

# Schools' Programme 2022-2023

[www.chessinschools.co.uk](http://www.chessinschools.co.uk)



Join CSC to fully develop chess in your school. Our award-winning Schools' Programme is designed to give all children access to the many social and educational benefits learning chess can bring. We have a nationwide network of fully trained, DBS-checked tutors delivering our curriculum through lessons and clubs in schools across the country.

## Why chess?

Chess is a universal game that knows no boundaries of age, gender, faith, ethnicity or disability. The game promotes intellectual skills such as problem solving, logical thinking, pattern recognition and concentration.

Emerging research ([www.chessinschools.co.uk/research.htm](http://www.chessinschools.co.uk/research.htm)) also suggests a positive link between chess and academic attainment, with a recent meta-study concluding that sustained exposure can benefit mathematics ability. It fosters character, by teaching children to foresee the consequences of their actions as well as how to win and lose. This allows them to develop resilience, the tenacity to cope with adversity, along with self-esteem, attributes prized by educational psychologists. This is particularly relevant for the children who may otherwise struggle in regular school lessons. The universality of the game can help social interactions in a classroom and has given many children in our programmes an opportunity for advancement that has been transformational.



## 2022-2023 Schools' Programme

Schools in our programme receive weekly chess sessions from our fully trained, DBS-checked tutors. We follow our own 30-week curriculum which requires no prior knowledge of chess, developing understanding of the game through playing a series of mini-games.

In some schools our sessions take the form of a chess club, delivered before school, at lunchtime, or after school. Clubs typically last 1 hour and are suitable for up to 20 children (30 with TA support). However, our core offering is to run classroom lessons during curriculum time. These lessons are inclusive and are delivered to full classes of children. They are led by our tutors, with a member of school staff present to help with delivery.



Some schools receive a single hour of chess tuition per week; others have tutors visiting for a full day, delivering a combination of lessons and clubs. Our approach is to be as flexible as possible to fit the school's needs.

Additional benefits of the CSC Schools' Programme include:

- chess sets and equipment,
- learning resources including 2 CSC workbooks for each child and use of the CSC curriculum,
- training in chess delivery for a member of school staff,
- 5 annual Gold ChessKid memberships for use by selected children,
- priority invitation to the [London Chess Classic](#) Schools' Festival, and
- invitation to our year-end tournaments and other events.

Schools in our programme make a contribution towards our costs but these remain heavily subsidised by the charity's funds. In the 2021-2022 academic year, we delivered weekly chess sessions to over 250 schools across the country.

## Other learning resources and activities

Where schools want to run their own chess sessions and have a member of staff to do so, CSC supplies a free starter pack of chess equipment. We run regular [training courses](#) around the country offering advice on how to teach chess and run school chess clubs.

[ChessKid](#) is an online chess learning and playing zone designed for ages 5-11. Children have access to instructional videos, 1000s of puzzles and tests and can play other children from all over the world. As they improve, children move up through the ChessKid levels, from “Pawn 1” to “King 90”, earning stars and medals for achievement along the way. Child-friendly graphics and interactive lessons maintain interest and provide hours of entertainment. ChessKid has many safeguarding features to ensure children are protected while online.



CSC supplies schools with basic ChessKid accounts to distribute to their pupils. We run an online chess club using the ChessKid platform, offering regular tournaments and a monthly newsletter. These options are free of charge. Additionally, CSC has teamed-up with ChessKid to be able to offer Gold accounts, with full access to the platform’s learning resources, at a heavily discounted rate.

CSC also runs public events offering free chess activities to the whole family. In July each year we run ChessFest, a huge celebration of chess in Trafalgar Square, London, and Chavasse Park, Liverpool. You can see a video of last year’s event [here](#). Please join us for the 2023 event to see the charity in action.

To find out more, please contact your CSC Regional Organiser or complete the enquiry form on our website.

Chess in Schools and Communities

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