



Gaesdonck parents letter

No. 15/2020-21

31.10.2020

Dear Gaesdonck families,
dear parents,

the first renewed week of lessons and boarding school life with a general obligation to wear a nose-mouth-cover is behind us. This weekend we would like to tell you how proud we are of our students, your children. On the whole, the teaching and campus life has worked well despite the current difficulties. What's more, most of our students carry these limitations with a naturalness and seriousness that one would wish for many adults in this country. And we are working on the few who are still lacking a little insight...

Of course, we in the teaching staff are constantly working on implementing the current guidelines as reasonable as possible. Starting next week, we have once again adjusted the ventilation processes in the classroom to prevent the rooms from cooling down when the temperatures continue to fall in the coming weeks. However, appropriate clothing remains the order of the day.

Online integration into lessons of students who are following them from a quarantine at home has also worked quite well in the past week.

Cancellation of extra-curricular events

Unfortunately, the Kleve district is no exception in terms of the nationwide increase in incidence figures. We have therefore decided to cancel all extra-curricular events for the time being. Parents affected by the **opera tour of Year 11** planned for today have already been informed of this in the course of the week.

We have also informed you that the upcoming **Year 5 Parents' Consultation Day** cannot be held in the usual framework this year. However, the class teachers and colleagues of the main subjects German, English and Mathematics are if needed available online or by telephone for discussions.

You will have guessed it: in view of the current situation, even our traditional **St. Martin's procession of Year 5 and Year 6** across the campus can no longer take place.

Hygiene measures in the boarding houses

Our protective measures regarding the resumption of boarding school operations after the autumn holidays have also worked out well, luckily. As before, no Covid-19 diseases have occurred in the house communities of both the full and day boarding houses.

We therefore feel encouraged to **loosen**, within a controlled framework, within the house communities the **obligation to wear a mouth and nose cover permanently**. The respective houses have a special role to play here. These provide a familial environment not only for the full boarding students who live with us permanently, but also for the day-boarding pupils, who, with their own room and living area, have also their center of life on campus during the day. (A circumstance which distinguishes the day-boarding model from a full-day school, with the applicable regulations of CoronaBetrVO). From Monday onwards, students will be allowed to move around inside their own house without wearing a mask again.

However, this is accompanied by special safety measures: Visits between houses are currently not possible and we will not be **offering campus activities** for mixed groups for another week. For study times with mixed groups, the mask obligation still applies, unless a safe distance of at least 2m can be ensured between the study groups.

Especially day-boarding and boarding students still bear a **great responsibility** for each other. In our house communities 230 pupils live together in a small space. We therefore repeat our urgent request at this point: Please encourage your children to strictly adhere to the applicable regulations **in their free time as well**, especially with regard to contact restrictions.

It goes without saying that this applies equally to our external students.

We wish you and your families a relaxing weekend. Stay healthy.

With kind regards from the Gaesdonck

Dr. Markus Oberdörster
Director

Doris Mann
Headmistress

Michael Gysbers
Head of boarding houses