

S T J O S E P H ' S
NUD GEE
COLLEGE



C H E S S H A N D B O O K

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Mission & Values

Our Mission

The Nudgee College Chess Program seeks to develop young men of character through the game of chess. We aim to provide an inclusive, challenging, and supportive environment where students of all ages and abilities can develop strategic thinking, resilience, concentration, sportsmanship, and a lifelong love of learning.

Through training, competition, leadership opportunities, and community engagement, we strive to foster not only strong chess players but thoughtful young men who embody the values of Nudgee College in all they do.

Our Values

Participation

We believe chess should be accessible to all students. Whether a student is learning the rules for the first time or competing at an elite level, every member of our community is valued and encouraged to contribute.

Excellence

We pursue excellence through commitment, preparation, and continuous improvement. Excellence is not defined solely by results, but by a student's willingness to learn, reflect, and strive to become the best version of themselves.

Respect

Chess is built upon mutual respect. We treat opponents, teammates, coaches, officials, and equipment with courtesy and integrity, recognising that how we conduct ourselves is just as important as the outcome of a game.

Resilience

Every game presents challenges, setbacks, and opportunities for growth. We encourage students to approach both victory and defeat with humility, perseverance, and a commitment to learning.

Leadership

We believe leadership is demonstrated through service, encouragement, and example. Our senior players are expected to mentor younger students, contribute positively to the culture of the program, and help create a welcoming environment for all members.

Community

Chess at Nudgee College is more than a competition program; it is a community. We value friendship, belonging, and the connections formed through shared experiences, teamwork, and a common passion for the game.

Our Commitment

As members of the Nudgee College Chess Program, we commit to:

- Representing the College with pride and integrity.
- Demonstrating respect and sportsmanship at all times.
- Supporting and encouraging fellow players.
- Approaching challenges with resilience and a growth mindset.
- Pursuing excellence through consistent effort and preparation.
- Contributing positively to the culture and community of the program.

Together, we seek to build a program where every student can learn, belong, and thrive.

History of Chess at Nudgee

Chess has a long and proud history at Nudgee College, emerging as part of the College's broader commitment to providing students with meaningful opportunities beyond the classroom.

Late 1960s: Early Beginnings

During the late 1960s, Nudgee College began expanding the range of activities available to students. Under the leadership of Judge Brian Boulton, who served as Headmaster from 1968 to 1973, the College sought to broaden student involvement through activities such as Drama, Art, Debating, Music, and other academic and cultural pursuits. Chess is remembered as developing during this period as a grassroots activity, reflecting a growing interest in intellectual and co-curricular opportunities across the College.

1977: GPS Chess Participation

By 1977, Chess had developed into a more formal activity within the GPS context. At this time, four GPS schools were recorded as competing in Chess: Nudgee College, Terrace, Brisbane State High School, and Brisbane Grammar School.

1978: First Recorded Chess Champion

In 1978, the first Chess Champion was recorded for the College Honour Board. Peter Kennedy Beckett was also recorded as Chess A Team Captain. This year represents an important milestone in the formal recognition of Chess at Nudgee.

1970s-1980s: Chess as a Friday Night Activity

During this period, Chess was also remembered as a Friday night activity, particularly for boarders. Br Lucian John Muhldorf, who was at Nudgee College from 1974 to 1987, is remembered as an important organiser of Chess during this era.

1993: GPS Premiership

In 1993, Chess was formally introduced as a GPS Sport. In its inaugural year, Nudgee College won the GPS Premiership. The premiership team included Alan Watt, Maksymilian Leskiewicz, Christophe Keirens, Thomas Tulley, and Robert Scanlan.

1997: Australian Junior Champion

In 1997, Nudgee College Old Boy Maksymilian Leskiewicz became the Australian Junior Chess Champion. As a member of the College's 1993 GPS Premiership team and one of the most significant chess players connected to Nudgee, Maksymilian remains an important figure in the history and legacy of Chess at the College.

2004: First Inter-House Chess Competition

In 2004, Nudgee College held its first Inter-House Chess Competition. This marked an important step in broadening participation in Chess across the student body, allowing students of different year levels and experience levels to represent their Houses in a competitive but accessible format.

2005-2006: Giant Chess Board Near Tierney and the Music Block

During the mid-2000s, a giant chess board was established in the area between Tierney Auditorium and the Music Block, where the green turf is now located. The board and pieces became a visible part of the College's Chess culture, helping to promote the game in an informal and engaging way across the campus.



2010: First Old Boys v Students Chess Competition

In 2010, Nudgee College held its first Old Boys v Students Chess Competition. This event has since become an important annual tradition, bringing together current students and Old Boys through a shared love of Chess.

2012: Sunday Chess Competitions Begin

In 2012, Nudgee College began hosting Sunday Chess competitions, initially held in Ryan Hall. These competitions quickly grew in popularity, attracting students from across South East Queensland and further establishing Nudgee as an important venue for school chess.

2015: Sunday Competitions Move to Tierney Auditorium

By 2015, the Sunday Chess competitions had outgrown Ryan Hall and moved to Tierney Hall.

2023: Sunday Competitions Move to the Conference Centre

In 2023, the Sunday Chess competitions moved again, this time to the Christian Brothers Conference Centre. Nudgee now regularly hosts more than 150 students from across South East Queensland each term, demonstrating the continued growth and strength of the Chess community.

Recent Years: Giant Chess Board at Hanley

In more recent years, the giant chess pieces have continued to be part of the College's Chess identity through the construction of the giant board at Hanley.



Art and Science of Chess - Chess as a Vehicle for 21st Century Learning



At Nudgee College, Chess is understood as both an art and a science: a disciplined intellectual pursuit that develops strategic thinking, creativity, concentration, resilience, and character.

As a science, Chess asks students to calculate, analyse, compare options, recognise patterns, manage risk, and make decisions under pressure. Every move requires students to consider cause and effect, anticipate consequences, and think several steps ahead. Students learn that choices matter, that actions have consequences, and that success often depends on preparation, patience, and precision.

As an art, Chess invites imagination. No two games are ever exactly the same. Students are required to create plans, respond to unfamiliar positions, adapt to changing circumstances, and find possibilities where others may only see problems. Chess rewards creativity as much as calculation, encouraging students to balance logic with intuition and discipline with invention.

In this way, Chess provides a powerful vehicle for 21st century learning. Contemporary education places increasing emphasis on critical thinking, creativity, communication, collaboration, problem-solving, adaptability, and personal responsibility.

Chess naturally develops these capabilities in a practical and engaging way. Students must think critically before acting, communicate respectfully with opponents and teammates, collaborate during training and analysis, and learn from both victory and defeat.

Chess also teaches students to slow down. In a world often shaped by immediacy, distraction, and instant response, Chess encourages deep focus and thoughtful decision-making. Students learn to pause, assess the board, consider multiple possibilities, and make decisions with care. These habits extend beyond the chessboard into academic learning, leadership, relationships, and life.

For this reason, Chess at Nudgee is not simply an activity for those who already know how to play. It is a co-curricular pathway through which students can develop intellectual confidence, social connection, competitive spirit, and lifelong learning habits. Whether students are playing casually at lunchtime, representing the College in GPS competition, analysing games with a coach, or mentoring younger players, they are participating in a tradition that values thoughtfulness, discipline, creativity, and respect.

Our Offerings

The Nudgee College Chess Program provides a range of opportunities for students to develop their skills, represent the College, connect with peers, and enjoy Chess in both competitive and social settings. The program is designed to support students at all stages of development, from those learning the fundamentals of the game to experienced players seeking higher-level competition.

Weekly Coaching

Students have access to regular Chess coaching throughout the school week, including both afternoon training sessions and lunchtime opportunities. These sessions provide structured skill development, game practice, tactical instruction, and opportunities for students to receive feedback on their play.

Weekly coaching is designed to help students build confidence, improve decision-making, develop strategic thinking, and prepare for competition. Sessions may include opening principles, middle-game tactics, endgame technique, puzzle solving, game analysis, and supervised practice games.

Junior and Senior Competitions

The Chess Program provides competitive opportunities for both Junior and Senior students. These competitions allow students to test their skills, represent the College, and experience the challenge and enjoyment of structured match play.

External Inter-School junior and senior competitions focus on building confidence, participation, strategy, leadership, and team performance. Across both Junior and Senior levels, students are encouraged to compete with integrity, learn from each game, and contribute positively to the team environment.

Sunday Competitions

Students may also have the opportunity to participate in Nudgee College hosted Sunday Chess competitions throughout the year. These events provide valuable competition experience and allow students to challenge themselves against players from other schools, clubs, and Chess communities.

Sunday competitions are particularly valuable for students seeking to accelerate their development, gain tournament experience, improve ratings, and prepare for GPS and other representative opportunities.





Old Boy and Gardiner Chess Coaches

The program is supported by a combination of Old Boy coaches and Gardiner Chess coaches. This model provides students with access to both professional Chess expertise and mentors who understand the culture and traditions of Nudgee College.

Gardiner Chess coaches support technical development, structured training, tournament preparation, and game analysis. Old Boy coaches provide an important connection to the College community, offering mentorship, encouragement, and guidance to current students.

Together, these coaches help create a supportive and challenging learning environment where students can grow as players and as members of the Nudgee Chess community.

Inter-House Chess

Inter-House Chess provides students with an opportunity to represent their House in a spirited and inclusive competition environment. These events contribute toward the Brother Vic Larkin Shield and encourage broad participation, allowing students from different year levels and experience levels to engage with Chess in a fun and accessible way.

Staff vs Student Competitions

Staff vs Student competitions celebrate the intellectual and social value of Chess, while also encouraging students to see the game as part of the wider culture of learning, challenge, and connection at Nudgee.

GPS Competition

GPS Chess is the premier inter-school chess competition for member schools of the Associated GPS of Queensland and is held throughout Term 3 each year.

Matches are typically held on Friday afternoons and involve students competing across a number of graded teams. Players are selected based on a combination of playing strength, commitment to training, attendance, attitude, and their demonstrated contribution to the culture of the program.

GPS Chess teams are made up of four players. Nudgee College's team structure generally includes the following divisions:

- **First IV** – the top four players from Years 7–12.
- **Junior** – the top four players from Years 7–9 who are not selected in the First IV.
- **Senior** – the top four players from Years 10–12 who are not selected in the First IV.
- **Open A** – the next four strongest players from Years 5–12 who are not selected in the above teams.
- **Open B and subsequent Open teams** – additional teams selected according to playing strength, availability, commitment, and program needs.

Student reserves may be called upon at short notice due to illness, unforeseen absences, or changes to team availability. As such, reserve players are expected to remain engaged with the program and prepared to compete when required.

While the GPS Competition provides a pathway for high-performing students to compete at an advanced level, it also serves as an important opportunity for students to represent the College with pride and integrity. All players are expected to uphold the values of Nudgee College both during competition and in their interactions with teammates, opponents, coaches, and officials.

The GPS season culminates in the awarding of the GPS Premiership, with each school's overall result determined by the performance of its representative teams across the season.

Selection in a GPS team is considered a privilege and carries with it a responsibility to demonstrate commitment, professionalism, and sportsmanship at all times.

Through the GPS Competition, students are challenged to pursue excellence, contribute to a positive team culture, and represent Nudgee College with distinction both on and off the chessboard.



Student Participation Policy

Engagement and Commitment

- All students must sign on for GPS Chess through the approved process prior to the start of the season.
- Once Chess has been selected, students are expected to commit fully for the duration of the term.
- Changes to activities after the start of term must be clearly communicated in advance to the Chess Director.

Absences and Conflicting Commitments

- If a student is unable to attend a session, written notice must be given to the Director at least 24 hours before the activity.
- In cases of late unavailability (such as illness), students should notify staff as soon as possible before the start of the session.
- Staff must always know why a student is absent before a session begins.
- Students who are absent from school due to illness are not permitted to train or compete that day.

Scheduling Conflicts

- When a student is unable to attend a Chess commitment due to a clash with another scheduled Nudgee College co-curricular activity, the student, parent, or caregiver must notify all relevant parties via email. This includes both co-curricular staff (e.g. the chess coach and basketball year group coordinator) and the directors of each activity (e.g. the director of rugby and coordinator of performance music).

- All parties will make every reasonable effort to find a workable solution to the scheduling conflict, rather than discontinuing one activity to resolve the clash.
- In-term GPS activities (e.g. debating, volleyball, cricket, music in Term 1) take priority over pre-season activities.

General Expectations

Students are expected to:

- Participate positively and arrive ready to listen, train, and perform.
- Follow all Nudgee College student formation policies and GPS codes of conduct.
- Wear the correct uniform to all sessions, training, and GPS fixtures.
- Be punctual and well-prepared for all commitments.
- Place Nudgee GPS Chess ahead of club or external co-curricular commitments. Any clashes should be discussed in advance with the relevant Director.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times, including pre and post match etiquette as dictated in this Handbook.
- Support First Teams whenever possible.

For more information, please consult the '*Behaviour Management Process and Terms of Agreement*' section of this Handbook.

Pre and Post Match Etiquette

Representing Nudgee College in chess is both a privilege and a responsibility. Students are expected to demonstrate respect, sportsmanship, and professionalism before, during, and after every match.

Pre-Match Expectations

Prior to the commencement of a match, students are expected to:

- Arrive on time and prepared to play.
- Wear the correct College uniform as directed by the Chess Coordinator.
- Conduct themselves respectfully towards teammates, opponents, coaches, and officials.
- Ensure all electronic devices are switched off and stored away in accordance with competition regulations.
- Remain calm, focused, and attentive during team briefings and announcements.
- Refrain from distracting opponents or creating unnecessary noise in the playing venue.
- Introduce themselves courteously where appropriate and be ready to begin play promptly when instructed.

Students should remember that they are representatives of Nudgee College from the moment they arrive at a venue, not simply when the game begins.



During the Match

Students are expected to:

- Follow all competition rules and directions provided by officials.
- Treat opponents with respect at all times.
- Avoid unnecessary conversation during games.
- Never seek or provide assistance during a match.
- Accept both favourable and unfavourable positions with composure and integrity.
- Raise concerns or disputes respectfully through the appropriate official rather than addressing them directly with an opponent.

Good sportsmanship is demonstrated not only through winning gracefully, but also through responding positively to challenges and setbacks.



Post-Match Expectations

At the conclusion of a game, students should:

- Stop the clock if required and ensure the result is recorded correctly.
- Offer a handshake (or other appropriate gesture of respect) and thank their opponent for the game.
- Congratulate opponents on strong play where appropriate.
- Re-set the Chess board.
- Accept victories with humility and defeats with maturity.
- Avoid excessive celebrations, criticism of opponents, or negative comments about results.
- Assist coaches and staff with any administrative requirements following the match.
- Remain at the venue until dismissed by the supervising staff member unless alternative arrangements have been approved.

Supporting Teammates

Chess is an individual game played within a team environment. Students are encouraged to:

- Support teammates respectfully before and after games.
- Celebrate the successes of others.
- Offer encouragement following difficult losses.
- Contribute positively to the culture of the team.

The way we treat others is a reflection of our character. Every match provides an opportunity to demonstrate the values of Nudgee College through respect, humility, integrity, and sportsmanship.

Ratings

By competing in official Chess competitions, students have the opportunity to earn chess ratings. These may include Queensland Junior Ratings, Australian Chess Federation Ratings, and FIDE Ratings.

For most students, the most relevant rating is the Queensland Junior Rating. QJ ratings can be earned through official Queensland competitions, including inter-school events, Sunday competitions, holiday competitions, GPS Chess, and selected games played during weekly coaching sessions. ACF and FIDE ratings are generally earned through higher-level competitions and are most relevant to students competing at an advanced level, particularly in or around the First IV.

The QJ rating list is updated every two months: January, March, May, July, September, and October. Competitions completed before the 20th of the previous month are usually included in the next rating list. For example, a competition played on 19 February would usually count towards the March list, while a competition played on 21 February would usually appear on the May list. Games played during weekly coaching sessions are submitted once the class competition is completed at the end of the term.

For QJ ratings, 500 is the starting rating. To earn a rating, a student must generally perform above a 500 level in at least two competitions within a four-month period. Rating performances are calculated based on the strength of a student's opponents and their results in each competition. A student's rating may increase if they perform above their current rating, or decrease if they perform below it. Once earned, a QJ rating remains active until the student turns 18 or does not compete for two years. Ratings do not fall below 500.

QJ ratings are the primary method used to sort teams for GPS Chess. However, coaches and the Chess Coordinator may adjust team placement where a student is clearly underrated or has demonstrated strong recent performance. Attendance, attitude, commitment to coaching, and contribution to the program are also considered in team selection.

Students do not need a QJ rating to play GPS Chess. All students are welcome to compete. Unrated students are placed into teams based on their results, particularly from weekly coaching competitions, as well as coach assessment and overall commitment.



Buses and Transport

Where transport is provided, students must book a seat on the bus via the Google Bus Booking Form, which will be available on the Chess Team App and via email.

GPS Transport

Transport to and from school will be provided for all year levels attending GPS Performing Arts activities, including GPS Chess.

Students must book a seat on the bus via the Google Bus Booking Form, which will be available on the Chess Team App.

If parents/guardians wish to collect their child from a GPS Chess activity, prior written notice must be sent to performingarts@nudgee.qld.edu.au and chess@nudgee.qld.edu.au. This information will then be passed on to the relevant staff member.

General Transport Information

Where transport is provided, students must comply with all supervision and safety requirements and use the booking system before the published deadline.

Students who have not booked a seat on the bus may not be permitted to travel.

Students must carry their student ID card when travelling on all school buses.

A regular sports bus departs the College at 5.10pm on weekdays. For further information, please contact transport@nudgee.qld.edu.au.

Where a student travels on a Nudgee bus to an away venue, the College will not provide direct supervision outside of the published times for their scheduled fixture or activity.

Student Drivers

Students wishing to drive to GPS or non-GPS activities must comply with the Student Formation Driver Policy by completing the ***Student Driver Application to Drive and Park a Vehicle on Campus***.

Communication

Communication about Nudgee Chess Activities is done through various channels including student notices, students and parent lounge and the school app. However, detailed information is through Stack Team App so it is essential that you are signed up to be able to receive timely updates.

How to Sign Up

- Team App
- Search for: NC Chess

Information regarding training days, competition opportunities, rating changes, team updates, timings, and fixtures are regularly communicated via the Stack Team App.

Behaviour Management Process and Terms of Agreement

Philosophy

The Nudgee College Chess Program is committed to providing a safe, respectful, inclusive, and enjoyable environment for all students. As members of the Chess Program, students are expected to demonstrate the values of Nudgee College through their actions, attitudes, and interactions with others.

Our approach to behaviour management is guided by Positive Behaviour Support principles. We seek to educate, support, and restore relationships wherever possible. Students will be given opportunities to reflect on their choices and re-engage positively with the program before more significant consequences are applied.

Participation in the Chess Program is a privilege. Students are expected to contribute positively to the culture of the program and represent the College with integrity at all times.

Student Expectations

Students participating in Chess are expected to:

- Treat all students, staff, coaches, officials, and opponents with respect.
- Follow reasonable instructions from Chess staff and supervisors.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship at training sessions, competitions, and College events.
- Use College facilities, equipment, and chess resources appropriately.
- Arrive on time and prepared for training sessions and competitions.
- Refrain from disruptive, unsafe, inappropriate, or disrespectful behaviour.

- Contribute positively to the culture and reputation of the Chess Program.
- Represent Nudgee College in a manner consistent with the values of Signum Fidei.

Chess Behaviour Management Plan - Three R Process

To maintain a positive and respectful environment, the Chess Program uses behaviour expectations and language familiar to students from across the College. Students will be supported to reflect on their choices, restore relationships where required, and re-engage positively with the program.

Firstly, a Chess Supervisor, Coach, or Staff Member recognises inappropriate behaviour and clearly explains the concern to the student.

Examples may include:

- Disrupting training sessions
- Inappropriate language
- Unsportsmanlike conduct
- Disrespect towards staff, students, or opponents
- Misuse of equipment
- Repeated failure to follow instructions
- Mobile phone use

At this stage, staff will support the student to re-engage positively with the activity.

If the behaviour continues, the student will receive a clear reminder and be informed that continued behaviour may result in removal from the activity.

The student will be given a genuine opportunity to correct their behaviour and remain engaged within the program.

If the behaviour continues after being recognised and addressed, the student may be removed from the training session, competition, or activity.

Removal may involve:

- Temporary withdrawal from a game
- Temporary withdrawal from training
- Removal from the venue under staff supervision
- Reflection time away from the activity

The goal of removal is to provide an opportunity for reflection and reset.

Any removal from a Chess activity will result in:

FIRST STEP: PARENT COMMUNICATION

The Chess Director will contact parents or caregivers via email outlining:

- The behaviour that occurred;
- The support strategies implemented;
- The circumstances surrounding the removal; and
- Expectations moving forward.

SECOND STEP: REFLECTION

The student will not immediately return to participation.

Before returning, the student must engage in a restorative conversation involving:

- The student;
- The Chess Director;
- The supervising staff member; and/or
- The relevant coach.

The purpose of this meeting is to:

- Reflect on the incident;
- Restore relationships;
- Clarify expectations; and
- Develop strategies for future success.

Following this conversation, the student may return to the program.

REPEATED REMOVALS

The Chess Program seeks to support students; however, repeated removals indicate that additional intervention is required.

First Removal

- Parent email from the Chess Director.
- Reflection conversation completed.
- Student returns to the program following restoration.

Second Removal

- Parent email from the Chess Director.
- Reflection conversation completed.
- Behaviour Support Meeting involving:
 - Student;
 - Chess Director;
 - Coach and/or Supervisor.
- Strategies and expectations moving forward will be documented.



Third Removal

Three removals within a calendar year will result in:

- Suspension from the Chess Program in consultation with the Chess Director.
- Formal meeting involving:
- Student;
- Parents/Caregivers;
- Chess Director and/or Chess Supervisor;
- Performing Arts Development Manager and/or Director of Performing Arts.

The purpose of this meeting will be to determine whether the student can successfully return to the program and what support structures may be required.

Students may be placed on a behaviour agreement before re-entry is approved.

IMMEDIATE MAJOR INCIDENTS

Certain behaviours may warrant immediate escalation.

Examples include:

Physical aggression

- Bullying or harassment
- Threatening behaviour
- Significant disrespect towards staff
- Serious breaches of College policies
- Deliberate damage to equipment or facilities
- Conduct bringing the College into disrepute

In such cases, the Chess Director may immediately refer the matter to the Chess, Supervisor, Performing Arts Development Manager, Director of Performing Arts, House Dean, or other relevant College personnel.

Consequences may include immediate suspension from Chess activities pending investigation.

Student Agreement

By participating in the Nudgee College Chess Program, students agree to:

- Follow all expectations outlined in this handbook.
- Respect staff, coaches, teammates, opponents, and officials.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times.
- Accept feedback respectfully.

- Uphold the values and reputation of Nudgee College.
- Contribute positively to the culture of the Chess Program.

The success of the Chess Program relies on every member contributing to an environment where students feel respected, connected, challenged, and supported.

Private Chess Tuition

Enrolling in Lessons

Please consult with the Chess Director at chess@nudgee.qld.edu.au if you are interested in enrolling in Private Chess Tuition. All private tuition sessions are run by Old Boy Coaches and experienced Gardiner coaches.

Tuition Fees

Private coaching is available on a limited basis for students who demonstrate a strong commitment to Chess and a clear drive to improve. Places are dependent on coach availability and are generally offered to selected students when capacity allows, particularly those competing at a higher level within the program. Families may contact chess@nudgee.qld.edu.au if they would like their son to be considered for private coaching, noting that places are limited and cannot be guaranteed.



Chess Scholarships

Each year, the College offers a limited number of Performing Arts Scholarships to new students entering Years 5-10 in the areas of Music, Debating, and Chess.

These scholarships are designed to recognise students who demonstrate high levels of achievement, dedication and potential, both academically and within their chosen performing arts discipline.

Purpose of Performing Arts Scholarships

Performing Arts scholarships aim to:

- Recognise exceptional talent and commitment in Music, Debating and Chess
- Provide opportunities for students who will contribute strongly to the College's Performing Arts culture
- Strengthen key performing arts programs within the College
- Raise the standard of performance, training, and competition
- Enrich the creative and intellectual life of the wider student community
- Students who receive scholarships are expected to demonstrate not only talent, but also commitment, humility, and a willingness to contribute positively to team environments.

Selection Criteria

Students applying for a Performing Arts Scholarship must demonstrate:

- High academic performance and future potential, based on school reports
- Diligence and strong application in their academic studies
- Achievement and involvement in relevant areas such as music, debating, chess, performing arts, sport or other areas of excellence

- A demonstrated sense of community
- Leadership potential
- Australian citizenship or permanent residency

Fairness and Opportunity

Chess Scholarships represent a very small proportion of the student body and are awarded carefully each year.

Importantly:

- Scholarships do not guarantee positions in the First team or competitions.
- All students must earn their place through commitment, preparation and performance.
- Scholarship recipients are expected to maintain high standards of conduct, academic effort and participation.

The College is equally committed to:

- Developing students who are new to Chess
- Providing high-quality direction, coaching and mentoring at all levels
- Valuing participation, collaboration and character alongside performance outcomes

Our Commitment

The Chess program exists to support the creative, intellectual and personal growth of every student. Scholarships are one part of this broader vision - helping to strengthen programs, raise standards and inspire excellence while ensuring that

opportunity, belonging and development remain central to the experience of all students.

Please consult the 'Scholarships' section of the Nudgee College website for more information and submission details. Alternatively, reach out to chess@nudgee.qld.edu.au with any questions

Parent Expectations

Parents and guardians play a vital role. By encouraging commitment, respect, and teamwork, parents help create a positive environment for all students.

Parents are expected to:

- Support their son's full commitment to Chess.
- Encourage consistent attendance at training, games, performances and team events.
- Assist your son, if required, in communicating proactively with the Chess Director regarding any unavoidable absences or concerns.
- Respect that once a student selects an activity for the term, participation is expected for the full duration unless otherwise approved.

Nudgee College values fair play, humility, and respect across all co-curricular activities. Parents and supporters are expected to:

- Model positive behaviour at all games, training sessions, and events.
- Treat coaches, staff, officials, players, and spectators from all schools with respect.
- Refrain from negative comments, communicating with officials, or criticising participants or coaches.
- Encourage good sportsmanship – celebrating effort and improvement as much as results.
- Avoid any conduct that undermines team unity or coaching decisions.

Communication

- If you feel it necessary to communicate with staff to raise concerns, please do so with the relevant staff (not during or immediately after a game). Please consult the *'Selections, Raising Concerns and Feedback'* section of this Handbook for more information.
- Parents should not approach officials or opposition representatives regarding game matters.

Support Group and Volunteers

The Parents Support Group is a valuable part of the Nudgee College Community.

Students, parents, and staff greatly appreciate these groups' work to support and enhance the College Chess Program.



Co-Curricular Mission Statement

To build a positive Nudgee community and support the relevant Director in enriching the co-curricular experience of all participating students.

The core objective of the Chess Support Group is to aid the College in enhancing the opportunities available to our students, now and in the future, so that they may become Signum Fidei.

Specifically, Parent Support Groups may actively engage each year to:

- Support Chess during competition and Home Game BBQs and canteens.
- Foster positive relationships between parents, students, families, staff, and Old Boys
- Mobilise the parent body to provide services to our communities, for example, by assisting at key events such as fixtures, social functions, and other events as appropriate
- Promote Chess and the broader Nudgee performing arts program in a positive light

It is expected that all involved:

- Act to support the Chess Director in aligning the support efforts with the program objectives
- Are motivated to contribute to the benefit of all students involved in Chess.
- Contribute to community building through positive, respectful, and appropriate conduct, which reflects the values of the College

For more information about our Chess Support Group, please contact chess@nudgee.qld.edu.au.



Selections, Raising Concerns, and Feedback

Selections

- We recognise that selections can be an emotional experience for students and parents. Please bear in mind that it can also be a challenging and stressful process for staff.
- Selection decisions, particularly for First Teams, can be difficult and often driven by both subjective opinion and objective data. Staff are in the best position to make these decisions, taking into account all available factors and information. The final decision, regardless of the above factors, is ultimately made by the coaches' discretion.

Raising Concerns

1. Reflect on the feedback you have received from your coach during training, games, and events
2. Speak directly with your coach before or after training to discuss your concern
3. If the matter is still unresolved, email the Chess Director at chess@nudgee.qld.edu.au.

Confidentiality and Conduct

All complaints will be handled confidentially, and communication should remain respectful at all times. The School's Code of Conduct applies to students, parents, and staff during this process.

Feedback

At the end of each season there will be a feedback form released to the community







2199 Sandgate Rd, Boondall, QLD 4034

Telephone: 07 3865 0555

Email: contact@nudgee.com

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A Catholic School in the Edmund Rice Tradition

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