

DEPARTEMENT BILDUNG, KULTUR UND SPORT

Vorsteher

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Regular Covid-19 testing in schools

Dear parents,

At the start of April, the Aargau State Council made the decision to carry out a large-scale testing programme in schools, as well. The increasing number of cases involving the Delta variant, along with overseas travel over the holidays and wide-ranging social contact, will likely lead to the number of cases increasing once again after the summer holidays and into autumn. As a result, the Aargau State Council believes that regular testing has an important role to play in beating the pandemic.

Your child's school has registered for regular weekly testing. Your child's participation in the tests is voluntary and free of charge.

The tests take the form of saliva samples collected at home in the mornings. Collecting this sample is neither painful nor unpleasant. Your child will take it to school, before it will be sent to the lab where it will be anonymously pooled with other samples from the class and tested.

If one of these pooled samples returns a positive result, all the participants in this class will be tested individually at school for a second time. If a pooled sample or individual sample comes back positive, you and your child's school will be informed of this directly. People who test positive should enter into isolation immediately, and will be looked after by Contact Tracing (CONTI).

Everyone needs to complete a one-off online registration process for the voluntary tests. You will receive the registration link from your child's school. By registering, you are explicitly giving your **personal consent** for the regular testing and the data processing required for this.

Your school would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the regular tests. Further information can also be found at www.ag.ch/coronavirus-rete.

We believe that this step will help contain the pandemic and offer the best possible protection to members of the school community and their families.

Thank you for your trust and your support. We will not allow our guard to slip at this stage!

Yours faithfully

State Councillor