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Sagsnummer

Dear parents

As you probably know, several employees in Ringkøbing-Skjern Kommune are facing an impending lockout from the labour market (temporary work stoppage) due to the conflicts in the ongoing - national level - negotiations between associations of employers and unionized employees. The lockout may come into effect as of April 28<sup>th</sup>, but be aware that the *forligsmand* (an impartial mediator) is empowered to call the lockout at short notice before April 28<sup>th</sup>.

The nurseries, daycare, kindergartens, After School Programmes (in danish: *SFO*) and the teaching in the schools will be reduced in case of a lockout.

Some employees (for example those not unionized) are not included in a lockout, and they will - as a general rule - work during a lockout.

We fully understand that an impending lockout leads every family to questions and doubts on how to deal with it.

*Dagtilbud og Undervisning* (the municipal Department of Daycare and Primary Schools) is putting a great deal of effort into producing instructions and guidelines on how to deal with a lockout. The management at every school, kindergarten etc. are currently evaluating the individual consequences in case of a lockout.

A lockout must be dealt with according to the *Guiding Principles of Collective Labor Conflicts* issued by the negotiating parties. When it comes to children (and their parents) a lockout must also be dealt with in a justifiable and responsible manner. That is why the chair of *Børne- og Familieudvalget* (The Committee on Children and Families) has decided to keep daycare, schools etc. open during the potential lockout. The opening hours will vary as there are big differences in the number of employees included in a lockout from place to place.

If you need further assistance or have any questions related to your child, please contact the management of your child's daycare or school.

Kind regards

Trine Ørskov  
Chairman of The Committee of Children and Families / Formand for Børne- og Familieudvalget

Flemming Nielsen  
Head of Department of Daycare and Primary Schools / Chef for Dagtilbud og Undervisning