

BCET 2015

Nomination for Radstock Primary School

I run the chess club at Radstock Primary School in Reading and I would like to nominate the school to be considered for the ECF School Chess Shield award. Radstock has a thriving chess club with 30 children from years 3 to 6 taking part and a long waiting list for places.

Radstock School has entered the UK Chess Challenge every year since 2004 and has had children reach the Gigafinal stage in 8 of those years. In 2014, one of our players also made it through to the Terafinal Challengers.

Radstock School encourages their pupils to play chess by running an annual House Chess competition and hosting tournaments for Berkshire Junior Chess Association. Teams from Radstock also play matches against other local schools. The U11 team won the Berkshire Primary Schools B League in 2010 and the West Berkshire Primary Schools A League in 2012. Radstock also takes part in the Primary School Jamboree tournaments run by Berkshire Junior Chess Association, winning the U9 event in 2012 and coming 3rd in the U11 tournament in 2013.

In recent years, several Radstock children have played for the Berkshire U11 and U9 County chess teams. In 2013-14, 4 of the boys played for the Berkshire U11 team and one of them was also picked for the U11 England squad. This year, 2 of the girls are playing for the Berkshire U11 Girls team.

I have been running the chess club at Radstock School for 8 years now and I am very proud of all the children's achievements in chess and their great enthusiasm for playing the game.

Kings School Grantham

I forward the application on behalf of the Kings School Grantham for a Sir George Thomas award

The citation has been endorsed by Lincolnshire chess association
The chairman has added his own endorsement on the end.

I note that it should be forwarded via the MCCU however the Junior organiser David Levens has recently resigned and there is no one in post

Please could you acknowledge the receipt and advise me if it has to be forwarded via someone else

Best wishes
Phill Beckett

i/c Chess Kings Grantham

Citation for the Kings School Grantham
Background of the school

The Kings School Grantham is a selective Boys Grammar School which is situated in the small town of Grantham in rural Lincolnshire. It has 1039 boys of whom 266 are in the sixth form. The school is non

fee paying. The school recognises the value of chess and awards colours in the form of metal badges which are highly prized. This places chess at the same level as the major sports such as cricket, rugby and other activities such as music.

Set up of Club

Over the past six years chess club has met five lunchtimes a week for an hour and one hour after school. The club is all inclusive and any boy of any ability is allowed to attend whether they aim is to represent the school or simply play for enjoyment. In addition the school has established an extensive fixture list which includes individual matches against single schools as well as team events including Invitation events at Eton , Birmingham , and Worksop. However the most popular aspect is often the individual one day events. Each season the school has participated in the Lincolnshire rapid play events, the Delaney land challenge Mega and Giga finals.

Achievements of team

The school operates teams at every age group from year seven to open age teams however many younger players find themselves playing in higher age group teams as team selection is always based on merit. The open age team has reached the National stages of the Schools Knock out twice in the last six years and has achieved top four finishes in the Eton Invitation early season events in competition against many of the leading Independent schools in the country. After the first two years when the team was regularly beaten heavily they now enjoy just over 70% success rate in school matches.

Lower down the younger teams dominate local events particular note is the performance at the Worksop under 13 event where the team has won the main event for the past five years being undefeated in the process. The Under 13 have a regular fixture list against leading prep schools in the East Midlands and have been undefeated over the last three years.

The ECF have recently introduced a team problem solving event and King's have qualified for the inaugural final at Imperial College London.

Achievements of individuals

Over the last two years pupils at the school have almost swept the board at the Lincolnshire circuit winning all but two of the 10 events. In last years county Mega Final King's boys won every event from Under 12 to Under 19 which we have entered. For the last five years a minimum of eight boys have qualified for Northern Gigafinal with one boy qualifying for the finals in each of the last three years.

Links with Grantham chess Club

The school has good contacts with Grantham Chess club with various members of the club visiting the school to give instructive talks and coaching. Over the last three years boys from the school have regularly represented the chess club in the Lincolnshire league. The club offering free membership and paying for ECF membership for any boy from Kings who represented the club.

Links with County

Over the last four years boys from the school have regularly represented the Lincolnshire Under 120 team and this year for the first time the team qualified for the National stages aided by two King's Boys playing in all the Midland Counties league games.

Recognition of the school

Two years ago the school's achievements were recognised by the award of the status of 'Centre of Excellence' by the ECF. In previous years the school has hosted various Lincolnshire Individual events and the Final of the Team Rapid play event. This year the school is to host the finals of the ECF Intercounties events during June.

County recognition

As a senior representative of Lincolnshire Chess Association I have met several past and present pupils of King's School Grantham as well as members of the teaching staff. I have found that the standard of play of the pupils has been very high and is a very positive reflection of the hard work put into the school chess club. Peter Sherlock.

SOUTHERN COUNTIES CHESS UNION
FOUNDED 1892

Citation for the British Chess Educational Trust

Deptford Park Primary School

Evelyn Street
Deptford
London SE8 5RJ

Chess in Schools and Communities and the Southern Counties Chess Union would like to nominate Deptford Park Primary School in Lewisham for a British Chess Educational Trust Award.

Below is a testimonial from Anuradha Beniwal, the school's chess tutor.

Deptford Park Primary was my first Chess in Schools and Communities school, and I began teaching there in September 2014. I was very nervous to start with, not being an experienced teacher myself. And it was not an easy start. Sitting in one place, waiting patiently for the opponent's move, thinking ahead and thinking before making moves didn't come naturally to my Year 4 class. Yet within a couple of months, the class was making so much progress that I was absolutely amazed. A lot of credit must go to the class teacher, Duncan, who learned chess himself so that he could actively contribute to the sessions. The attitude of the class teacher was reflected by the students and they showed more and more enthusiasm to learn the game.

Credit must also go to the school administration and the head of school, Ken, who encouraged more and more students to take up chess. We were given a full wall space to make a 'chess galaxy', where the students wrote about their experience in chess class and how to play the game, for the benefit of the rest of the school. The chess playing pupils talked about the game in the school assembly, causing other children in the school to join chess club in great numbers. Some children had to go on a waiting list.

After witnessing this success the school decided to increase the number of chess classes and introduced chess to all of Year 4 (four classes) and the chess club. We conduct termly tournaments, with prizes provided by the school. The class teachers are very enthusiastic about chess and take an active interest in the game. This has resulted in amazing discipline, and it helps the children learn the

game faster. The teachers have not only seen their pupils improve at chess, but that they are more focused and enthusiastic during other school activities.

Anuradha Beniwal, Tutor, Chess in Schools and Communities
Matthew Lunn, Researcher, Chess in Schools and Communities
David Sedgwick, on behalf of the Southern Counties Chess Union
29th May 2015

SOUTHERN COUNTIES CHESS UNION
FOUNDED 1892

Citation for the British Chess Educational Trust

Marion Richardson Primary School

Senrab Street
Shadwell
London E1 0QF

Chess in Schools and Communities has taught chess at Marion Richardson Primary School in Tower Hamlets since September 2013. Since we began our project at Marion Richardson, both Year 3 classes have received class time chess lessons. As of September 2014, this has extended to both Year 4 classes. We have been inspired to recommend the school for a BCET award for the following reasons. 60 of Marion Richardson's pupils attended the 2013 London Chess Classic, demonstrating remarkable enthusiasm for and commitment to the CSC programme. They hosted the CSC Tower Hamlets borough tournament in 2014, a highly successful, well attended event. The school's senior management team, and the Year 3 and 4 class teachers, have been heavily involved in the school's chess delivery, which has contributed greatly to the children's academic and social development. Testimonials from Jonathan Bryant, the school's CSC tutor, school staff and pupils are attached separately in pdf format.

Matthew Lunn, Researcher, Chess in Schools and Communities
David Sedgwick, on behalf of the Southern Counties Chess Union
29th May 2015