



Elternbrief – Englisch

St. Pölten, June 15, 2021

Dear parents and legal guardians,

On May 29, 2021, the EMA (European Medicines Agency) recommended for the approval of the vaccine "Comirnaty" from Pfizer / BioNTech, after the vaccine had been tested for its effectiveness and safety for use in children from the age of 12.

The study for the approval of the vaccine in children aged 12 years and older has shown that the use of "Comirnaty" is safe and highly effective in preventing symptomatic, laboratory-confirmed COVID-19, for those aged between 12-15 years.

In principle, children are less likely to get seriously ill with COVID-19 compared to adults, but serious illnesses still occur which can require hospitalization and, in particularly serious cases, treatment in the intensive care unit. Often cases of "Long COVID" are observed even with asymptomatic cases.

It is important to vaccinate our children so we can return to a certain sense of normality in school and private life - to meet friends and go on vacation without any worries, and to ensure more safety for your children.

In addition, we would like to point out that, according to the current legal situation, it is not necessary for all students to take part in nose swab tests if evidence of a low epidemiological risk can be provided. This also includes proof of vaccination with the vaccine listed above, along with the following:

- from the 22nd day after the first vaccination, although this must not be more than 3 months ago,
- from the second vaccination, although this must not be more than 9 months ago.

The details can be found in Section 4a (7) of the COVID-19 School Ordinance 2020/21.

Children from the age of 12 can be registered for the COVID-19 vaccination in Lower Austria at [www.impfung.at](http://www.impfung.at).

Medical staff Lower Austria