



NEW YEAR 2025

St Richard Reynolds Catholic College

Chess Club

Thursday Lunchtime 16th January to 3rd April 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

A new Chess year starts on 16th January. It is open to **Y7-Y10 only** of **any standard** including complete beginners. With **limited places** available they will be offered to pupils in these age groups on a **first-come-first-served basis**.

We play and learn about strategy and tactics together

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

Although fun, it is not all about winning. They will learn from their losses and become more **resilient**, and learn to stay **calm under pressure**. You will see your child grow in confidence as they progress! Several **Gigafinalists** produced last year.

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 Colin Aniecko and Derek McGovern and we are taking over the Club from Mark and Hilary Hogarth who passed it onto us. They have taught chess at the school over several years, building up a thriving, competitive and friendly environment and will be sadly missed. We wish them well.

Both of us are very experienced teachers and players spanning several years, having successfully played at Club, County and national level (4NCL). Complete beginners are **taught from scratch** until they are ready to be assimilated into the main group which covers Openings/middlegame strategy/basic endgames & checkmating patterns as well as tournament preparation and play.

Lunchtime – Y7 to Y10 only [12.40-1.10pm] £70 (11 weeks)

To register your interest in joining the club please would you email: chesstutors@outlook.com with the following information by **24th December 2024**:

1. **Your Child's Name**
2. **Year Group and Class (in September 2024)**
3. **Chess Playing Ability (Basic knowledge - piece value and moves, castling, chess notation)**
4. **Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Contact Name**
5. **Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Contact email address and Contact mobile number**

Entry to the club will be on a **first-come-first-served basis**. **Places are limited so will be going fast, so are not guaranteed**. We will email you directly to confirm your child's place and at that stage send our **payment details** and general joining instructions. If you are in receipt of Pupil Premium or equivalent, contact school as chess maybe **free**.

Regards, Colin Aniecko and Derek McGovern, Chess Teachers. Email: chesstutors@outlook.com 07780 539935

Please note sessions will only be refunded in the event of a whole school closure.

e-mail: office@srrcc.org.uk website: www.strichardreynolds.org.uk