

## Sponsoring children in Phalyak

Most of the children in the project already have sponsors from the Musisches Gymnasium, or who are connected with that school or Schule macht Schule.

### What does "sponsorship" mean?

Sponsorship means that you feel responsible for the fact that the child is able to attend our boarding school in Phalyak. This means that the sponsor makes a contribution of 50€/month for a particular child. This amount covers everything the child needs for themselves: food, clothes, medical care, school materials, leisure activities ... A small portion also goes towards staff and energy costs.

### Who can become a sponsor?

Anyone and everyone: an individual, a family, a class, a group of friends...

### How does one go about this?

Anyone interested in sponsoring a child can talk to Mrs. Minimayr at the Musisches Gymnasium.  
Or, send an email to [team@schule-macht-schule.at](mailto:team@schule-macht-schule.at)

### Which child would I sponsor?

The children are assigned sponsors in the order they join the project.

### Can I contact my sponsor child?

Yes! The children are always happy to receive post from their sponsors and love to write and draw replies. The exchange of letters is organised by us twice a year, in order that nobody is left waiting longer than anybody else for post. We always notify sponsors when an opportunity to send post arises. It is also possible to send small gifts suitable to be sent via air before Christmas. We'll always let you know the kind of things that are good to send, including appropriate weight, size and cost (€15-20). Sponsors can also make use of the "gift service" – then someone from Schule macht Schule, who is familiar with the children, will find something suitable.

All of this usually takes quite a while, because if no one can carry the items in their luggage, it takes a long time to send them by post.

### What should I consider in my contact with a sponsor child?

Concepts that are quite normal for us – such as owning a car, or having one's own room – are immeasurable riches to these children, so we advise you to be reserved in emphasising your own wealth.

Please DO NOT use the word "sponsor" with the children, although it is the accepted term in English for such patronage in development projects. This term implies a life-long permanent support system to the parents (and therefore their children). European and American "sponsors" often do just that. We don't believe that this is the right approach; we want to set the children up to be independent. Your help makes it possible for your sponsor child to attend our boarding school\*, and their contact with you is a connection with a caring person and a good experience for them. Perhaps it will later be an impetus to one day assist someone else outside their own family.

So rather than "sponsor", please use the terms "godmother", "godfather", "godfamily", "godsister" etc. when writing to the children – your sponsee being your "godchild". The children chose this term for themselves.

\* Schule macht Schule also continues to support and, if necessary, finance the children when they attend secondary school or take up vocational training. Sponsors often wish to continue their support through this stage, or at least make a contribution towards it, otherwise another way is found.

### How does Schule macht Schule take the money for the sponsor child?

A standing order (monthly or quarterly) to Schule macht Schule's donation account is the simplest way. Please use the name of your godchild as the reference.

School classes or groups of students often prefer to pay the money direct to Christina Minimayr, our contact at the Musisches Gymnasium.

### Can I end a sponsorship?

Of course! We do ask that sponsors let us know as soon as possible if they wish to do this. Of course, it is better for the children when the sponsors are long-term, as it gives them a feeling of security.

### What about the children who don't have sponsors (yet)?

Aside from the letters and occasional little gifts, there is no difference: donations that are not allocated to people and are available for personnel or maintenance costs and additional expenses are used where necessary to ensure that all the other children receive the same school lessons, food, clothes and medical care as the sponsored children, and are able to participate in all the same leisure activities and visit their families during the holidays.

*The decision to sponsor a child changes their life!*

#### Bank details:

Schule macht Schule  
Volksbank Salzburg

IBAN: AT09 4501 0000 0811 1486  
BIC: VBOEATWWXXX