

IMPORTANT NOTICE CONCERNING THE RAPID ON THURSDAY 28 MARCH 2024

Thursday 28 March 2024 at Southend Adult Community College

Normally, we are the only tenant for the duration of the Southend Easter Chess Festival. However, once in four years Easter comes within, or adjacent to, the term time of the College. On such occasions, the College is still in session up to and including the Thursday before Good Friday, with a full timetable.

This is the situation **on Thursday 28 March 2024 when we hold our Rapid** and the College is still in session up to and including the Thursday before Good Friday, with a full timetable. However, with the kind co-operation of the College, space has been secured for the Rapid to proceed, playing in **the Hall** and, should an overflow room be needed, **Room 7**, which is also on the ground floor. **However, the cafeteria will be off-limits.**

Entrants to the Rapid must be aware that we shall be sharing the space with the College in full swing. Particularly, this means we must observe the following factors:

- This College specifically caters for students with learning difficulties and special needs, so we must respect this;
- The College will be in session and will be very full. Classes finish at 15:00 at the earliest, after which at end of day, students congregate in the cafeteria and await pick up by their carers;
- It is ESSENTIAL that students have easy access to the canteen for meals. Chess families and friends will be required to respect this and NOT occupy the cafeteria. Those coming in cars: it is probably best for you to wait in your cars on Thursday. For others, or alternatively, if the weather is good there is a very pleasant area in the gardens and house of Southchurch Hall, immediately behind the College, entry in Southchurch Hall Close.
Link to: <https://www.southendmuseums.co.uk/southchurch-hall>
- **Players in the Rapid:** between rounds please AVOID crowding in the corridor and KEEP NOISE TO A MINIMUM;
- We shall not be able to provide catering until late afternoon at the earliest. It is advisable for those attending to **be self-sufficient**, e.g. bring packed lunch, plenty of drinks, etc.

Normal service will resume for the Congress Fri 29 March – Monday 1 April

The above restrictions apply only for Thursday 28 March 2024. For those also playing in the Congress, from Good Friday through to Easter Monday, we shall have sole occupation and the Congress will proceed as usual with full access to the cafeteria and yElena's usual fare of hot and cold drinks, snacks and hot meals.

Link for further information: jd168@btinternet.com

*Giant Chess
18 March 2024*