



# Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg

## Department of Employment, Health, Social Affairs, Family and Integration

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To  
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Hamburg, 12th May 2021

### Corona Pandemic – Information re voluntary self-testing of children from 3 years of age

Dear Parents,

Since 8th April 2021, extensive and good experiences have been made with the implementation of the Covid rapid tests in a total of 19 Hamburg day-care centres within the framework of a model project for the testing of day-care centre children. With the support of parents, the children were easily tested with high quality tests at home. It was possible to read quickly and reliably whether a child was suspected of having Covid. As a result, the day-care centres have become much safer and the risk of infection has been reduced.

Based on these good experiences with children, we would like to expand the offer. From 17th May 2021, the Social Welfare Authority will provide Covid rapid tests for all Hamburg day-care centre children from the age of 3 who attend the elementary section of a day-care centre, initially for one test per week. You will receive the tests directly from your Kita. You, as parents, can carry out the tests at home together with your child before the visit to the day care centre and inform the day care centre of the test result. The use of the tests is purely voluntary. It is not a prerequisite for attending the Kita.

We want to keep you well informed about these tests. The tests are free of charge for you, medically very accurately verified and very easy to conduct. The test swab only needs to be inserted very briefly into the front of the nose. Anyone who has ever had their nose picked - and this is said to happen with day-care children - can also carry out the test.

Two videos explain it so that it is easily understood: <https://www.hamburg.de/bsb/14961744/torben-erklaert-den-coronatest/> and <https://www.youtube.com/embed/A0EgaSBurX0>. Please watch the videos. The nursery staff are also familiar with these tests and can certainly help you with questions about how to use them.

If a test is **negative**, the usual hygiene rules must of course still be observed, as the test result always represents only a snapshot. Please also inform your day care centre about a negative test result.

If a rapid test is **positive**, please inform your day care centre immediately. Your child will then need a PCR test, which is much more accurate. Otherwise,

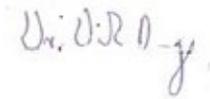
in this case, you should also consult your doctor. Until the final result is known, your child must be quarantined and may only leave the house with a mouth-nose covering. The prescribed notification of a suspicion or case of infection to the competent health authority is made by the doctor who carries out the PCR test.

If the PCR test is negative, please inform your day care centre and your child can come back to the day care centre if your child is no longer ill. If the PCR test is also positive, coordinate the further procedure with the competent health authority.

We have summarised and attached to this letter an information letter on the safety of the Corona rapid tests as well as an infographic on how to use and perform the tests.

We hope you and your children will also enjoy the Corona rapid tests. Together we can gradually find our way back to normality.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dr. Dirk Bange". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long tail on the final letter.

Dr. Dirk Bange