



Letter to Parents no. 2

17.03.2020

Child care for children of parents with no entitlement to care in a child day-care facility

IMPORTANT INFORMATION **on looking after children in large groups / company groups / in the workplace**

Over the next few days and weeks, the MKFFI aims to provide information, including for parents, in the best way it possibly can. With this Letter to Parents we are addressing in particular those parents who have no entitlement to be offered child day-care.

Firstly, we would like to thank you for what we feel has been the great understanding that you are showing for the implementation of the decree to prohibit child care. We know that you are facing huge challenges in respect of looking after your children. For many parents looking after children also brings with it some very difficult issues, in some cases threatening their livelihood. While we appreciate this, at the moment slowing down the spread of the coronavirus has to be the top priority. We therefore urgently warn against organising child care in such a way that new contact networks are created. That further accelerates the spread of the virus.

- Please **do not** form any child care groups at the workplace.
- Please **do not** form any relatively large child care groups at home or among neighbours.

Such **forms of child care will thwart the measures to provide protection from infection** being implemented through the 'Prohibition of Child Care in Day-Care Centres'.

Please look after your child/children **at the workplace only if no new contact networks are created** by doing so.

Please organise your child care responsibly and in line with the recommendations of the Robert Koch Institute. Please do not have your children looked after by grandparents.

Dr. Joachim Stamp, the Minister for Child and Youth Issues, has agreed with Dr. Pinkwart, the Minister for Economic Affairs, that the latter will relay this urgent request to employers. He will urge them to do everything they can to facilitate children being looked after at home.

State Ministry of North Rhine-Westphalia for Children, Families, Refugees and Integration (MKFFI)



Letter to Parents no. 1

17.03.2020

Child care prohibition and care for children of key workers

Over the next few days and weeks, the MKFFI aims to provide information, including for parents, in the best way it possibly can. To this end we have published a set of FAQs on the Ministry's website (www.mkffi.nrw), which we will regularly update. In addition, we will be issuing Letters to Parents, in which we will provide you with information on a range of matters.

With this first letter, we would like above all to thank you for what we feel has been the great understanding that you are showing for the implementation of the decree to prohibit child care. The parents of North Rhine-Westphalia contributed to a high degree yesterday to essential key workers in this current situation being able to have their children cared for, while at the same time enabling the measures to slow down the pandemic to take effect. The families in North Rhine-Westphalia did an outstanding job here. It is clear to us that families in North Rhine-Westphalia are under enormous pressure. They are facing huge challenges in respect of caring for their children. This throws up many very difficult issues, in some cases threatening their livelihoods. We would ask for your understanding that over the last few days our focus has had to be on implementing the prohibition on child care and on ensuring provision of child care for key workers. We can assure you that we will provide clarification on other issues as quickly as possible.

Please organise your child care responsibly and following the recommendations of the Robert Koch Institute. Please do not have your children looked after by grandparents.

**Ministry of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia for Children, Families,
Refugees and Integration (MKFFI)**