

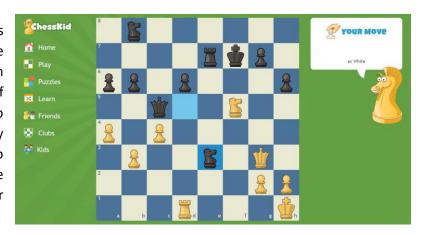
Head Office 44 Baker Street, London W1U 7RT Tel: 020 7935 3445

Email: admin@chessinschools.co.uk www.chessinschools.co.uk

# **ChessKid for schools**

#### What is ChessKid?

ChessKid is an online chess learning and playing zone designed for ages 5-11. Children who have no prior knowledge of chess will be able to learn how to play the game. Those who already know how to play will be able to develop their skills and challenge their friends, while tracking their improvement.



Children have access to instructional videos, 1000s of puzzles and tests and can play other children from all over the world. As they improve, children move up through the ChessKid levels, from "Pawn 1" to "King 90", earning stars and medals for achievement along the way. Child-friendly graphics and interactive lessons maintain interest and provide hours of entertainment.

ChessKid has two levels of accounts. A basic account is free but offers limited access to learning resources. A gold account is a subscription service but offers unlimited access to all ChessKid's training tools.



## **CSC and ChessKid**

CSC has teamed up with ChessKid to offer Gold accounts to school children in the UK at a significant discount to the normal price of \$49.99. Children with these accounts will be able to play games against their friends, or others from schools around the country. They will also be able to take part in global tournaments and events organised by ChessKid by joining one of their two Public Kid Clubs.

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#### **CSC** events within ChessKid

Children with our accounts will be automatically placed in our online ChessKid club: Club CSC UK. From April 2020, CSC will be running regular events within this club. Our aim is to create an enormous online chess club for UK primary school children and get one million children playing the world's oldest game.

Children will receive notifications of CSC events through the ChessKid club messaging system. There will be regular fast-play and slow-play tournaments, with online ChessKid trophies for the winners. We will also be holding regular challenges and competitions: who can solve the most ChessKid puzzles or earn the most ChessKid stars in a week. As well as individual events, we will also offer online awards to the schools whose children are most active and successful within our ChessKid club. Please note: ChessKid is available on a website or as an app. Some of the features, including tournament play, are only available on the website version. A lot of children will access ChessKid via a tablet. If you want them to play in tournaments you should advise them to access their account through a web browser rather than through the Chesskid App.

CSC will be publishing a weekly ChessKid newsletter with details of these events and their results, annotated games, and tips to help children improve their play. The newsletter will automatically be sent to participating schools.

### **Online safety**

The safety of children is the highest priority for CSC. ChessKid has been designed for use by primary school children and has many features to keep them protected while playing chess online:

- Chat. Children can interact with their opponents while playing a game, but messages are
  restricted to a small set of pre-programmed, positive comments ("Good move", "Good luck",
  etc.) and a restricted set of emojis.
- **Friends.** Children can only link with their friends by a "blind-friending" process. When Child A sends a friend request to Child B, Child B does not receive any notification. Instead, Child A is only added as a friend if Child B also independently sends a friend request to Child A.
- Messaging. Children can award trophies to their friends but cannot send messages to another
  child. To enable private coaching, ChessKid does allow messaging between an adult account
  and a child account. However, this feature has been disabled for all adult accounts allocated
  to CSC tutors. CSC tutors can only make announcements to all the children in a school or one
  of their clubs.
- Clubs. Any ChessKid clubs set up by CSC tutors must have a minimum of 5 children and 2 adults as members. The second adult is typically a member of staff from children's school. We strongly recommend schools pursue a similar policy with any club they establish among their ChessKid accounts. The second adult can monitor all messages sent to the children using the club messaging function. All CSC clubs will have the ChessKid "Forum" option turned off.

These notes should be read in conjunction with the <u>CSC Online Safety Policy</u>, available on our website. More details on these safeguarding measures can be found in this ChessKid article: "<u>How to: Understand ChessKid's Safety Features.</u>"

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#### **About CSC**

CSC is a UK charity whose mission is to improve children's educational outcomes and social development by introducing them to the game of chess. Founded in 2009, we now teach weekly chess lessons in class time in over 300 schools and support over 700 more school chess clubs nationwide. We also have a range of Home Learning resources available on the <a href="Chess at Home">Chess at Home</a> section of our website. To find out more about what CSC can offer a school, please email <a href="info@chessinschools.co.uk">info@chessinschools.co.uk</a>.

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