

SOUTHERN COUNTIES CHESS UNION

FOUNDED 1892

Citation for the British Chess Educational Trust

Royal Grammar School, Guildford

The Southern Counties Chess Union would like to nominate Royal Grammar School, Guildford, for a British Chess Educational Trust Award.

The school has regularly entered teams in the Briant Poulter (Surrey Schools) Chess League, winning Division 1 in 2017 and 2018. The school also enters the National Schools Tournament and won the event in 2017. In recent years the school has hosted the annual Russell Trophy Under 18 Jamboree and has organised qualification events for the National Schools Tournament. The school also regularly entered the Millfield International Tournament, last winning the event in 2003.

In recent years a little work has also been done with primary schools, including donating a dozen boards and sets to a local school and running a program in which RGS pupils help primary students learn chess.

The school runs two chess clubs at two local Guildford primary schools – Holy Trinity Pewley Down Primary and Sandfield Primary. In partnership with Guildford High School, Sixth Form boys and girls volunteer during their General Studies sessions to attend the schools and run the chess clubs. The school has also donated chess sets to establish the club at Sandfield. The clubs are extremely popular (over 20 at Sandfield and over 30 at HTPD) and are attended by an equal mix of boys and girls ranging from Y2-Y6. An interschool tournament is planned which would be a first for both schools.

The photographs below are examples of RGS chess activity in recent years.

A BCET award would be a fitting response to the efforts of the organisers of chess at the school not only in respect of the school itself but also its work in the wider schools community.

Mark Murrell, President, Southern Counties Chess Union

31st May 2022

A photo from RGS's 2017 National Schools Chess Championship win.



A photo from RGS's 2018 Eton College Rapidplay win.



A photo from the 2018 Millfield International Chess competition.



A photo from The Russell Jamboree tournament RGS hosted in October 2021 for surrounding schools.



A photo from a November 2021 qualifying tournament RGS hosted as part of the 21/22 National Schools Chess Championship.

