt of the result of the PCR test, the children concerned (children with a positive self-test) must stay at home in quarantine. It is recommended that you do not bring sibling children to the daycare centre/children's daycare site either because of the suspected infection.
- e. The parents/those with care and custody of the children will notify the management of the Kita and/or the childminder of any positive PCR test and, where known, of the measures taken by the local health authority.

Further information is available at the website of the Ministry for Education, Youth and Sport: <https://mbjs.brandenburg.de/corona-aktuell/kita-und-hort.html>.