The principal’s checklist: what to ask any chess program

The Eight Ranks Method™ · free download for principals, curriculum directors and PTA chairs · one page

A. What learners do

- ☐ Is there a written curriculum, session by session, that a new teacher could follow?
- ☐ Is there a scored assessment at the end of each cycle, with a published pass rule?
- ☐ Does each family receive a written report, and what does it show?

B. Who teaches, and how they qualify

- ☐ Who teaches: the program’s coach, or your own staff or provider?
- ☐ How does the teacher show readiness: a written check, an observed session, a scoring calibration?
- ☐ Is there a safety rule for student helpers (never scoring, never alone with younger learners)?

C. Claims

- ☐ Does the program claim to raise grades, test scores or IQ? Ask for the study and its page number.
- ☐ Does it claim state or district backing? Ask for the letter. (Ours carries the disclaimer at the foot of this page.)

D. Data and privacy (New York Education Law 2-d)

- ☐ What learner data leaves the school, in what form? (Ours: numbers only, by student code.)
- ☐ Will the program sign a data-protection agreement first? (Ours: on request, after counsel’s review.)
- ☐ Are photographs or names of learners ever used in marketing? (Ours: never.)

E. The route for a school with The Eight Ranks Method

1. A school runs the program through a licensed provider (an after-school provider, a club or a coach that holds a site licence).
2. The suggested cycle is $3,200 plus Student Books for 12 weekly 60-minute sessions for up to 15 learners; the provider sets its own price (introductory, subject to counsel).
3. A provider starting out may run the Founding Pilot, one 12-week White cycle, for $295 (introductory, subject to counsel).
4. Questions are answered in writing at eightranksmethod.com; there are no meetings, calls or visits.

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