

# Barnet Junior Chess Policy A3

## - Chess on the curriculum

### 1. Evidence that chess advances education

There is considerable evidence that chess improves pupil's performance over a wide range of educational abilities.

In particular -

- <http://www.susanpolgar.com/susan-polgar-foundation-benefits.html>

Susan Polgar's (One of the greatest women chess players) Foundation explain how chess can improve **planning, confidence, patience** and **discipline**.

- <http://www.mathandchess.com/articles/article/1302222/60343.htm>

Dean J. Ippolito suggests Math + Chess = **A cool way to learn math**

- <http://www.chessforeducation.com/>

Chess For Education talks about how chess can improve **problem solving, critical thinking, decision making, concentration and IQ**.

### 2. Bringing the best educational expertise to your school

Malcolm Pein, a chess International master and chess correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, is Chief Executive of an organisation called Chess in the Schools and Community. This registered charity has a wealth of experience in the provision of chess teaching in primary schools in England, and they already provide curriculum teaching in 6 Barnet Primary schools. They will provide a complete educational package, including CRB-checked coach, teaching resources etc. Their excellent website ([www.chessinschools.co.uk](http://www.chessinschools.co.uk)) sets out many specific details of their organisation and educational programme.

### 3. How would chess best fit into the school curriculum and life at your school?

Children can start to learn chess at a very young age, and in some countries do so in Nursery school. However, it is suggested that weekly chess classes should start for pupils in Year Three, taught and administered by Chess in the Schools.

It is anticipated that about a third of the children will wish to continue to play on into Years 4-6. The school will therefore need to establish a Chess Club as an after-school event or at lunchtime. Those who wish to continue to play will apply to join this Chess Club. The school will need to employ a chess coach to run the Club.

## **4. The Cost**

### **4.1 The Year 3 class.**

Chess in the schools charges £1,000 per annum to provide teaching for one lesson for one class per week for a year.

The school will need to contribute £500. If the school agrees to this, the committee of Barnet Junior Chess will consider applications for a matching grant for an L.B.B. Primary school of £500 for the first year. For subsequent years the school may need to provide the full sum or alternatively the school may wish to seek a matching Grant from a different body. (The P.T.A., a Charitable Trust etc.)

### **4.2 Applying for a Grant**

Applications should be made in writing and sent to the Chair. Applications will be considered by the committee at the next committee meeting. The number of Grants given per year will depend on the finances of BJC.

### **4.3 The Chess Club.**

The school may wish to get the parents of pupils in the Club to pay for the Club. Coaches may charge around £100 per week. If there are 20 pupils in the Club, that means £5 per child per Club for the parents. (Some coaches will charge less if there is a chance of picking up private pupils at the school.)

## **5. Auditing the advantages of chess for the class**

The school's Senior Management Team may wish to consider how best to assess the impact of a chess lesson each week on an individual student's and on the class's comparative progress.

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