

Reopening of schools! The gradual reopening of schools in Lower Saxony

This document serves to summarize the most important results regarding the reopening of schools in Lower Saxony. Our network, MigrantenElternNetzwerk in Lower Saxony, serves to continuously inform and aid migrants with necessary updates of school developments in Lower Saxony.

After weeks of complete school closures, the federal states have decided to implement cautious steps to slowly reopen schools in Lower Saxony.

As from 27 April, **the students taking their final exams** will resume in their respective schools allowing them ample time to prepare sufficiently for their exams. This decision applies to the **A 'level classes** and **the final classes of upper secondary education (grades 9 and 10)** as well as for the **vocational schools**. The A 'Level examinations start on 11.05.2020.

All **other classes** will gradually return to school as from the 4th May. The number of students in each class will be split in half in order to comply with the distancing rule of keeping a minimum of 1, 5 meters between each student. This means each student will receive half worth the lesson, respectively.

This is the timetable for returning to schools:

- as from the 4th of May, 4th Grade
- as from the 12th of May, 12th Grade
- as from the 18th of May, Grades 3., 9. and 10. (the classes that are not in their final year)
- as from the 25th of May, Grades 2., 7., 8. and 11.
- as from the 1st of June, Grades 1., 5., and 6.

As from 22 April, **home learning** will be available for all pupils and students who have not yet returned to school. For this purpose, the respective class teachers will send emails and posts to their pupils or students.

School attendance is compulsory for all children. Exception: if students or people in the same household belong to a risk group with a Covid-19 infection. In this case, the children will be taught through home learning. Further information can be found at the following link on the homepage of the Niedersächsisches Kultusministeriums:

<https://www.mk.niedersachsen.de/startseite/aktuelles/presseinformationen/schrittweisewiedereroffnung-der-schulen-notbetreuung-in-kitas-wird-ausgeweitet-187510.html>

(source: Niedersächsisches Kultusministerium and HAZ; as of April 17, 2020)