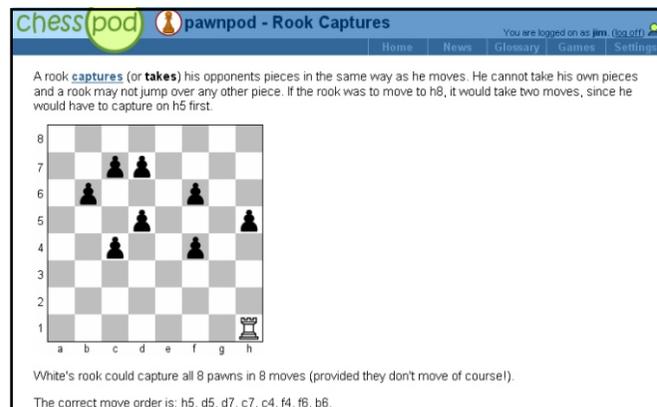




Chesspod explains the game using an easy-to-navigate colourful interface. For teaching purposes, the course is divided into six “pods”, each represented by a chess piece.

In the screenshot above, you can see that the student is currently working on Pawnpod. At the end of the pod, the student will complete a test, for which they will be rewarded with a certificate. The next pod will then become available.



Chesspod uses interactive chess diagrams to explain the various concepts. Here, the way rooks moves and captures other pieces is explained.

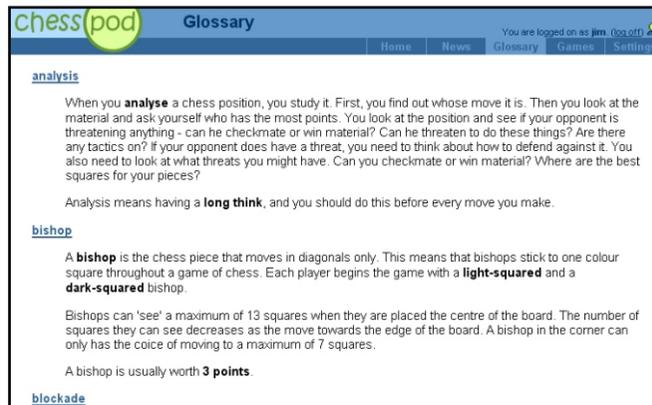
After a concept is introduced, students are given relevant exercises to work through, reinforcing what they have learned.



As well as teaching chess, Chesspod incorporates the necessary software for chess teachers to organise different types of competition.

The above diagram shows a crosstable from an all-play-all tournament. All the teacher has to do is select the competitors from the list of students taking part in Chesspod and the website will provide a complete set of fixtures for the tournament.

When students have completed their games, one of the players enters the result and the other has to approve it. The facility exists for teacher moderation or intervention!



Chesspod provides a comprehensive glossary of chess terms, which is referred to within the pods.



The online Chess Tutor and Club Organiser



<http://chesspod.com/>



Application Form

School _____

Name _____

Position _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Signed _____

Please enclose a cheque for £250, made payable to *Peter Walker*. This covers one year's membership at the pre-release discounted rate and there is no limit to the number of students that a school may register.

Please send the completed form to:

Chesspod,
62 East Street,
Southend-on-Sea,
Essex.
SS2 6LH



Increasing numbers of teachers are recognising the importance of Thinking Skills in today's demanding educational environment but often lack the necessary material for a logical, structured approach.

Chesspod has been designed with precisely this in mind. Aimed at players from 8 years and upwards, it offers a structured approach to teaching chess skills, starting from complete beginner and offering all the tuition required to reach the standard of County player. In addition, it offers the non-chess-playing teacher the tools required to run a School Chess Club and in-school tournaments. It will:-

- record results
- organise inter-school leagues, all-play-all and ladder tournaments
- rate players' games, giving an at-a-glance record of the relative strengths of the chess players in your school
- automatically award certificates for progress and other achievements

Chesspod's content has been devised and written by Peter Walker and Ellen Crozier, who are both Qualified Teachers and Chess Coaches. Peter has, for a period of two decades, been one of England's most successful coaches of junior chess players, with numerous of his pupils having won British age-group Championships, as well as having won National titles as members of School and County teams; Ellen is Head of History at Maidstone Girls' Grammar School. She was a member of the Temple Sutton School team which won the National under-11 Championship in 1992, and throughout her teens was one of England's strongest female players in her age group.

“Chess is a sea in which a gnat may drink and an elephant may bathe.”
(Indian Proverb)

Why should we teach Chess?

Chess is the ultimate educational experience. Within Chess the student finds the system of science, the creativity of art and the competition of sport. Chess has no physical barriers, no cultural barriers and no linguistic barriers. There are almost no age barriers.

Chess is worthy of study in its own right. However, there are some who have yet to be convinced of this. For them, let us point out that Chess carries with it skills which are transferable to other academic areas. Logical thought, vital in many academic areas, is second nature to a trained chess player. A 3-hour GCSE or A level paper will be a breeze to a chess player accustomed to maintaining high levels of concentration for long periods. A chess player who can defy the distraction of a couple of dozen onlookers during a difficult attack with only seconds on the clock knows how to handle pressure. It is no coincidence that the majority of England's best young chess players gain places at England's best universities.

Chess provides a calm competitive element as an outlet for students to master and control their aggression and an option for students who do not have any particular aptitude of physical sports to compete and perform. It provides equal opportunity for girls and boys and those with physical disabilities to compete. Chess provides a gradual increasing of attention span as competitive mini games develop into full games for those with attention deficiencies. Players can spend as long or as little time as they like.

Chess should be taught and studied very much in the manner of a musical instrument: daily practice, a weekly lesson and roughly monthly performance in tournaments.