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Information from the Hessian Ministry of Social Affairs and Integration on contact restrictions

General contact restrictions in public spaces

There are no longer any restrictions on stays in public space involving no more than 25 people. Each person is required to behave in a manner which does not subject him/herself or others to avoidable infection hazards. Use extra caution during personal encounters, especially with people who are at increased risk for severe disease progression if infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

If persons of different households are together in an enclosed space or if a minimum spacing of 1.5 meters from persons of other households cannot be maintained, the recommendation is to wear a medical mask. In closed rooms, ensure adequate and regular ventilation. In the event of acute respiratory symptoms contact with members of other households should be avoided as far as possible until the causes have been clarified.

If more than 25 people gather, requirements such as contact data collection and the creation of a hygiene concept are still required to minimize the risk of infection and to enable tracking.

Meetings in private

If more than 25 people are gathering privately with friends, relatives, and acquaintances in their homes, it is strongly recommended that all persons test themselves beforehand unless they have been vaccinated or recovered. Furthermore, for such larger gatherings it is recommended that the contact details of the participating persons are recorded in addition to implementing a hygiene and distance concept.

Schools

Only students who have negative verification at the beginning of the school day may participate in face-to-face teaching in addition to other regular classroom activities. The testing on which the test result is based or the self-test taken at school may have been carried out no more than 72 hours prior to the start of the particular school day.

Fully vaccinated or recovered students and teachers are exempt from these requirements.

Childcare

Care in day-care centres and nurseries is provided with regular operation under pandemic conditions in accordance with the state's hygiene concept for childcare facilities, which is published on the Hessian Ministry of Social Affairs and Integration website. Care in constant groups is thus no longer required and open or partially open concepts are possible.

Prohibitions on entry continue to apply to persons with symptoms of disease in addition to those affected by quarantine.

Work

Employers are urged to consider whether workplaces can remain closed either through company holidays or generous home office arrangements in order to be able to implement the principle "We are staying at home" nationwide.

Religious gatherings in churches, synagogues and mosques in addition to gatherings of other faith communities

Funeral services, funerals and religious gatherings are permitted regardless of the number of persons if the contact details of the participants are recorded in accordance with § 4 CoSchuV and a spacing and hygiene concept is in place and implemented in accordance with § 5 CoSchuV.

Current information can be found on the Hessian Ministry of Social Affairs and Integration website at the following link: <https://hessenlink.de/CoronaHMSI>

Only the wording of the ordinance officially published in German in the State of Hesse Law and Ordinance Gazette is legally authoritative.

The full legal text of the Ordinance for the Protection of the Population against Infections with the Coronavirus SARS-CoV 2 (Coronavirus Protection Ordinance CoSchuV) of June 22, 2021, as amended, as well as accompanying ordinances can be found at: <https://www.hessen.de/fuer-buerger/corona-hessen/verordnungen-und-allgemeinverfuegungen>.