



**The State Secretary**

Thüringer Ministerium für Bildung, Jugend und Sport  
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To all parents/guardians of children attending  
school in Thuringia

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**Our reference**

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StS 20200421

Erfurt,  
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**School closures and learning at home**

Dear Parents,

The first weeks of school closures are now behind us. We are all facing very challenging times, especially you as families. Not only are you the sounding board for your child's worries and concerns; you are now also responsible for helping with home learning, all while juggling work, childcare, and personal obligations in this new situation.

Unfortunately we have not been able to re-open schools following the Easter break. We must continue to fight the spread of the coronavirus and maintain the necessary hygienic measures at school.

I understand the difficulties you are facing and extend my heartfelt thanks for your ongoing support, patience, and commitment to helping your child during these challenging educational times. I am aware that you as parents cannot replace teachers or the classroom. What is important is to continue to make your child feel safe and secure at home, and to support and motivate him/her in completing schoolwork.

Schools are committed to providing your children with a suitable curriculum under these difficult conditions, to ensure that no pupils are left behind by this crisis in the long term. Staff have been appointed at your child's school to assist you with questions about assignments and other issues. Please consult your school for information on how to contact these persons.

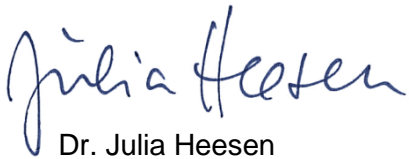
We have attached a number of useful recommendations for effective learning at home, many of which you may have already implemented. For additional information and suggestions for distance learning, please also refer to the website of the Thuringian Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports (TMBJS).

**+5 TAGE  
SCHLAUER**

[bildungsfreistellung.de](http://bildungsfreistellung.de)

For questions related to school closures due to the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus and COVID-19, please also see our FAQ - Frequently Asked Questions on the Ministry's website (regularly updated) at <https://bildung.thueringen.de/corona>

With the best wishes for you, your child, and your family's health,



Dr. Julia Heesen

Annexe

- Suggestions pour l'apprentissage à la maison

# Recommendations for learning at home

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The teacher continues to have central responsibility for instruction, even during the current crisis situation. Schools will provide suitable, sufficient learning materials and study resources for all students.

Please consider the following suggestions to additionally support and facilitate your child's learning at home. Feel free to adapt the recommendations to suit your specific needs.

## Structure distinct periods of learning and leisure time.

- Together with your child, maintain a regular overview of the assignments he/she needs to carry out and include non-school tasks.
- Help your child by creating a plan together for what assignments need to be completed by when, for example in a weekly schedule.
- Organize the tasks for each day into manageable sections if possible. Checking off completed tasks gives your child a sense of accomplishment.
- To avoid overwhelming your child, plan manageable periods of focused work, for example 30 minutes at a time (15 minutes for younger children), and schedule a short break before starting the next work block.
- Once he/she has completed the assignments for the day, give your child time off.
- Allow your child to engage in physical activity, ideally outdoors. Apps and fitness videos are also good resources for exercise at home.
- Make a list of activities your child can do in his/her free time (playing games together, cooking or baking together, handicrafts).
- Agree with your child on rules for media usage and limit his/her media consumption.

## Organize your child's learning environment.

- Try to create a dedicated workplace for your child away from distractions.
- Establish separate work and play spaces if possible.
- The workplace should include only the materials necessary for completing the assignments. Laying out the work material is a signal to start the learning phase.

## Show interest in your child's work and reinforce positive behavior.

- Give your child a say in how he/she plans to complete schoolwork and other tasks.
- Show interest in your child's assignments and how he/she completes them, and avoid unrealistic goals and learning periods that are unsuitable for your child's age.
- Reinforce what your child has learned after every lesson. Praise him/her for achievements.
- Discuss how your child can obtain help and encourage him/her to contact teachers with questions.