

Chess Club Volunteer

Main purpose

To support and plan a group for adults, young adults or children with focus on developing chess, social and creativity skills.

What would I be doing?

Helping plan, promote and run weekly, fortnightly or monthly sessions for a Chess club with young adults, children or adults.

The sessions could be:

A drop-in activity, open to all skill levels and focused on a specific age group.

Players are welcome to bring their own board and pieces or borrow a set from the library.

Your responsibilities will include:

- Planning and facilitating regular sessions by setting up and cleaning up the space, preparing topics, materials and activities
- Managing the club/administration/communication
- Participating in the promotion of the club
- Ensuring that each participant has an opponent as close to their skill level as possible, and that everyone is participating
- Teaching chess to participants that don't know how to play
- Inspiring members to read chess books
- Encouraging analytical and creative thinking
- Explaining new vocabulary and chess techniques
- Ensure that a safe, positive, and caring environment is maintained at all times.
- Keep the noise level at a minimum

When can I do my volunteering?

These sessions can be run weekly or fortnightly and are usually 1 hour long. You will need to be there 10 minutes before and after to welcome and say goodbye to young adults.

This role also could require approximately half an hour preparation time prior to each session.



Where will I be volunteering?

It may be your local library or another library of your choice if the opportunities are not available locally.

Who will be there with me?

Library staff will be on hand and possibly other volunteers.

Please note that this role requires a DBS check. We also require volunteers to complete the online Safeguarding Children or/and Vulnerable Adults training on Bristol City Council's Learning Pool.

Support and review

Regular support and guidance will be given by a named library contact. There will be a 4-week trial period to ensure that all is going well – another volunteer opportunity may be suggested if the trial period has shown that this would be better for both parties.

Regular visits from CSC (Chess in Schools & Communities) tutor.

Regular volunteer meetups and peer support.

Training, resources and information

A full induction will be given, and further training offered where appropriate.

CSC will deliver regular day courses.

Libraries will provide a brief guide to teaching and classroom management tips.

Resources: LibrariesWest can offer a wide range of chess books for all levels. We will be providing chess boards, craft materials and photocopying. Access to computers with internet and use of headphones.

CSC Curriculum and Workbook (structured teaching for schools) will be available.

We suggest that you [subscribe with CSC](#).

Am I right for this opportunity?

This opportunity would suit someone who:

- Is capable of teaching the rules and basic strategies of chess
- Is creative and has a passion for engaging people
- Has or would like to gain experience communicating with people of any age



- Is organised and can commit for at least a term (6 or 12 sessions)
- Is passionate about reading and libraries

What will I get from volunteering?

Some of the benefits are:

- Gain leadership experience: planning, delivering, managing and promoting a club
- Gain experience of working with people in a teaching environment; sharing with and learning from others – useful for those considering a teaching career
- Gain experience of chess techniques , as well as workshops, competitions
- Opportunity to increase self confidence
- Socialising with other volunteers and staff
- Gaining experience for CVs and job applications
- Have fun spreading your passion for chess!

