

Factsheet for school pupils aged 18 and over: vaccination against SARS-CoV-2

The number of cases is currently at an encouragingly low level throughout the state of Lower Saxony. However, it is necessary, especially given the fact that the Delta variant of the SARS-CoV-2 virus is now dominant, that we maintain momentum as we further consider how to control the infection on multiple fronts. As pupils aged 18 and above, you now have the option of choosing – for yourself – to be vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2. Many of you may already have made arrangements to take up the offer of vaccination. By doing so, you are making a major contribution towards preventing the spread of infection.

For those of you who have not yet been able to take advantage of these opportunities, but are still keen to be vaccinated, you can find out below how to access more information and take up the offer of vaccination without having to wait very long.

The website of the <u>Robert Koch Institute (RKI)</u> provides you with <u>background information about vaccination against</u> <u>SARS-CoV-2</u>. This includes a helpful explanation of the different vaccines, and is also available in various languages as well as easy-to-understand German.

If you decide to get vaccinated, there are different ways of getting a vaccination appointment:

- Visit Lower Saxony's official vaccination portal (<u>Impfportal Niedersachsen</u>) and follow the instructions
 there on how to make an appointment. You can also arrange a vaccination appointment by telephone:
 call the state-wide service helpline on 0800 99 88 665.
- For those who want an appointment as soon as possible, the vaccination portal also has a helpful special appointment service (<u>Terminbörse des Impfportals</u>) enabling you to take up cancelled vaccination appointments at short notice. After you have registered, this service will help you obtain a spontaneous offer of vaccination via text message.
- Contacting your GP (Hausarzt) and notifying the surgery that you are willing to be vaccinated is another good way of obtaining the maximum protection that vaccination provides.

In choosing to receive full vaccination against the virus, you will be ensuring a high level of protection for yourself against becoming seriously ill if you contract SARS-CoV-2. And it has been scientifically proven that fully vaccinated individuals have only a slight risk of infecting others with the virus. What's more, full vaccination protection will boost your quality of life on a day-to-day basis and mean, for example, that you will no longer need to get tested in order to gain access to venues. This means getting vaccinated will help your life become easier and more normal with each passing day.

In Lower Saxony, school pupils will not be treated differently with regard to school attendance depending on whether they are vaccinated, not vaccinated or have 'recovered' status. But please bear in mind that full

vaccination protection will contribute to a better quality of life for you and make day-to-day living a lot easier in terms of family, school, socializing and holidays.	