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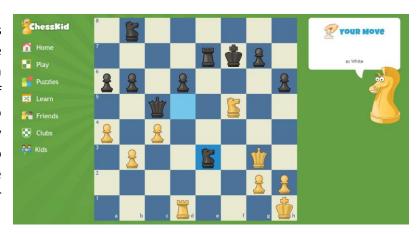
Email: admin@chessinschools.co.uk

www.chessinschools.co.uk

# **ChessKid for parents and carers**

## 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 are able to learn how to play the game. Those who already know how to play are 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 free Gold accounts to school children in the UK. Children with these accounts will be able to play games against their friends, or others from schools around the country. Registrations for free accounts can be made through the <u>CSC website</u>, either by schools or by individual parents or carers. The accounts are time limited, and valid until 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

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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. If you want your child to play in tournaments they should 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. To receive this by email, parents or carers should sign up for our mailing list when registering for their free account.

## **Registration of ChessKid account**

When parents complete the online form on the CSC website, they will receive a registration link by email. Parents should use this link to complete their child's registration on ChessKid. In ChessKid, a child's username is searchable and visible to online opponents. In the interest of safety, we strongly recommend that usernames contain no information that could be used to identify a child. We suggest children choose one of the usernames randomly generated by the sign-up link. Parents or carers should add their own email to their child's ChessKid account. They will then receive an email from ChessKid inviting them to create their own adult account. This enables a parent or carer to review their child's progress, to reset a lost password, and to act as the child's guardian on the site. Please also read the section on Online Safety below.

# **Multiple accounts**

If you have more than one child and want additional ChessKid accounts, the registration link can be used multiple times. Log out of ChessKid, return to our email and click on the link to create a second account. N.B. You will need a different adult email address for each new ChessKid account.

#### **Lost passwords**

If a child has forgotten their password their parent or carer can reset it using their adult account. From the ChessKid homepage, choose the "Kids" option from the main menu. Click on the child's avatar. Using the mini-menu, select "Edit kid". This will take you to a page where a new password can be set for the account.

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# **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 linked child account. CSC will only use this system to announce competitions and
  tournaments. These will be group messages, sent to all children in the CSC Chess Club. We
  will not send messages to individual children.

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:</u> <u>Understand ChessKid's Safety Features."</u>

#### **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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