

Dear parents, dear pupils

When the summer holidays are over, and before pupils go back to school, we ask you to observe the current quarantine rules for people who have returned from travel abroad.

As of 1 August 2021 (and at least until 30 September 2021), the following legal requirements apply: Persons who have been abroad and are over the age of 12 must generally, when they enter Germany, carry with them a negative test result, proof of vaccination or proof of recovery. (This is irrespective of the mode of transport – air, rail, road, etc. – and irrespective of whether they had previously been in a high-incidence area or an area with variants of concern; see definitions below.) Children below the age of 12 are exempt from this requirement. Passengers entering Germany may be asked to present this proof by the German Federal Police, or by the relevant authority, during border checks. Air passengers are required to present this proof to the airline before departure.

The following persons must immediately quarantine themselves at home:

Those who have been in a risk area within the 10 days prior to arrival in the country and for whom a particularly high risk of coronavirus infection has been identified, because:

- there is an especially high incidence for coronavirus spread within this risk area (**high-incidence area**; may also be referred to as 'high-risk area');
- certain variants of the coronavirus are widespread within this risk area (**area with variants of concern**).

You can find out, for any given day, which areas are classified as high-incidence areas or areas of variants of concern by visiting the Robert Koch Institute website (www.rki.de/risikogebiete).

If you have previously been in a high-incidence area, you must generally isolate for **10 days**. For persons who have previously been in an area of variants of concern, the isolation period is generally **14 days**. When quarantining, neither parents nor pupils are permitted to leave their home or receive visitors. Remember that this precautionary measure is to protect your family, your neighbours and all the other people you normally have contact with. Breaches of the quarantine rules may result in punitive fines.

Please notify the school regarding the length of the quarantine period. Quarantining pupils participate in distance teaching for the duration of quarantine.

Termination of quarantine in **high-incidence areas**: home quarantine may be terminated early if proof of recovery, proof of vaccination or proof of a negative test is submitted via the Federal Republic of Germany's travel portal at www.einreiseanmeldung.de. Quarantine ends at the time this result is submitted. If proof of recovery or proof of vaccination is submitted before entering the country, no quarantine period is required. In cases where proof of a test

is submitted, testing needs to have been carried out five days after entry at the earliest. **For children under 12, the quarantine period ends automatically five days after arrival.**

Following a stay in an **area with variants of concern**, quarantine generally lasts 14 days. If the relevant area with variants of concern is downgraded in Germany while the quarantine period is still ongoing, termination of isolation shall be subject to the rules for this type of area.

Those coming from a high-incidence area may thus test to release from the fifth day of the 10-day quarantine period. This is not possible for persons entering from a variant-of-concern area; in these cases quarantine always lasts 14 days.

You can find out more about current entry requirements by visiting this website: <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/coronavirus-infos-reisende/faq-tests-einreisende.html>

Under Section 176 of Lower Saxony's Education Act (NSchG), wilful and negligent non-compliance with the requirement to attend school is an offence. This means that if someone travels to a country after it has been declared a high-incidence area or an area with variants of concern, they are culpable of violation of compulsory-schooling law subsequent to their return. A fine may be imposed in such cases. If the classification of the country in question changes during the holiday, culpable non-compliance shall not generally be deemed to have occurred.

For the sake of completeness, it should be noted that this information is based on the current provisions of the German Infection Protection Act (IfSG) and of the German Ordinance on Coronavirus Entry Regulations (CoronaEinreiseV). It is not possible to predict what the legal situation will be in the future, as this will very much depend on the further development of infection patterns.

Requirements for travellers to Germany

since 1 August 2021

		Digital entry registration	Negative test	Quarantine
Not a risk area	Vaccinated/ Recovered	no	no	no
	Not vaccinated	no	yes	no
	Children under 12	no	no	no
High-incidence area	Vaccinated/ Recovered	yes	no	no
	Not vaccinated	yes	yes	10 days*
	Children under 12	yes	no	5 days
Area with variants of concern	Vaccinated/ Recovered	yes	yes	14 days**
	Not vaccinated	yes	yes	14 days
	Children under 12	yes	no	14 days

* Quarantine period can be reduced after 5 days.

** Unless vaccine protects against the prevalent virus variant.