

Wednesday 18th March 2020

Concerns about costs of childcare for the Corona crisis

Dear Parents and Carers,

As of Monday 16th March, childcare locations have been closed for regular childcare. This measure affects many parents and we understand there are unanswered questions surrounding this. In this letter we hope to give you some answers.

Our Duty of Care

It is imperative that we are able to provide childcare for children whose parents are working in the vital sectors. It is also necessary to prevent our service from collapsing due to a lack of income. In order to ensure that things run as smoothly as possible in the short term, this is an urgent request for you to pay the entire invoice for your child's care (including your own contribution). By doing this you will retain your right to your childcare allowance and your child's place will also be held for when their location resumes normal service.

Compensation for parents

Many children are at home when they would normally be in daycare, however, your costs will remain the same. We understand your concerns surrounding this but please be reassured we are trying to find the best solution for all involved. As industry parties (Branch Organization Childcare, Branch Association Social Childcare and Interest Association of Parents in Childcare) we assume that the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment will indicate how it will compensate the own contribution paid by parents. We appreciate your support in these difficult times so we are able to take responsibility for our role in society. As three parties, we are developing proposals for how this can be organised and are confident that together we can find a solution. To try and resolve this we are in discussion about this matter with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment and the State Secretary.

Vital Sector Employees

For children of parents who are a vital sector employee such as care, police, public transport, fire brigade, education and childcare, childcare is available. For a complete overview of vital sector employees please follow the link below:

<https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/onderwerpen/coronavirus-covid-19/cruciale-beroepsgroepen>

If one parent has a vital role, the request is to see if you can arrange your own childcare. If this is not possible, you can contact your local childcare or school to make arrangements. There will be no extra costs other than the normal rates for childcare.

The current emergency care is valid up to and including Monday 6th April 2020.

We will continue to inform you about the solutions we are working on when new information is received.

Questions and answers

If you have any questions regarding this information please refer to the links below:

www.rijksoverheid.nl/onderwerpen/coronavirus-covid-19/veelgestelde-vragen-over-coronavirus-en-kinderopvang, www.boink.info/coronavirus-kinderopvang,
www.kinderopvang.nl/dossiers/dossier?dossierid=4352540672&title=Coronavirus
www.maatschappelijkekinderopvang.nl/corona-virus-kinderopvang

If you cannot find the answer to your question then please do not hesitate to contact the manager of your location.

We would like to thank you for your understanding in these turbulent times and wish you and your families strength and good health in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

Felix Rottenberg, chairman Branch Organization Childcare
Monique Vreeman, chairman of the Branch Association for Social Childcare
Gjalt Jellesma, chairman Parents' Association of Parents in Childcare