



**Hansestadt Lüneburg**  
**Stadträtin für –**  
**Bildung, Jugend und Soziales**  
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21335 Lüneburg

**LÜNEBURG**  
die HANSEstadt.!



08.05.2020

Dear parents, dear families,

In the past weeks, you worked tremendously. You did your part to keep the Corona infections in Lüneburg to date low. You accepted restrictions, which just two months ago would have been unimaginable. It remains a great challenge to balance, partly in small spaces, child care, work requirements and maybe even home schooling.

Children want to play, meet up with friends and to move around. Many parents tell me that their children are waiting almost impatiently to get back to their Kita. Hence, I am very much welcoming, especially for families, the first ease of restrictions.

The plan introduced by the Landesregierung (by the province/state) to step-by-step reopen society and child care facilities initiates the next phase in the handling of the pandemic.

As of May 13th, 2020, we will increase emergency child care up to 50%. All children, with special needs or families in which a work-family balance is no longer possible, shall be included.

The Kitas are developing special programs for the pre-school children, so that they can say farewell to their Kita in a good way and start school well prepared and strengthened.

Dear parents, summer vacation may also look quite different this year. Planned vacations may not take place or you may be needed at work. For that reason this year, we will make possible emergency child care in our Kitas during the summer holidays.

With the opening come high requirements to keep with the hygiene standards and organize the distribution of Kita spots and personnel planning. We have to think in new ways. I ask for your understanding that we have to be especially careful notably in the times of drop-off and pick-up. Not too many parents can enter the facility at the same time. Please be assured that we will organise the drop-off and pick-ups in a way that will allow your children to experience the beginning of their day in the Kita or the end in a relaxed and child friendly way. In this difficult time, our childcare facilities achieve very much and for that I am very grateful.

We all continue to be challenged to self responsibly contribute to a prevention of a further large outbreak of the virus. Many of you will continue to keep your children at home and privately organise childcare. For that, also I want to thank you explicitly because you contribute significantly to an interruption of the chain of infection.

Until further notice, the fees for the Kitas will be suspended for those children who do not utilize emergency childcare.

Please contact us by Tuesday, May 12th 2020 via the „Bürgertelefon“ (Citizens hotline) or via your Kita, in the case of your child attending a Kita not run by the city, so that the spots can be organized as quickly as possible. The hotline is available for all issues pertaining to childcare options. You can reach it under the following number: **04131 309 3100**. The staff are available to note your concerns and to refer you to the appropriate place.

All relevant information pertaining to the hanseatic city and the county about the Coronavirus can be found on the webpage <https://corona.lklg.net/>

Let us also tackle this next phase of the handling of the pandemic together. Continue to hang in there and most of all – stay healthy.



Sincerely yours,

Pia Steinrücke

City Councillor for Education, Youth, and Social issues