



Chess Club

Spring Term 2026 Latchmere Primary School (LMPS)

Dear Parents,

Chess is starting again on 12th January 2026. With **limited places** available, it is open to Y1-Y6 of **any standard excluding complete beginners** After School (because of the UKCC) on a **first-come-first-served basis** both at lunchtime/After School.

Chess is a fun game, although it is not just about winning. It **improves concentration, memory, cognitive thinking** and **calculating ability**. It also **develops analytical skills**, training the mind to **plan ahead**. They will learn from their losses, become more **resilient** and how to stay **calm under pressure**. You will see them grow in confidence as they progress.

We play and learn about strategy and tactics together

This Spring Term all the children are entered into the UK Chess Challenge - 70,000 kids nationwide take part! Last year Latchmere achieved 10 Giga Finalists. We continued to be the first ever State Primary to qualify as National Schools Girls Team Finalists. Five Latchmere pupils represented **Surrey and one** represented **England, quite an achievement.**

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 • National Chess Arbiter • **managed 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 10 weeks as follows:

Monday 3.30-4.25pm Y3 to Y6 £90 12th Jan - 9th Feb (5 weeks) and 23rd Feb – 23rd March (5 weeks)

Tuesday Lunch 12.05-1.00pm Y1 & Y2 £70 13th Jan - 10th Feb (5 weeks) and 24th Feb – 25th March (5 weeks)

Tuesday Lunch 12.30-1.00pm Y3 & Y4 £70 13th Jan - 10th Feb (5 weeks) and 24th Feb – 25th March (5 weeks)

Tuesday Lunch 1.00 - 1.30pm Y5 & Y6 £70 13th Jan – 10th Feb (5 weeks) and 24th Feb – 25th March (5 weeks)

Existing **A/S** members can renew **automatically** via Bank Transfer up to the **15th December 2025**. Prospective new members can register interest by emailing hilary.hogarth@btinternet.com the following information **after 15th December 2025**:

1. **Your Child's Name**
2. **Year Group/Class and required Session (LT, A/S)**
3. **Chess Playing Ability (Complete beginner, Basic knowledge - piece value and moves, castling, chess notation)**
4. **Parent/Guardian Contact Name, email address and 2 mobile numbers required for After School collection**
5. **Details of any allergy, medical needs (including use of inhalers and Epi-pens)**

After 15th December 2025, entry will be on a first-come-first-served basis. Places will go fast and a **Waiting List** will operate.

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 then chess maybe **free, please contact school directly.**

Regards, Mark Hogarth, Chess Teacher, mark.hogarth@btinternet.com 07976 639080

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