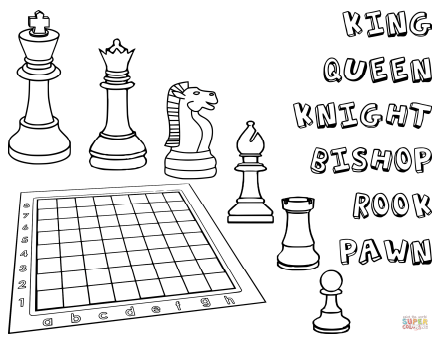




Autumn Term 2026. St Agatha's RC Primary School (StAGs)

Dear Parents,

After an **amazing** year Chess begins again on **8th September 2026**. We are able to offer a **Y2-Y6 After School** session. With **limited places** available, all sessions are open to pupils of **any standard** including complete beginners on a **first-come-first-served** basis.

Chess **improves** concentration, memory, cognitive thinking and calculating ability. It also **develops** analytical skills, training the mind to **plan ahead**.

We play and learn about strategy and tactics together

Although fun, it is not all about winning. The children will learn from their losses, becoming more **resilient** and learn how to stay **calm under pressure**. You will see your child grow in confidence as they progress! **This year, StAGs had ten Gigafinalists, podium finishers(B/S/G) and again retained the Shield in the Annual Inter-School Chess Shield match against an illustrious Latchmere team. In addition, several players were selected for Surrey to play in the County Finals!**

Autumn Term, all children will be prepared for the popular UK Chess Challenge (70,000 kids nationwide take part!) which starts in the Spring Term. In addition, some children will be entered for the ECF Certificate of Excellence – Bronze/Silver/Gold levels

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 • Chess Arbiter • managed teams 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.

The club will run for 11 weeks as follows:

Tuesday 3.15-4.15pm Y2 to Y6 £90 Sep(8,15,29),Oct(6,13,20), Nov(3,10,17,24), 1st Dec 2026 (11 weeks)

To register your interest in joining the club **please would you email** hilary.hogarth@btinternet.com **07976 639250** the following information:

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

Existing members can email registering their wish to renew. **Places will go fast, so please apply early to avoid missing out.** We will **email you directly** to confirm your child's place and at that stage send our **payment details** and general joining instructions. Cost for the Term is **£90**. If you are in receipt of **Pupil Premium or equivalent then chess maybe free but you must contact the school directly.**

Regards, Mark and Hilary Hogarth, Chess Teachers

We will on occasion will be taking photos of the children for the School Newsletter. Please email us to **opt out of this** if you **do not consent**
N.B. Sessions will only be refunded in the event of a whole school closure **except** when a **force majeure**. No refunds given **after** Week 2.