

# Hygiene Framework of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences

**Dated 1 October 2020**

As amended on **20 September 2022**, valid from **1 October 2022**

Recent changes are highlighted

Planning and organisation of our academic operations must account for the current circumstances of the pandemic and make full use of the myriad insights and experiences we have gathered thus far.

The updated Hygiene Framework contains both mandatory guidelines and recommendations to prevent or slow the spread of SARS-CoV-2 at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences as effectively as possible. Note, however, that the Hygiene Framework is intended to *complement*, not supersede, other pandemic-related legislation currently in effect in Germany.

Winter semester 2022-2023 is planned to be implemented as a regular in-person semester. Nevertheless, due to the dynamic nature of the pandemic we must still be prepared for the possibility that rapid adjustments to current arrangements may be necessary in order to react to an evolving situation and any amendments to applicable pandemic-related laws. Social distancing and general good hygiene guidelines also remain important tools for preventing the spread of SARS-CoV-2.

## 1. General guidelines for preventing the spread of SARS-CoV-2 (Annex 1)

- a) Medical masks are strongly recommended to be worn in all buildings and enclosed spaces. FFP2 masks are explicitly recommended due to their effectiveness at reducing the risk of infection for the wearer, not just other people.

Masks do not need to be worn in the following situations:

- While working alone in a laboratory / office
  - While teaching or presenting to a group of people
  - While eating and drinking
- b) Close personal contact with anyone showing typical symptoms of a SARS-CoV-2 infection should be avoided.
- c) Maintain a general distance of at least 1.5 m to others. Larger rooms, where available, should be booked for events and meetings in order to ensure proper distancing between participants.
- d) Close face-to-face contact should be avoided at work whenever possible. Offices should be used by one person at a time. Employees are advised to wear a mask when

sharing an office if proper ventilation and distancing (in line with infection prevention guidelines) cannot be ensured.

- e) General hygiene guidelines (distancing, hand washing, use of contact tracing apps) should be followed at all times.
- f) Regular testing is recommended regardless of vaccination status. University employees will continue to receive self-test kits at regular intervals. Supervised self-tests will also be offered at both locations.

## **2. Mandatory hygiene guidelines at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences**

- a. Due to numbers of students and visitors to campus, sufficient opportunities for washing and/or disinfecting hands are necessary.
- b. Facilities should be disinfected more frequently in accordance with infection prevention guidelines.
- c. Devices should be disinfected after use.
- d. Work clothes should not be shared with others.
- e. Guidelines for preventing the spread of disease (posted near sanitary facilities and building entrances) should be followed.
- f. Rooms should be aired out according to a schedule that also takes outside temperatures into account.
- g. Rooms can be booked and used according to their regular operating capacity (see annex 2).

## **Annex**

1. General guidelines for preventing the spread of SARS-Cov-2
2. Room capacity list