

# Important Information on the Corona Virus SARS-CoV-2

## Up to date info on the closure of schools in Saxony (15.03.20)

**Please take pictures of this leaflet and share it with others!**

Sars-CoV-2 is the official name for the new virus that can cause a heavy lung infection (called Covid-19). The virus (initially called 2019-nCoV) first appeared in China and belongs to the class of Corona viruses. The virus is spreading worldwide. In Germany more than 4600 (as of 15.03.20) are officially infected with this virus. The number keeps rising.

### How can I protect myself and others from the Corona virus?

- Wash your hands regularly and thoroughly (at least 20 sec under running water and using soap)
- Take care to cover mouth and nose with the inside of your elbow when coughing or sneezing, not your hand
- Keep a distance from people with cough, snot or fever. Generally do not shake others hands
- Keep your hands off your face (Mucosa in Mouth and hands as well as eyes)
- Try to avoid closed rooms with many people (bars, restaurants, theater, cinema etc.)
- Do something outside in fresh air, the virus distributes quicker in closed rooms than outside.

### What are the symptoms of an infection?

An infection with Corona virus causes symptoms similar to those that influenza causes. Such as cough, fever, snot, exhaustion. Infected people also reported shortness of breath, sore throat and headache as well as pain in the limbs, nausea, diarrhea and shivering.

### Who has a higher risk of infection?

- People from age 50-60 up
- People with health problems such as diseases or difficulties with heart and circulatory system, cancer, asthma, liver or kidney diseases
- Patients with a suppressed immune system (e.g. due to an infection that lowers the immune response or because of taking medication that lowers the immune response such as for example Cortison)

### Whom can I turn to?

- Family doctor or general practitioner (call first)

- stand-by-duty of the health insurances: 116 117
- public health department (corona hotline: 0341 123-6852, [gesundheitsamt@leipzig.de](mailto:gesundheitsamt@leipzig.de))

### Closures of schools are prepared

Daycare for smaller children and after-school care-clubs remain open for now on monday 16.3.20, to make sure children can be taken care of.

The city of leipzig (city council) will discuss further steps in the course of the week, as will the national government. Schools stop working from monday on.

Starting Monday (16. march) a general stop of school lessons is decreed. This decree is in place until further notice. But the schools will stay open. The teachers will be there to make sure that all children are taken care of. During the time that no lessons are given, all kids are also free to stay home. The duty of going to school is not in place right now.

With this decision parents should be given the chance to prepare for the complete closure of schools and to prepare themselves and their networks to take care for their children at home. During the following week there will be a decision when schools will close and stay closed until the 17th of April

It is not recommended to involve the grandparents or other elderly people in taking care of the kids, as they are part of the groups with higher risks in this infection.

**Recommendation:** Support each other with taking care of the kids (e.g. taking turns) but keep in mind that it can be unsettling for kids to adjust to new groups. If possible the usual close relations should be continued. As long as public care in schools, after school clubs and daycare remain open, it is recommended to stick to this kind of care (in smaller groups if possible).

Sources:

<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/coronavirus.html>

<https://www.ardaudiothek.de/coronavirus-update-mit-christian-drosten/natuerlich-kann-man-noch-einkaufen-gehen-13-einschaetzung-des-virologen/73125568>

<https://www.medianservice.sachsen.de/medien/news/234989>

<https://twitter.com/StadtLeipzig>

<https://www.leipzig.de/buergerservice-und-verwaltung/aemter-und-behoerdengaenge/behoerden-und-dienstleistungen/dienststelle/gesundheitsamt-53/#contact>