



# Electronic letter

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To the parents and guardians  
of pupils  
at schools in Rhineland-Palatinate

## THE MINISTER

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Dear parents,  
dear guardians,

The Whitsun holidays are just around the corner. As such, I would like to inform you about how lessons at schools in Rhineland-Palatinate will continue after the holidays.

We are currently seeing that, fortunately, the number of infections and thus also the seven-day incidence per 100,000 population is slowly but steadily declining. We do not currently know exactly how the situation will look after the Whitsun holidays. However, to ensure that the entire school community has planning security before the holidays, - unless the situation changes drastically - two opening stages are planned after the Whitsun holidays:

- In the first step, alternating classes for all grades will continue for two weeks until 18 June 2021. The previous regulations on emergency care also continue to apply. During this time, the schools can prepare for the second step.
- From 21 June 2021, face-to-face classes should be possible for all grades and years if the infection rate continues to develop in its current manner and the seven-day incidence in the respective urban and rural districts is below 100. All pupils can then go to school together again for the last four weeks before the summer holidays. Such a step - no distancing - is possible and can be done responsibly from the point of view of the experts at the Mainz University Medical Center due to the increasing protection from vaccinations, tests and the well-implemented hygiene concepts, in particular, the mask requirement. To ensure that tests are carried out in a satisfactory manner under these changed

conditions, you will receive further information in good time on how tests can be carried out even with full face-to-face teaching.

- If the seven-day incidence exceeds the threshold of 100 in a municipality, the federal emergency brake (Bundesnotbremse) will continue to apply regardless of this until 30 June 2021. It stipulates that classroom teaching is only permitted in the form of alternate teaching. Distance learning must continue to take place above an incidence of 165. Only those who are tested twice weekly are allowed to participate in face-to-face classes.

Dear parents, dear guardians,

The pupils and you, their families, long for “normal” everyday school life, in which the children and young people can meet again every day to learn and exchange ideas, in class or course groups and with the teachers at school. Some of you might have wished that we would have returned to full face-to-face classes earlier, others might worry about the classes filling up again due to the improved infection situation. Our current decision takes into account both sides: The right to education and protection from infection. I am therefore very pleased that we will soon take the step to full presence, which will last for some weeks during this school year and that we can do this in a responsible manner. The prerequisites for this continue to be that the vaccinations continue to progress so well, that we all handle the gradual openings responsibly, and that we continue to comply with the hygiene rules in other areas of society.

With this goal in mind, I sincerely wish you and your children all the best and, above all, a relaxing Whitsun.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Stefanie Hubig