

# Information for parents and education or training professionals in the Canton of Vaud – Coronavirus (Covid-19)

## Information update

This page, which is dedicated to training centres and schools as well as pre-school and after-school collective day care facilities, is updated to reflect the changing situation. [Read the French version.](#)

Version of 31 August at 15:25.

## Compulsory education

### What are the arrangements for the return to school on 24 August in compulsory education?

Arrangements are as close to normal as possible, in spite of the circumstances. The current public health position enables us to return with full classes, which promote social relationships and equal opportunity, unlike split classes or remote teaching.

For more information:

- [Press release, 18 August 2020](#)

### What is being done for children who have fallen behind?

Teachers will carry out an assessment during the first weeks of term. All parents will be given a report on their child. If necessary, measures will be taken on an individual or group basis to enable children to catch up.

## What are the recommendations to be followed in a Vaud-based education or training centre?

Nouveau coronavirus Actualisé au 3.6.2020

**VOICI COMMENT NOUS PROTÉGER:** 

### Suivre impérativement les nouvelles règles :

✓ Test



En cas de symptômes, se faire tester tout de suite et rester à la maison.

✓ Traçage



Chaque fois que c'est possible, fournir ses coordonnées pour le traçage.

✓ Isolement/quarantaine



En cas de test positif : isolement.  
En cas de contact avec une personne testée positive : quarantaine.

### Pour rappel :

✓  Garder ses distances.

✓  Recommandé : un masque si on ne peut pas garder ses distances.

✓  Se laver soigneusement les mains.

✓  Éviter les poignées de main.

✓  Tousser et éternuer dans un mouchoir ou dans le creux du coude.

✓  Toujours téléphoner avant d'aller chez le médecin ou aux urgences.

✓  Si possible, continuer de travailler à la maison.

[www.ofsp-coronavirus.ch](http://www.ofsp-coronavirus.ch)



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Office fédéral de la santé publique OFSP  
Ufficio federale della sanità pubblica UFSP  
Uffizi federal da sanadad publica UFSP



All students and staff present in education and training centres will be reminded of the basic advice. It will be displayed in all establishments on the official Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH) poster, as follows:

- hands must be washed regularly and thoroughly with soap and water;
- handshakes must be avoided;
- distances must be kept and close physical contacts avoided;
- all teachers and other adults must wear masks;

- all teachers and other staff working in the school must wear masks at all times in communal areas and when moving through the buildings, as well as in the classrooms. Masks may be removed in class, provided that it is possible to maintain the minimum social distance of 1.5 metres. Disposable surgical masks will be provided by the employer via the establishment. They must be changed after half a day;
- people should cough and sneeze into a handkerchief or into the crook of their elbow;
- in the presence of symptoms (see the [Cantonal Physician's FAQ](#)), the adult or child affected should remain at home and contact their family doctor.

Students should wear masks only in the following cases:

- students aged over 12 using public transport for education purposes;
- special school students attending transition centres (masks to be provided by the transition centre);
- Students in access classes (RAC I and RAC II) at all times in school (masks to be provided by the establishment).

For more information:

- [Decision 178 \(PDF, 4.49 MB\)](#): "Dispositions d'application relatives aux mesures sanitaires et organisationnelles..." ["Implementing provisions for public health and organisational measures..."]
- [Dedicated website](#) for advice and downloading of the poster "New coronavirus: Here's how to protect ourselves"
- Playing an online game can also reinforce barrier gestures: [CoronaQuest](#)

## What measures will be taken to protect education and training professionals?

- Transparent plastic panels will be installed on counters;
- The layout of workplaces will facilitate the maintenance of a distance of 1.5 metres between adults in the teachers' rooms. Teachers will take turns in their use of the rooms;
- Masks will be provided for staff;
- Bins will be emptied once a day;
- Distribution of documents should be done by children rather than by teachers;
- Crockery, cutlery, food and drinks must not be shared, between adults, between children or between adults and children.

For more information:

- [Decision 178 \(PDF, 4.49 MB\)](#): "Implementing provisions for public health and organisational measures..."

## Will PE classes be running?

Yes, in accordance with the [directives](#) issued by the Service de l'éducation physique et du sport [Physical Education and Sports department] (SEPS). In summary:

- open-air activities will be prioritised;
- activities involving ropes will be avoided;
- contact sports (wrestling and martial arts) are prohibited;
- showers and changing rooms are open and will be disinfected at least once a day.

## Will singing classes be held as part of compulsory schooling?

- children in classes 1P – 11S may practise singing;
- music teaching for students in RAC classes and class 12e should be appropriate (singing may be taught but a social distance of 1.5 m must be observed). If the usual room is not big enough, alternative arrangements should be made (singing out of doors or a larger room etc.);
- Teachers must wear a mask if it is not possible to maintain social distance (following their colleagues' example).

## How will break times be managed?

The normal arrangements for break times will apply for all students. There must be no sharing of food or drink, between adults, between children or between adults and children.

For more information:

- [Decision 178 \(PDF, 4.49 MB\)](#): "Implementing provisions for public health and organisational measures..."

## How will the end of the school day be managed?

At the end of the school day, students will either leave the school grounds immediately or go to their extra-curricular activities. Adults who are not directly involved in the educational activity, such as parents bringing their children to school, should avoid approaching the building. Similarly, parents and other adults should not meet in groups in the vicinity of the school. Adults who have an over-riding reason for entering the school grounds should wear a mask.

For more information:

- [Decision 178 \(PDF, 4.49 MB\)](#): "Implementing provisions for public health and organisational measures..."

## Will classrooms and buildings be disinfected?

Classrooms will be disinfected at least once a day. This applies to the rooms themselves, surfaces, students' tables and teachers' desks. Door and window handles, switches and taps should be disinfected more often, at least twice a day. Floors will be cleaned at least twice a week, with the usual products.

Special additional hand hygiene stations will also be provided at the entrance of secretariats, teachers' rooms, libraries and other public places or common spaces. If there are few washbasins in the educational facility, hydro-alcoholic solution can be used by the students under the supervision of an adult.

For more information:

- [Decision 178 \(PDF, 4.49 MB\)](#): "Implementing provisions for public health and organisational measures..."

## Will school restaurants and premises for extra-curricular activities and supervised homework be open?

They are open, but specific hygiene measures will be implemented.

The [OAJE](#) [the cantonal office for day care for children] has issued guidelines for premises used for extracurricular activities for primary school children.

Supervised homework is subject to the same rules on social distancing and general hygiene as compulsory education.

For more information:

- [Decision 178 \(PDF, 4.49 MB\)](#): "Implementing provisions for public health and organisational measures..."

## Will school transport operate as usual?

Yes. Adults must wear masks, which will be provided by their employer. Students in compulsory education are not required to wear masks.

However, on public transport (buses, trains etc.) children aged 12 or over must wear a mask.

For more information:

- [Decision 178 \(PDF, 4.49 MB\)](#): "Implementing provisions for public health and organisational measures..."

## What happens if somebody (a student or teacher) presents symptoms in class?

In the case of symptoms (see the [Cantonal Physician's FAQ](#)), the student:

- must leave the classroom;
- be given a mask;
- wait for his/her parents or go home (depending on age);
- the parents must contact a paediatrician or the Cantonal hotline.

The education or training professional:

- must leave the classroom and self-isolate;
- continue to wear his/her mask;
- go home;
- contact their family doctor or the Cantonal hotline.

Test results for students and teachers will not be disclosed to the educational establishment, to respect patient privacy.

## How many people are allowed in the teachers' room at the same time?

The maximum number of people permitted in the teachers' room should be clearly indicated at the entrance and this limit must not be exceeded. If at any time it is not possible to respect 1.5 metres social distance, everyone who enters the teachers' room must wear a protective mask.

## What are the recommendations for those returning from at-risk countries?

Students, teachers and administrative and technical staff who have returned from travel to an area or country classified as "at risk" by the Swiss federal authorities must act in strict accordance with the guidance issued by the FOSP (the list of countries and the procedures to follow are available at [www.bag.admin.ch](http://www.bag.admin.ch)). They must place themselves in quarantine and contact the Cantonal Physician. They must not return to their educational establishment until their quarantine period is completed and then only if they do not present any symptoms. Teachers and school administrators will not issue penalties for student absences caused by a requirement to go into quarantine.

For more information:

- [Decision 178 \(PDF, 4.49 MB\)](#): "Implementing provisions for public health and organisational measures..."

## **Post-compulsory education**

### **What are the arrangements for the return to post-compulsory education on 24 August?**

Arrangements are as close to normal as possible, in spite of the circumstances. Students will return to their educational establishments on 24 August, in full classes and with supporting measures to protect public health. This will promote social relationships and equal opportunity, unlike split classes or remote teaching.

For more details:

- [Press release, 18 August 2020](#)
- [Decision 174 \(PDF, 414 KB\)](#): "Dispositions d'application des mesures sanitaires et organisationnelles dans le cadre de la reprise de l'enseignement présentiel et de la tenue d'examens dès le 10 août 2020 au niveau secondaire II (Plan de protection cantonal 2 du secondaire II - COVID-19)." ["Implementing provisions for public health and organisational measures for the return to face-to-face teaching and the holding of exams in upper secondary education from 10 August 2020 (Cantonal Protection Plan 2 for upper secondary education - COVID-19)."]

### **What is being done for students who have fallen behind?**

Learning support measures to enable students to overcome difficulties caused by the period of partial lockdown will be offered as of the return to educational establishments on 24 August.

For more information:

- [Press release, 18 August 2020](#)

### **What are the recommendations to be followed in a Vaud-based education or training centre?**

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✓ **Traçage**



Chaque fois que c'est possible, fournir ses coordonnées pour le traçage.

✓ **Isolement/quarantaine**



En cas de test positif : isolement.  
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**Pour rappel :**

✓ 

Garder ses distances.

✓ 

Recommandé : un masque si on ne peut pas garder ses distances.

✓ 

Se laver soigneusement les mains.

✓ 

Éviter les poignées de main.

✓ 

Tousser et éternuer dans un mouchoir ou dans le creux du coude.

✓ 

Toujours téléphoner avant d'aller chez le médecin ou aux urgences.

✓ 

Si possible, continuer de travailler à la maison.

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Scan for translation

All students and staff present in education and training centres will be reminded of the basic advice. It will be displayed in all establishments on the official Federal Office of Public Health (FOSP) poster, as follows:

- hands must be washed regularly and thoroughly with soap and water;
- handshakes must be avoided;
- distances must be kept and close physical contacts avoided;



- all students, teachers and administrative staff must wear a mask at all times both inside the buildings of the educational establishment and in its grounds;
- only teachers facing their class and more than 1.5 metres away from their students may take off their mask. They must wear their mask if a social distance of 1.5 metres can no longer be maintained. Disposable surgical masks will be provided by the employer via the establishment. They must be changed after half a day;
- people should cough and sneeze into a handkerchief or into the crook of their elbow;
- in the presence of symptoms (see the Cantonal Physician's FAQ), the adult or child affected should remain at home and contact their family doctor.

For more information:

- [Dedicated website](#) for advice and downloading of the poster "New coronavirus: Here's how to protect ourselves"
- Playing an online game can also reinforce barrier gestures: [CoronaQuest](#)

## What health rules must students and education and training professionals observe in post-compulsory education?

Students, teachers and all administrative and technical staff must wear a mask at all times both inside the buildings of vocational schools and gymnasiums and in their grounds.

As a minimum, all students and staff must wash their hands on arriving at and leaving the establishment, and whenever they change their location or used shared materials.

The recommended rules for social distancing (1.5 metres between every individual) must be followed between adults, between adults and children and between children, and in teachers' rooms as much as possible.

Details of all the public health rules laid down can be found in the Department's decision 174.

For more information:

- [Decision 174 \(PDF, 414 KB\)](#): "Implementing provisions for public health and organisational measures for the return to face-to-face teaching and the holding of exams in upper secondary education from 10 August 2020 (Cantonal Protection Plan for upper secondary education - COVID-19)."

## Should students and apprentices have masks and wear them?

All students and apprentices in post-compulsory education must wear a mask at all times both inside the buildings of the educational establishment and in its grounds. They should change their mask after half a day. As an incentive, surgical masks will be distributed during the first two weeks after the start of term on 24 August.

As of 7 September 2020:

- students and apprentices must obtain their own masks;
- students and apprentices whose economic or social situation make it difficult for them to acquire masks may ask the administration of their educational establishment to supply them with two disposable surgical masks for each day on which they attend class in the establishment.

For more information:

- [Decision 174 \(PDF, 512 KB\)](#): “Implementing provisions for public health and organisational measures for the return to face-to-face teaching and the holding of exams in upper secondary education from 10 August 2020 (Cantonal Protection Plan 2 for upper secondary education - COVID-19).”

## Will PE classes be running?

Sports may be taught indoors without masks provided that the social distance of 1.5 metres between the students and between the students and the teacher is maintained in all circumstances and at all times. This means that practising group sports involving physical contact (football, basketball, ball games etc.) is prohibited. Equipment (furniture) must be disinfected by the users at the end of every class taught.

Changing rooms are available, except for those in wet areas which remain closed for health reasons. Masks must be worn in corridors and changing rooms.

## Will singing classes be held as part of post-compulsory education?

Music teaching is permitted, except for singing practice.

## Will classrooms and buildings be disinfected?

- Rooms will be aired after each use;
- educational establishments are equipped with sanitary materials;
- rooms, surfaces, students’ tables, teachers’ desks, switches, door and window handles, railings and sanitary facilities will be cleaned **twice a day** by cleaning staff;

- students will clean their tables and chairs before leaving the room. They will be provided with disinfectant;
- bins will be emptied at least twice a day;
- any equipment which cannot be washed or disinfected will be withdrawn;
- floors will be washed by cleaning staff once a day.

For more information:

- [Decision 174 \(PDF, 512 KB\)](#): “Implementing provisions for public health and organisational measures for the return to face-to-face teaching and the holding of exams in upper secondary education from 10 August 2020 (Cantonal Protection Plan 2 for upper secondary education - COVID-19).”

## How will meals be managed in school cafés and restaurants?

Meals may be taken in groups of at most six people, maintaining a social distance of at least 1.5 metres between different groups. Advance booking will be required, and the composition of the groups will be announced and may not be changed for reasons of traceability. While sitting at their table, members of the group need not wear a mask. However, everyone must wear a mask as soon as they leave their table. Self-service cutlery trays are prohibited. Both staff and students must be careful not to exchange crockery or cutlery or share food.

For more information:

- [Decision 174 \(PDF, 414 KB\)](#): “Implementing provisions for public health and organisational measures for the return to face-to-face teaching and the holding of exams in upper secondary education from 10 August 2020 (Cantonal Protection Plan 2 for upper secondary education - COVID-19).”

## What happens if a student in post-compulsory education or a member of staff has symptoms?

In the case of symptoms (see the [Cantonal Physician’s FAQ](#)), the student or member of staff:

- must leave the classroom;
- make their own way home;
- carry out a [CoronaCheck](#) and, depending on the result, go to a COVID-19 test centre or contact their family doctor

Test results for students and teachers will not be disclosed to the educational establishment, to respect patient privacy. Details of the measures to be taken in the case of symptoms (self-isolation) and a positive COVID-19 test (tracing) are set out in decision 174.

For more information:

- [Decision 174 \(PDF, 414 KB\)](#): “Implementing provisions for public health and organisational measures for the return to face-to-face teaching and the holding of exams in upper secondary education from 10 August 2020 (Cantonal Protection Plan 2 for upper secondary education - COVID-19).”

## What are the recommendations for those returning from at-risk countries?

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For more information:

- [Decision 174 \(PDF, 512 KB\)](#): “Implementing provisions for public health and organisational measures for the return to face-to-face teaching and the holding of exams in upper secondary education from 10 August 2020 (Cantonal Protection Plan 2 for upper secondary education - COVID-19).”

## Will class trips (camping excursions and school outings) take place in 2020-2021?

These activities will proceed provided they take place in Switzerland. Teachers in the Canton of Vaud who are preparing to organise study trips for their students may consult the guide to sustainable study trips which includes ideas for offers and services (transport, accommodation and activities).

For more information:

- [Guide des voyages d'études durables](#) [Guide to sustainable study trips]

## Will planned trips abroad be cancelled?

Study trips, camps and other travel abroad will not be permitted in 2020-2021. European destinations may once again be chosen as of the 2021-2022 academic year, provided that means of travel other than flying are used.

## How can I assess my condition or that of those around me?

[CoronaCheck](#) is a tool that rapidly assesses your risk or that of those around you and tells you what to do (<https://coronavirus.unisante.ch/>).

## The CoronaQuest video game was launched on 11 May with a view to the start of term. What is it for?

CoronaQuest is a serious game. It aims both to teach “barrier gestures” and reinforce their use by students, and to promote “living together” - helping your friends etc. A new league has been developed for the start of the 2020-2021 school year, with cards suggested by students and teachers. This free online game is available in ten languages and is accompanied by a [teacher’s help sheet](#) describing the many activities which it offers for students in years 1 to 11P. It can be played in school or outdoors, with friends or family, on smartphones, tablets and computers. To start a game, just go to [www.coronaquest.game](http://www.coronaquest.game).

For more information:

- [Presentation video](#)

## To learn more

[FOPH recommendations](#) updated in real time and the Coronavirus info line: +41 58 463 00 00 (every day, 24 hours a day)

Dedicated Cantonal Hotline for answers to all questions from the population concerning the coronavirus: 0800 316 800 (every day, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.)

To monitor the changing situation and for answers to your questions, visit the website <https://www.vd.ch/coronavirus> and the website of the school or training centre concerned.