

Hamburg, 18 January 2021

Dear Parents,

You were perhaps surprised that the daycare facility was so full in the past week. Although the Hamburg Senate has limited care time in daycare facilities and has expressly requested that all families care for daycare children at home where possible, many of our daycare centres are just as full as in a normal 'cold and flu season'.

This shows us that many of you rely on our support and need it in order to be able to coordinate work and family life. We are also aware of families that would prefer to care for their children at home but where employers do not permit this because daycare facilities are, after all, open. Some families are reaching their breaking point for other reasons and therefore need our support. Each family has its own individual needs and we are glad that we are not obligated to verify why you need our support for the current care hours of 8 am to 3 pm. We are happy to be there for you!

At the same time this situation is an enormous challenge for us as the responsible body and also for each member of the daycare staff. Our teams are struggling with relatively high levels of absence due to sickness and quarantine measures, and of course our educators are also worried about their own health and that of their families. Many of them are parents themselves and are struggling with the current situation.

We are proud and glad to see our staff showing so much passion and commitment in this challenging situation. They know that society needs them now more than ever – and we know that their job is probably more valuable and difficult now than ever before.

We will be quite honest with you: we are worried that our staff is working beyond their breaking points, thereby endangering their own health. We would like to be there at full strength for you and for the children when the restrictions for the containment of the corona pandemic are relaxed and all children can come back to the daycare facility as normal.

We therefore ask you to consider whether you are able to free up your daycare facility further during this time of strain. We would be grateful to you if you are able to support our team for a few hours or days by caring for your child at home.

Please contact the management of your daycare facility if you have any questions.

Thank you for your trust, your support and your understanding.

Best regards,



Ursula Smischlaew
Managing Director



Jörg Brettschneider
Managing Director