



21 oktober 2020

## Transition to code orange for school year 2020-2021

### A few general rules for a corona-proof environment

Dear parent,

The coronavirus infection rate is currently increasing. To guarantee the pupils' and staff's safety as much as possible, the Flemish government has decided to switch to 'code orange'. On Monday 26 October, all primary schools of Municipal Education Ghent are making the switch.

Our priority is to allow as many pupils as possible to physically come to school. In case of a code orange, some limitations and adjustments will be in force in the daily operation of the school. With the new measures, we can ensure that pupils, parents and staff can meet in a safe environment. In spite of these extraordinary circumstances, we will strive to create an optimal learning environment for your child every single day. The pupils' well-being is always of vital importance.

On the following pages we answer some general questions about this 'orange phase'. The school will inform you about how everything will go in practice. For more information, we advise you to consult the management of your school.

Best regards,

Inge Dellaert

Manager of Municipal Education Ghent

### When does the school start applying code orange?

We start with code orange on Monday 26 October. The length of this period depends on the spread of the virus in our society and the measures taken by the federal, Flemish and local authorities.

### Can all pupils go to school at the same time?

Yes they can. Everyone is welcome at the school at the same time, there will be no rotations.

### How many days can my child go to school?

The pupils still have to go to school from Monday to Friday. There will be no distance learning, but we expect all pupils at school.

### Who will have access to the school?

The pupils and staff have access to the school. Access for parents is strictly limited, however. Parents who have a child in pre-primary school can only enter the school to drop off or pick up their children. Parents who have children in primary school preferably drop off their children at the school gate. Do you really need to enter the school? In that case, strictly follow all safety measures (hand hygiene, face mask and a distance of 1.5 metres). Also observe the lines that the school has drawn on the floor.

### Can pupils go on excursions outside the school?

Unfortunately, excursions are no longer possible in this phase. Class walks in the neighbourhood are still possible.

### Are parent-teacher meetings allowed?

Essential meetings continue to take place in compliance with the current safety measures. This also applies to parent-teacher meetings. However, digital meetings are always given preference. As the pupil's needs are always paramount, a physical parent-teacher meeting can nevertheless be opted for, possibly with an interpreter present.

### Are school parties allowed?

School parties are non-essential meetings and are therefore not allowed during 'code orange'.

### Can the classrooms be used to teach?

That is allowed. We will teach classes outdoors whenever and wherever possible.

### What about lunch breaks?

We still serve hot meals. Primary school pupils have lunch in their class bubbles. Lunch can take place in their own classrooms, but also in the refectory. The latter is only possible when there is sufficient distance between the different class groups. This guideline does not apply to pre-schoolers.

### What about recess?

Recess continues to take place as usual. Before and after playing, the children have to wash their hands. The equipment does not require additional cleaning.

### What about swimming classes?

Swimming classes are still allowed.

### Will the transport of children in special needs education still be organised?

Yes, all pupils who are entitled to transport will be driven to and from school.

### What other safety measures will apply at school?

- The school supervises the hand hygiene of the pupils and the school team. A sufficient number of washbasins and sanitary facilities are provided.
- The classrooms will have sufficient ventilation.
- The school staff will ensure that the 1.5 metre distance is observed in case of contact between adults.
  - Pre-schoolers do not need to observe this distance, neither among themselves nor in their contact with the school staff. The school staff do not need to wear face masks in their contacts with pre-schoolers. The school staff will wear face masks in their contact with each other if the safe distance of 1.5 metres cannot be guaranteed.
  - Primary school children do not need to observe the safe distance of 1.5 metres in their contact with each other. However, they do need to keep this distance in their contact with the school staff. Face masks are not obligatory during class if sufficient distance is kept. Only in cases where the required distance cannot be guaranteed does the staff have the obligation to wear face masks.