

## **FIDE Chess School Award**

We examine your school's suitability for the FIDE Chess School Award in ten categories. There are guiding questions for each category. There is no need to answer every guiding question.

Enhance your application by providing detailed information in your descriptions and by sending us relevant supporting material.

We recommend that you prepare your answers prior to filling in the application form.

### **1. Facilities**

Describe the facilities that enable chess instruction in your school.

- Do you have a special chess room or a chess corner where chess classes are held? If so, how is it set up?
- Do children have access to it in their free time; during lunch hour or break times?
- Where is chess equipment stored?
- What chess materials do the children use?
- Are chess boards available throughout the day?
- If the chess teacher has to set up a regular classroom for chess class, how is it done?
- What equipment is used to deliver chess instruction?
- Do you happen to have a game area with other strategy games playable?
- Do you have a garden chess set for outdoor play?

### **2. Student Involvement**

Provide details about student involvement in chess activities.

- How many children attend your school?
- How many children play chess?
- What percentage of children play chess?
- Which age-group(s) are offered chess instruction?
- What is the form of chess instruction: compulsory lessons, optional lessons, after-school club, lunchtime club, another format?
- How much time per week does chess instruction happen?
- Are students playing chess together, or are they separated by age or skill level?)

### **3. Teaching Materials**

Explain what is taught in the chess classes and what materials are used.

- Do you have a written curriculum for systematic training with a focus on chess development? If so, please describe its main contents.
- Have your chess educators written the chess curriculum themselves?
- Do you use any established systems such as the Steps Method from the Netherlands, Chess Palace from Hungary, Chess for Schools and Communities from the UK, or something else?

- What teaching materials do you use: books, workbooks, online tools?
- What online tools do you use and what is their main role?
- Describe a typical chess lesson.
- What differentiation tools do you use for various performance and skill levels?

#### **4. Chess Events**

What chess events are organized in your school?

- Do you organize in-school tournaments? Who takes part in these?
- Does your school participate in inter-school competitions: school chess leagues and cups, online events, country-wide competitions?
- Does your school organize fun chess events such as a school chess day, “grandparent-child team tournament”, live chess on a giant board or similar?
- Do you have chess activities that are not tournament-oriented?

#### **5. Chess Educators**

Who teaches chess and what are their qualifications in education and in chess?

- Who leads the chess instruction: teachers in your school, visiting chess coaches, or both?
- Do teachers have FIDE School Instructor titles or a comparable qualification, such as the ECU 101 course award?
- What chess titles, licenses and qualifications do visiting chess trainers have?
- Do you provide training for your teachers? Please attach copies of certificates if available.

#### **6. Representation of School Chess**

How visible is chess in your school and in the wider community?

- Do you hold promotional events inside and outside school?
- Do you have a stand at the school festival?
- Are there chess advertising flyers and posters displayed in your school, or on the school website?
- Do you hold fundraising events?
- What promotional materials do you use to attract new students to your school chess program?
- Do you have a dedicated chess page on the school website or in the student newspaper? We are eager to see a small advertising example.

#### **7. Social Commitment**

How inclusive and socially committed is your school chess?

- Do you cater for children with special needs? How do you include them in the chess classes?
- If chess is taught in an after-school or lunchtime club format, what is the age-spread of the children?
- Do you cooperate with a local chess club to run joint events or refer some students?
- What activities do you offer your students around chess that promote the development of socially responsible, independent personalities?

## **8. Chess as an Educational Tool**

How is chess integrated into the school curriculum?

- Is chess offered as a compulsory or optional subject in school?
- If chess is a taught subject in the school curriculum, how many lessons are taught per week and to which age groups?
- Does every child learn the rules of chess at some point?
- Do educators also use chess-like minigames, strategy games, exercises and investigations in the lesson?
- Give examples where chess is used as an interdisciplinary or as a transversal tool in your practice. [Transversal tool: when it is used in a field that cuts across all subjects, such as for developing emotional intelligence. Interdisciplinary tool: when it is used to facilitate the learning of a specific subject, such as mathematics or languages.]

## **9. Financing School Chess**

Explain how your school chess program is financed.

- Does the school have a budget for providing extra-curricular chess after school or lunchtime?
- Do parents pay for chess instruction?
- Can all children play chess free of charge?
- Are financially weak families supported if necessary?
- How are equipment and activities financed?

## **10. Testimonials**

- Provide us with 3-4 testimonials about your school chess program. Ideally, written by someone from each of the following: students, parents, and educators.

**Examples for supporting materials:**

- Pictures with captions;
- short videos;
- website screenshots;
- promotional materials;
- newsletters;
- copies of newspaper articles;
- other documents;

- testimonials;
- links to websites, social media posts and relevant events.

Include links in your answers, and send us all other materials via the [FIDE Chess in Education Commission website](#) indexed with your School ID. You may choose your School ID and you must state it on your application form.