



Autumn Term 2025. St Agatha's RC Primary School (StAGs)

Dear Parents,

After an **amazing** year Chess begins again on **9th September 2025**. 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 some players were selected for Surrey to play in the County Finals!**

This 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 12 weeks as follows:

Tuesday 3.15-4.15pm Y2 to Y6 £90 9th Sep - 2nd Dec 2025 (12 weeks)

To register your interest in joining the club **please would you email** hilary.hogarth@btinternet.com 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 and two mobile numbers 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 and you must contact the school directly.**

Regards, Mark Hogarth, Chess Teacher, mark.hogarth@btinternet.com 07976 639250

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