



Dear Sir or Madam,

Through its new partnership with the international education group Cognita, St. Gilgen International School is entering a new phase of educational innovation. Further information and images can be found in the following press release:

St. Gilgen International School Joins Cognita

Leading Austrian international school becomes part of global education family

(22nd March 2026, St. Gilgen am Wolfgangsee) – St. Gilgen International School, one of Austria's foremost international schools, is delighted to announce that it has joined Cognita, a leading global schools group. Following completion of all legal formalities, the partnership has been officially finalised, marking Cognita's first presence in Austria.

A global network serving more than 100,000 students across 21 countries

Through the partnership with Cognita, St. Gilgen International School becomes part of a worldwide network and will benefit from specialist support and resources provided by one of the world's leading schools groups. From education quality assurance and safeguarding expertise through to investment in facilities and technical support, Cognita operates 90 schools in 21 countries, employs more than 22,000 staff, and educates around 100,000 students globally.

Martina Moetz, Head of School at St. Gilgen International School, sees the partnership as a major step forward in the school's development:

“Joining the Cognita family opens up new opportunities for our students, our faculty, and our entire school community. The international exchange and access to additional innovative educational resources are particularly valuable.”

As part of the transaction, Cognita will hold the majority stake, while the St. Gilgen International School Private Foundation will remain involved as a minority shareholder.

Additional statements on the partnership

Gert Fahrnberger, Chair of the Board of the St. Gilgen International School Private Foundation: “After a decade of successfully leading and developing the school through our parent-founded foundation, the partnership with the Cognita Group marks the next logical milestone in our journey. The Foundation will remain closely connected to St. Gilgen International School as a committed minority shareholder and will continue to safeguard the school's values. Cognita's global expertise in academic excellence, combined with its investment strength, provides a solid foundation for the continued evolution of this beacon of education that means so much to all of us.”



Germà Rigau, Managing Director Continental Europe at Cognita: “We are very proud to welcome St. Gilgen International School as our first school in Austria. The school embodies the values Cognita stands for: academic excellence, a spirit of innovation, and a consistent focus on nurturing each student’s individual potential.”

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About St. Gilgen International School

Founded in 2008, St. Gilgen International School in St. Gilgen am Wolfgangsee offers outstanding education based on the International Baccalaureate curriculum for children and young people aged 9 to 18, and is among Austria’s leading international private schools. Around 230 students from more than 35 nations attend the school, and approximately half of them live in the school’s boarding house.

In addition to its academic programme, the school places a strong emphasis on sports and cultural activities as well as social engagement. Students are encouraged to discover their talents, build self-confidence, and maintain a healthy, well-balanced lifestyle. Through these diverse experiences, they develop resilience, leadership skills, and a deep appreciation for teamwork and creativity.

www.stgis.at

About Cognita

Founded in 2004, Cognita is a leading global schools group with 90 schools across 21 countries, which are united by a single purpose: empowering students to thrive in a rapidly evolving world. With 100,000 students and over 22,000 dedicated staff across Asia, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East and the US, Cognita offers a truly global education experience. Our schools prioritise academic excellence and then go beyond, fostering resilience, adaptability, and a growth mindset to equip young people with the skills they need to succeed.

www.cognita.com

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Through its partnership with Cognita, St. Gilgen International School becomes part of a global education network, gaining access to the extensive expertise and additional resources of one of the world’s leading school groups.

Download the press release and additional images at: www.prbuero.at/stgis