

SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT "SCHOOL PILOT ECONOMIC EDUCATION "

Information on the surveys of pupils at example schools

The school pilot economic education is an initiative of the Stiftung Wirtschaftsbildung (<https://stiftung-wirtschaftsbildung.at>). Starting in fall 2022, selected schools throughout Austria will be supported in the development of a main focus on economic education.

In order to learn from the experiences of the schools, the school pilot is scientifically accompanied by a team of researchers from the **Institute for Advanced Studies (IHS)**, the **University of Duisburg-Essen** and the **Oesterreichische Nationalbank (OeNB)**. Subject of the scientific monitoring is the practical implementation and the expected and unexpected effects of the school pilot. Over a period of four years, several surveys are carried out with pupils as well as with school management and teachers. The Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research has approved this research project.

OBJECTIVES AND TOPICS OF THE SURVEYS

We are interested in how the school pilot affects students – their interests and competences – and how students experience economic education lessons. The following topics are the subject of our analyses:

- Competence to answer important economic questions and to solve tasks,
- interest in and attitudes towards economic issues,
- sense of self-efficacy in dealing with economic challenges in everyday life.

WHY ARE COMPARISON SCHOOLS IMPORTANT

We refer to schools that are not actively participating in the school pilot as comparison schools. Classes take place as usual. However, comparison schools have an important role in being able to make statements about the effectiveness of business education instruction at the end of the accompanying scientific research. For this purpose, it is necessary to involve schools in the research that are not implementing the school pilot. The selection of comparison schools is based on a statistical analysis as well as a random component.

WHAT SURVEY ARE CONDUCTED

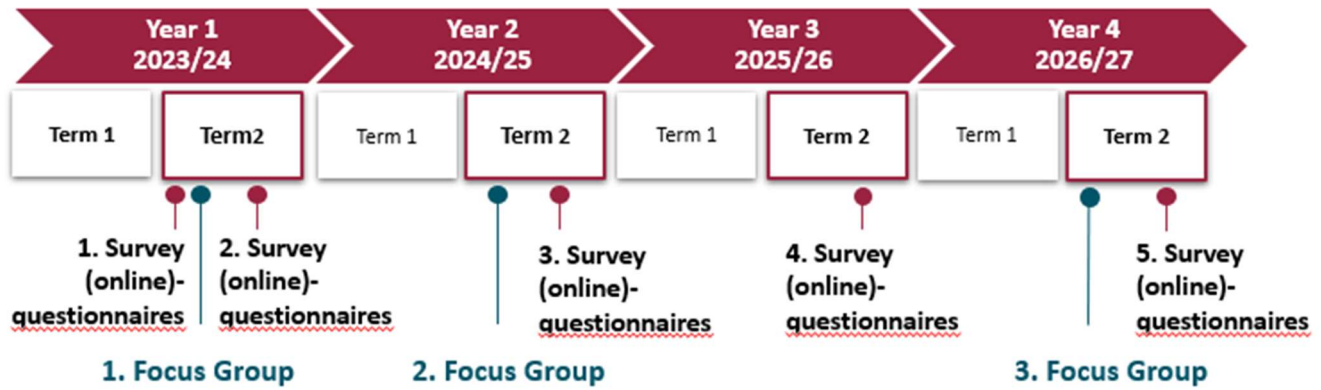
Your school was selected as one of two sample schools that we are monitoring more intensively. In addition to the online survey of all students (questionnaires), your school will therefore also conduct focus groups with some students and interviews with the school management and teachers.

▪ QUESTIONNAIRE (all students)

During the four-year period, students will be surveyed at five points in time using online questionnaires. Two questionnaires are to be completed per survey time point, each taking one class period.

▪ FOCUS GROUP (some students)

A focus group is a discussion with a group of five to seven students, moderated by a researcher. The goal is to gain insight into how business education is taught in practice and to learn more about how students experience this teaching. Students are invited to share what they feel is important and what they would like to talk about. A teacher is not present during the interview. The focus group is recorded on tape and then transcribed.



DATA PROTECTION AND RESEARCH ETHICS

The data protection and research ethics principles of confidentiality, voluntary consent, anonymity, and secure data storage are important to us in the implementation of our surveys:

☑ All data and information will be kept strictly confidential. The researchers are bound to secrecy even after the end of the project. This also applies to what the students say in the focus groups. The teachers will not know what the students have talked about.

- All data will be stored securely on internal drives.
- Data will only be used anonymously for publications, research reports, and presentations at scientific conferences.
- When publishing results, we ensure that no conclusions can be drawn about the participating students.

For more information, please refer to the declaration of consent for your child's participation in the scientific monitoring of the School Pilot.

VOLUNTARY CONSENT AS A PREREQUISITE FOR PARTICIPATION

- **Parental consent:** If you as a parent agree to the participation, please fill in the declaration of consent. If no revocation is submitted, this consent remains valid for all our surveys taking place during the four-year period of the school pilot. The signed declaration of consent is collected by the teacher and sent to the Stiftung Wirtschaftsbildung.
- **Consent of students:** In addition, we ask the students for their voluntary consent to participate before each survey. Even during the surveys, students have the opportunity to cancel their participation at any time.

Voluntariness and informed consent are particularly important to us. Therefore, we are happy to take the time to answer questions from your side.

CONTACT

We thank you for your participation in our research and are happy to get in contact with you via the team of the Stiftung Wirtschaftsbildung if you have any questions or suggestions.

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TRANSLATIONS

