



Spring Term 2026. St Agatha's RC Primary School (StAGs)

Tuesdays after school until **4.15pm** 13<sup>th</sup> January to 24<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

Dear Parents,

The Chess Club begins again on **13<sup>h</sup> January 2025** for 10 weeks from **3.15-4.15pm**. With **limited places** available, open to **Y2-Y6** only of **any standard** on a **first-come-first-served** basis.

Chess is a fun game. It **improves** concentration, memory, cognitive thinking and calculating ability. It also **develops** analytical skills, training the mind to **plan ahead**. They will learn from their losses and become more **resilient** and how to stay **calm under pressure**. You will see your child grow in confidence as they progress.

**We play and learn about strategy and tactics together**

**This Spring Term we will be entering all the children into the UK Chess Challenge - 70,000 kids nationwide take part. Last year St Agatha's achieved an incredible eight Giga Finalists! Three represented Surrey in U11 County Finals.**

Our names are Mark & Hilary Hogarth. We are very experienced Chess teachers. Mark is also a Junior Chess County selector/coach, England Senior International and qualified Chess Arbiter. Complete beginners are **taught from scratch** until ready for assimilation into main group which covers Openings/middlegame strategy/basic endgames & mating patterns.

County U11 Chess Selector • England Senior Team Player • National Chess Arbiter • managed nationally/internationally

Whilst working at **Goldman Sachs** I also successfully pioneered Chess Partners as part of the Tower Hamlets Education Business Partnership a Charity, teaching Primary School kids in London's East End.

Existing members can renew **automatically** via Bank Transfer up to the 14<sup>th</sup> **December 2025**. Prospective new members can register interest by emailing [hilary.hogarth@btinternet.com](mailto:hilary.hogarth@btinternet.com) the following information **after 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025**:

- 1) **Your Child's Name**
- 2) **Year Group/Class**
- 3) **Chess Playing Ability (Complete beginner, Basic knowledge - piece value and moves, castling, chess notation)**
- 4) **Parent/Guardian Contact Name, email address and 2 mobile numbers required for After School collection**
- 5) **Details of any allergy, medical needs (including use of inhalers and Epi-pens)**

**After 14<sup>th</sup> December 2025, entry will be on a first-come-first-served basis. Places will go fast and a Waiting List will operate.** We will email you directly to confirm your child's place and at that stage send our **payment details** and general joining instructions. Cost is **£90** for the Term. If you are in receipt of Pupil Premium or equivalent then chess **maybe free, please contact school directly.**

Regards, Mark Hogarth, Chess Teacher, [mark.hogarth@btinternet.com](mailto:mark.hogarth@btinternet.com) 07976 639080

N.B. Sessions will only be refunded in the event of whole school closure **except Inset Day** or a **force majeure**. No refunds given after Week 2