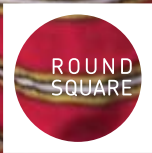




ROUND SQUARE

Today's inspired youth;
tomorrow's influential adult –
Accepting responsibility for our world



Preparing young people for life through service, challenge, adventure and international understanding.

1

HELPING STUDENTS REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL

Our mission

Round Square is a worldwide association of schools which share a commitment, beyond academic excellence, to personal development and responsibility through service, international understanding, challenge, adventure, democracy, and environmental stewardship.

Our aim

Round Square will inspire students throughout the world so that their generation will strive for new levels of co-operation, communication and understanding.



2

INTRODUCING THE ROUND SQUARE PROGRAMME

The world we live in is rapidly changing. If today's school children are going to succeed, it is no longer enough to concentrate solely on academic results and examinations. Schools have to concentrate on the wider picture.

That is the thinking behind Round Square and this is the view shared by Round Square Schools Organisation. It's a view shared by many people involved in education around the world, yet it raises a number of challenges. Schools across the world vary tremendously. So how can we bring together such a wide range of communities to work towards common goals?

Round Square aims to tackle this challenge head on and is working to equip school children for the future by combining international understanding with democracy, environmental stewardship, adventure, leadership and service.

3

AN INSPIRATIONAL FOUNDER - KURT HAHN

Round Square developed from the inspiring theories of Kurt Hahn, a philosopher and educationalist. Hahn believed that schools should not just be places to prepare for further education. He believed that they were places to prepare for life.

Students could only really understand life by experiencing it in many exciting and challenging ways. By testing themselves, students would be able to develop their courage, generosity, imagination, principles and resolution. At the end of the day, they would develop the skills and abilities to become the guardians and leaders of the future.

Everything we do at Round Square is based on the belief that all young men and women can discover their own inner strength and develop an understanding of how the world works. They just need to have the right attitude and be given the right opportunities.

“I regard it as the foremost task of education to insure the survival of these qualities: an enterprising curiosity, an undefeatable spirit, tenacity in pursuit, readiness for sensible self denial, and above all, compassion”, Kurt Hahn.





4

SIX CRUCIAL AIMS – THE ROUND SQUARE IDEALS

Kurt Hahn believed that the greatest thing one could learn – and inspire in others – was compassion. At Round Square, we bring schools together and motivate them to help young children become compassionate leaders. This is based on our six IDEALS:

International understanding
Democracy
Environmental stewardship
Adventure
Leadership
Service

International Understanding

Round Square aims to give all students the chance to meet people who are different from them – people who have different ideas, different beliefs and different views. By meeting a broad spectrum of people, students will learn to put their lives into perspective and respect views that are very different from their own.

Understanding how other people think is an important step towards compassion and effective leadership.

Democracy

Democracy is based on giving everyone a chance to give an opinion, making sure everyone's views have equal weight. By its very nature, democracy means that some people will be disappointed. This is an important lesson for students, showing them that other people's ideas are as valid and equal as their own.

Having a respect for other people's views helps young men and women learn compassion, humility and an understanding of others.



Environmental Stewardship

Round Square schools try to have as little impact on the earth as possible. They embrace the fact that they are part of the natural environment and not separate. Students learn about the effect they are having on the environment and how they can try to keep it to a minimum.

By understanding how they share the earth with other living creatures, students gain compassion for the environment they live in.

Adventure

When a student climbs a mountain, they do not just learn mountaineering skills. They learn about themselves – what strengths they have, how to overcome their fears, how to motivate and help others. Any activity that needs courage, perseverance or resilience is an incredibly rich way to learn about oneself.

Round Square makes sure that students have the time and space to reflect on the activities in which they are taking part. That way they can work out for themselves what they've learnt and develop compassion for other people and for their environment.

Leadership

Round Square gives students the chance to lead others wherever possible. On the playing field, in the classroom, on a trip or activity. By experiencing leadership they will be able to explore what kind of leader they are, and how it feels to succeed or fail.

Giving students responsibility helps them learn through leadership. And what unites all of the world's greatest leaders is their sense of compassion for others.

Service

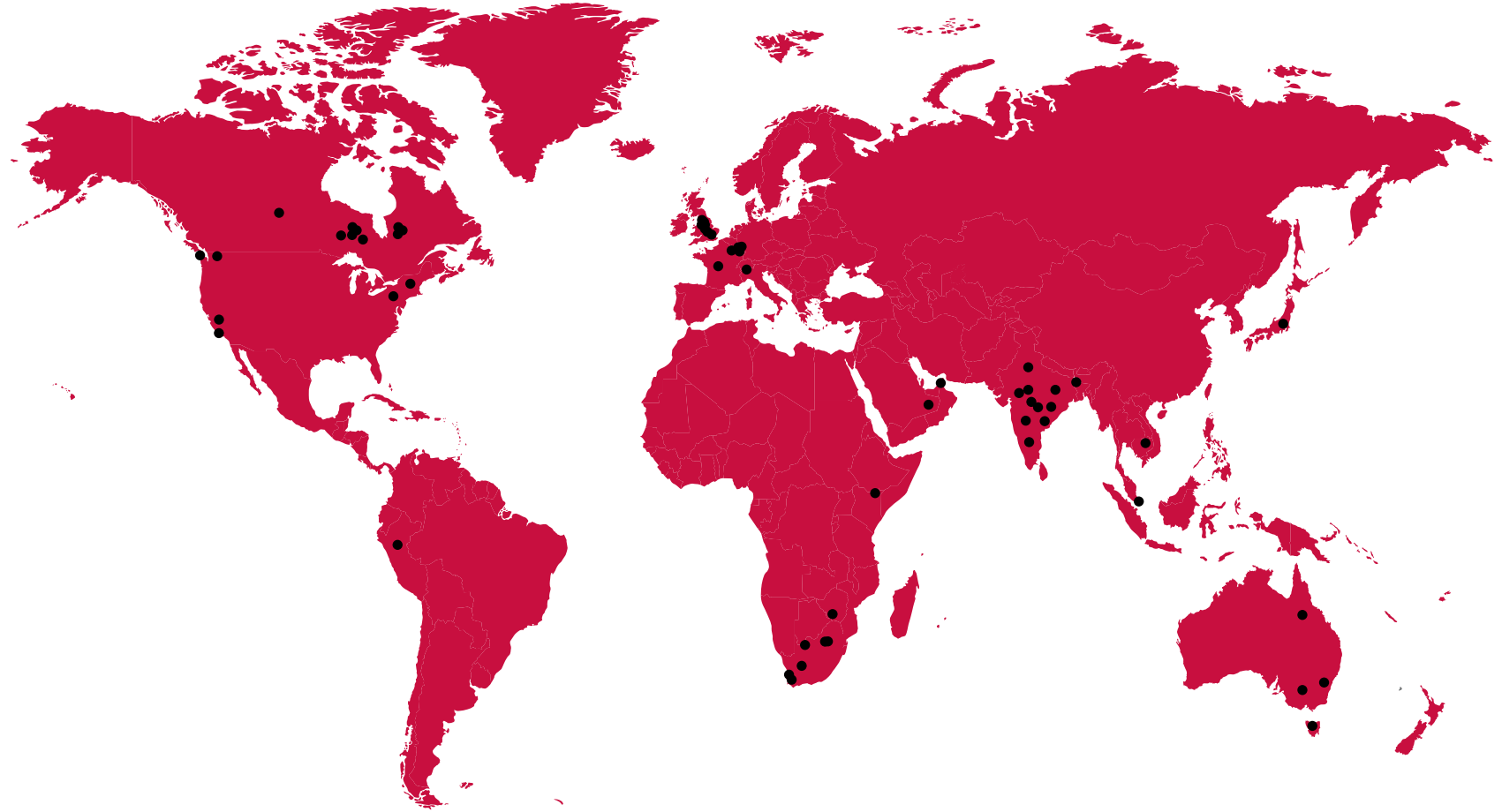
Service is all about putting other people first. It means thinking of others before thinking about oneself. And because it is based on attitude and an approach to life there is no need to travel the world to learn how to do it. Service is about how one lives, not what one does.

Serving others – and serving the environment – stems from compassion.

5

ROUND SQUARE MEMBER SCHOOLS

The Round Square network includes over 80 schools worldwide, providing students with an incredible opportunity to explore other cultures, develop international friendships and study in another country. International service projects, conferences and exchange programmes all work to develop a truly international, diverse and exciting education for students.





Round Square Conference in the original Round Square building at Gordonstoun School, Scotland

6

LEARNING ABOUT SERVICE AT A LOCAL LEVEL

Every school in the Round Square association offers students a wide range of projects to help them learn how to serve others. These projects can often be challenging, forcing students to step out of their comfort zone.

Schools can provide projects individually, or can join with other schools to create an initiative across a region. Some of the projects stretch across the globe.

HELPING COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE WORLD

Every year Round Square organises at least six Round Square International Service (RSIS) projects. These bring students together from around the world to work as a truly international team, helping communities. Every project aims to help students work towards our IDEALS.

Thanks to Round Square's global reach, it is ideally placed to pinpoint causes in which it can become involved. Round Square works alongside local people and organisations to identify the communities needs and ensure the safety and well being of local people and the volunteers. To help local economies, every effort is made to ensure that local materials and labour are used. We work alongside local people so they can take ownership of the work once the project is complete.

A unique opportunity for students and communities.

When students visit an RSIS project, they spend at least 2 weeks working onsite. Project teams include students from the host country, so the visitors will begin to get a feel for the culture they are visiting. They also have the chance to go on cultural tours as well as adventure activities like treks, white-water rafting and safaris.

Every RSIS project is led by a team of trained and experienced teachers from Round Square schools across the world. Leaders are selected on their experience and their knowledge of the area, as well as the experience they have of working with young people.

Safety is paramount in all RSIS projects. Every project is carefully planned following the highest UK standards. We also check the quality of our project partners and suppliers and ensure Risk Assessments and Incident Management plans are put in place. When teams are abroad, our 24 hour on-call facility means we can always stay in contact. Project leaders are trained within the regions so that standards are consistent.

Over the past few years Round Square has been involved in some truly life-changing projects across the world:

- **Honduras** – Built accommodation and facilities at an agricultural school for under-privileged boys
- **Guatemala** – Helped to build fog water-catchment nets in remote villages
- **India, Ladakh** – Teams constructed much needed facilities in remote villages
- **India** – Built classrooms and houses in poor rural villages
- **Kenya** – A 5 year project provided dormitories and facilities in a Masai Girls School
- **Peru** – Provided essential earthquake relief, rebuilding damaged buildings in affected communities
- **Northern Thailand** – Brought clean drinking water to the remote villages of the Karen Hill tribe in the north



“Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.”

OUR PATRONS

Our patrons include some inspiring and influential figures from across the world. Experts in education, athletes and royalty are all proud to be patrons of Round Square schools.

H.M. King Constantine

H.R.H. The Duke of York, CVO, ADC

Nelson Mandela

Kevan Gosper, AO

Craig Kielburger

FUTURE VISION

Round Square is moving forward into a new and exciting position. The decision taken in Vancouver in 2008 to embrace a policy of expansion has given us a mandate to explore a future that is defined by growth and inclusion.

The aim is to expand strategically whilst emphasising a focus in unrepresented or under-represented areas as a means of extending our geographic and demographic diversity.



HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

Round Square is always looking for new and exciting opportunities for other people to become involved in Round Square. Perhaps you are a new school that wants to join the programme, or you might be someone who wants to help with sponsorship or fundraising. You might even be thinking about becoming a donor. However you wish to become involved, please contact us today.

If you would like to become part of this inspiring adventure for the next generation of leaders and achievers, please contact Brian Dawson at brian@roundsquare.org

Alternatively, if your school would like more information about membership, please take a look at our website, www.roundsquare.org

Funding

Round Square is a registered not-for-profit association and welcomes any and all gifts to help support its world-wide activities (Registered Charity Number: 327117). For more information on how to make gifts and grants in support of Round Square, please contact the Executive Director - brian@roundsquare.org

Primary support for operating expenses of Round Square is an annual subscription paid by member schools. Schools are also invited to voluntarily increase their annual fee if circumstances allow. Other major funding sources are gifts, grants and donations from individuals, corporations, foundations and other groups, such as Alumni Associations and Friends of Round Square.

Although donations may be made directly to Round Square, which is a registered charity in Great Britain, gifts can also be directed to a member school in the nation in which the donor is located. Materials and supplies for each RSIS project are purchased with funds raised by the students themselves at each member school through the Prince Alexander Project Fund. This is a fund that covers the bricks, mortar, pipes and other building materials for Round Square International Service projects. Students at member schools contribute annually to the fund.

