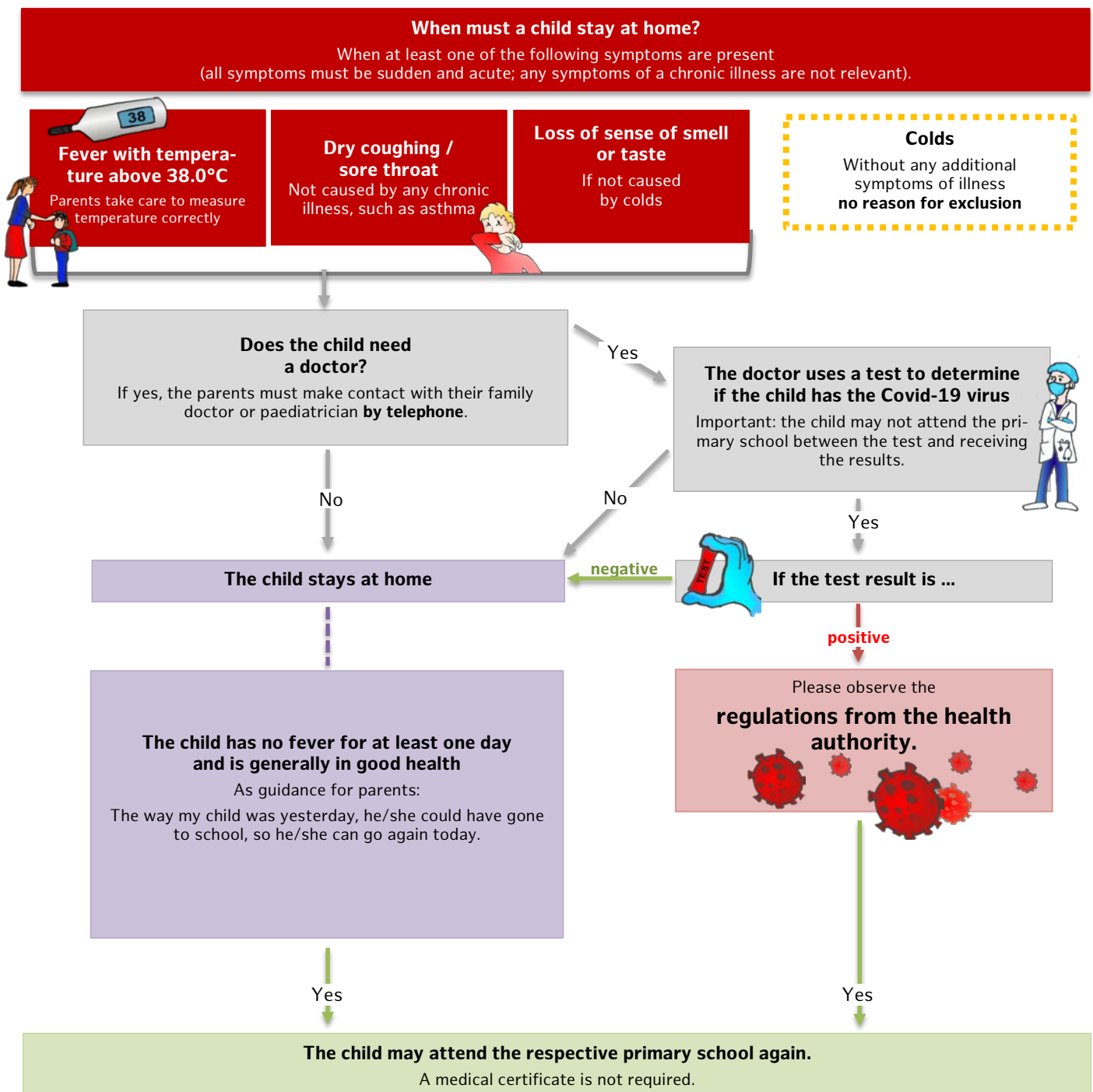


QUICK INFORMATION

Englisch / English

What to do about symptoms of illness and colds among children in primary schools

Advice for parents and employees



Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg

Behörde für Arbeit, Gesundheit, Soziales, Familie und Integration (Sozialbehörde)
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QUICK INFORMATION

What to do about symptoms of illness and colds among children in primary schools

Advice for parents and employees (see above)

The Covid-19 pandemic presents us all with new challenges. After the lockdown, with the opening of the primary schools we are still faced with the conflicting priorities of protecting everyone involved as best we can and, at the same time, fulfilling children's rights to an education and state care.

As was the case before the Covid-19 pandemic, **any children who are clearly ill are not taken to school.**

The assessment as to whether a child is ill or not is still made by the parents. If any children are clearly ill when they are brought onto the premises, or become ill while they are there, the school can arrange for them to be picked up.

What to do when symptoms appear

If any of the following typical symptoms for Covid-19 appear in children, they are excluded from participation and not allowed to enter the premises:

- » **Fever (temperature above 38.0°C)**
Parents please take care to measure the temperature correctly, as appropriate for the method and device you use to measure it.
- » **Dry coughing**,
that is without any phlegm and not caused by chronic illnesses such as asthma. A light or occasional cough or an occasional sore throat does not automatically result in an exclusion from school.
- » **Loss of sense of smell or taste**

Colds without any additional symptoms are not a reason for exclusion. According to the latest scientific insights, colds do not show the typical symptoms of a Covid-19 infection among children.

Parents can decide whether to make contact with their family doctor or paediatrician by phone on the basis of how their child feels.

Children with a cough caused by a chronic respiratory illness (such as asthma) may go to school. The school must be presented with a doctor's certificate of illness.

Procedure on re-admission to school

If **no contact is made to a doctor**, the child must be **free of fever for at least one day and in a good general state of health** before he/she can attend school again. The following general rule has proved to be effective in this context: "The way my child was today, he/she could have gone to school, so he/she can go again tomorrow."

Should the parents seek **medical advice**, the doctor in attendance will decide whether to carry out the Covid-19 test to identify the virus. If **no test** is carried out, the conditions apply as set out above (**at least one day free of fever and in a good general state of health**) for readmission. Otherwise the doctor's individual instructions are to be followed.

If a test is carried out, the children remain at home until the results are received.

If the **test result is negative** on the other hand, then the conditions apply as set out above: **at least one day free of fever and in a good general state of health** or the doctor's individual instructions are to be followed.

If the **test result is positive**, the following regulations apply: **the health authority decides at which point the child may attend a primary school again, or the end of a quarantine period is reached.** The child must be free of symptoms for at least 48 hours and can attend primary school again after a period of at least ten days.

In general:

No negative virus test or medical certificate is required for re-authorisation to attend school.

Further advice

Healthy sibling children are free to attend the primary school as long as they are not made subject to quarantine conditions by the health authority.

The rules and regulations of the **responsible health authority** must always be given priority.

An **adaptation of the regulations** may be necessary at any time, depending on the epidemiological situation and/or the latest scientific insights. They reflect the status in the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg from 24.08.2020.