VOLKSSCHULE SAGGEN

Innsbruck Elementary School

September 9, 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the new school year!

I hope that you enjoyed the summer with your family despite the COVID-19 restrictions. As you are certainly aware, the start of school will look a little different this year! This letter contains important timely information regarding the COVID-19 measures and what these will look like for your children at school.

The school and teaching will generally be regulated by following the predetermined traffic light system from the Federal Ministry.
The traffic light model looks like this for the elementary schools:

Normal mode with hygiene measures	**Normal mode with increased hygiene measures** "Green" plus additional measures	**Increased safety measures mode** "Yellow" plus additional measures:	**Emergency Mode with childcare options**
• Establish a hygiene and prevention policy • Form a school crisis team • Designate staff responsible for communicating information to parents/guardians and to health authorities • Teaching and learning activities will take place outside as often as possible	• MNP (mouth-nose-protection) masks must be worn outside of the classroom • MNP must be worn by school visitors • Sport activities will predominantly take place outside. Lessons in the gymnasium must follow special safety measures (small groups, air circulation, no contact sports) • Singing is only allowed outside or with MNP.	• Policies for beginning of school day plus breaks (to minimize the number of students in one place at one time) • No school events or field trips, etc. • School visitors are prohibited (i.e. projects) • No singing indoors • Avoidance of group lunches • Staff meetings must take place online	• Transition to distance learning • Childcare at school in small groups • Setup of learning stations • MNP is required at school • All-day child care will be offered in small groups • Borrowing of books allowed at school library (no returns allowed)
GREEN	**YELLOW**	**ORANGE**	**RED**

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VS Saggen/IES Specific School Regulations

1. Communication

   Standardized communication with parents/guardians will be done through the use of SchoolFox. Your class teacher(s) will be providing you with specific details regarding the use and set up of SchoolFox before or at the first Parents' Evening.

2. Symptoms of Illness

   Please always have your child stay home if he/she has a fever.

   Please do not send your child to school if he/she displays more than one symptom of Corona at the same time, like coughing, sore throat, headache or the loss of sense of smell or taste.

   If you suspect your child could have COVID-19 because they have the corresponding symptoms, please call 1450 and inform your class teacher(s).

   If a suspected COVID-19 case occurs at school, we are required to isolate the child and contact the health authorities.

3. Hygiene Measures

   Regardless of the color of the traffic light, we will put into effect the following hygiene measures at our school starting on September 14, 2020.

   a. Entering the school building: Usage of two entrances
      In order to avoid large groups of children in the morning in front of the school entrance, we will be using both front and back entrances of the school again. All first and second graders should please enter the school through the front entrance. All third and fourth graders should enter the school through the back entrance by the gym. The students are allowed to enter the school starting at 7:45 am and are then under the supervision of the teachers and staff.
   b. Break Plan
      We will also be keeping the break plan that we put into place during the last school year. In order to prevent the mixing of different classes during the breaks, break times will be assigned and staggered and each class will play in a separate area outside.

   Common Hygiene Measures

   The hygiene measures of disinfecting hands, keeping social distance and the regular airing out of classrooms will, of course, always be followed.

   Mouth-Nose Protection/Face Shields, dependent on traffic light colors

   Starting at "Yellow", an MNP/face shield is required for everyone after they enter the school building and until they reach the classroom. The MNP may be taken off in the classroom.

Physical Education (PE)/Sports Lessons

a. Will preferably take place outside due to the gym's limited ventilation system.
b. At "Yellow" and "Orange", PE/Sports lessons are only possible outside

Singing

a. Preferably outside starting already at „Green"
b. At „Yellow" only possible with MNP/face shield
c. No singing allowed at „Orange"

4. Traffic Light „Red" mode: Homeschooling/ Distance Learning

   Starting at „Red", no lessons will take place at school and the transition to homeschooling will be made. Your class teacher (s) will provide you with all the necessary information if cause arises.

5. Afternoon Club

   The main features of the Afternoon Club's routine will be kept, as much as it is possible. More detailed information will be provided at the Club's Parents' Evening on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 7 pm in the school cafeteria. New registrations or changes to existing registrations should be directed to Mrs. Claudia Mitterer, director of the Afternoon Club.

6. Parents' Evening and First Day of School- First Graders

   I would like to request that only one parent per child attend the beginning of the year Parents' Evening at school and that only one parent per child accompany his/her first grader to their new class on the first day of school.

7. Shift Teaching Mode

   The Federal Ministry is not planning for the elementary schools to switch to "shift teaching" again. That means that unless the „Red" mode is in place, all children will be at school.

8. Parent Letters

   Parent letters from Minister of Education Faßmann and Mrs. Pallfrader, Innsbruck government official, along with parent letters from our school, will be available on our homepage:
   www.vs-saggen.tsn.at and www.ies.tsn.at

I hope that the information provided in this letter gives you a helpful overview of the coming school situation and I wish all of us a good start to this once again "different than normal" 2020-21 school year.

We are looking forward to seeing all of our students soon!

Sincerely,
Gerlinde Prazeller