



22/04/2021

## Information for parents

whose children are cared for in nursery schools or day care

## Information for funding agencies, management, staff

of nursery schools and day care centres

## Federal Emergency Brake Implementation in North Rhine-Westphalia

With the amendment to the Federal Infection Protection Act coming into effect, the 'Federal Emergency Brake' applies to North Rhine-Westphalia as well.

From then on, the following will apply to child day care in North Rhine-Westphalia:

- **If the seven-day incidence is  $< 165$** , the current regulation continues to apply: restricted regular operation for all children with binding group separation and a reduction of the care time by 10 hours each week to that end in nursery schools.
- **If the seven-day incidence is  $\geq 165$**  in a district or independent town on three consecutive days, a care ban with needs-based emergency care applies as

from the day after the next day (i.e. for example, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday seven-day incidence > 165; implementation of the emergency care as from Friday according to plan). During emergency care, the stipulations of the COVID-19 daycare regulation regarding hygiene, mandatory mask-wearing and traceability, the binding implementation of the group separation and the reduction by 10 hours per week in nursery schools required to that end continue to apply. The across-the-board reduced hours continues not to apply to child protection and special cases and the scope of care continues to be stipulated by the youth welfare office.

- **A return from needs-based emergency care to restricted operation** will be implemented once the seven-day incidence is < 165 again on five consecutive workdays.

The following children and families are **entitled to benefit from the needs-based emergency care**:

- children required to attend a care facility for child protection reasons, i.e. if attending a child daycare as a result of a family-court decision or in the context of measures and protection plans under sect. 8a of the Eighth Book of the German Social Security Code is required, as well as children making use of these services as a result of a decision under sect. 27 et seqq. of the Eighth Book of the German Social Security Code (assistance with the upbringing of the child)
- special hardship cases in consultation with the youth welfare office in charge
- children from difficult living conditions or whose life situation involves an increased need, where appropriate, and having a special individual need, with these families being actively addressed and invited by the child day care facilities
- children with disabilities and children at risk of major disabilities and having been diagnosed with this by an integration assistance carrier
- children in the last year before starting the first year of school
- children whose parents cannot ensure their care in any other manner, in particular if they have to pursue their gainful employment, but are to make use of child care only if such care cannot be ensured otherwise and if use is made of such

care, must present a self-declaration that emergency care is required (template enclosed)

**Services for all children in times of needs-based emergency care:**

The nursery schools and daycare centre carers are to establish regular contact (i.e. at least once a week) with all children not attending the child daycare facility. They may be contacted personally following social distancing rules, by phone, video or other formats.

**North Rhine-Westphalia Ministry for Children, Families, Refugees and Integration**