

ROUND SQUARE

Founded in 1966, Round Square is a global network of innovative schools in 50 countries on six continents that share a passion for **experiential learning** and **character education**. Round Square is a not-for-profit membership network, registered as a charity in the UK and governed by a **Board** under the Presidency of His Majesty King Constantine.

Why is it called Round Square? In 1966, King Constantine of the Hellenes, chaired a meeting of the first seven schools that would form the association, later named after the **Round Square building at Gordonstoun**, Scotland, where the first conference took place in 1967.



As a result of a slight historical geometric anomaly the "square" of **Gordonstoun** is a perfectly **circular** two storey **building**. Gordonstoun school is a co-educational independent school for boarding and day pupils in Moray, Scotland. Named after the 150-acre estate originally owned by Sir Robert Gordon in the 17th century, the school now uses this estate as its campus.



The **Round Square Management Team** has a worldwide office in Windsor, UK and Regional Support Managers based and working with the network in each of the RS regions.

The Round Square approach is built around six IDEALS of learning: Internationalism, Democracy, Environmentalism, Adventure Leadership and Service.

Membership of the Round Square network offers schools a framework for excellence and continuous improvement, along with structured opportunities to collaborate and share experiences with like-minded peers around the world.

Member School Rights and Benefits

A vibrant connected network

Round Square is an international network of 200 like-minded schools in 50 countries that connect and collaborate to offer world-class programmes and experiences that develop global competence, character and confidence in our students.

A world class educational approach

The Round Square approach is built around six core themes - our IDEALS - and 12 underpinning "Discoveries" that together provide a Framework to support schools in embedding Character Education within and beyond the curriculum.

A platform for future leaders

Our world needs courageous and compassionate leaders, prepared to discover and embrace different cultures and nationalities in ways that promote meaningful and lasting understanding and respect. Today's students are the leaders of the future: It is our responsibility to prepare them well.

→ The benefits of Round Square membership are shared by the **students, school faculty** and **leadership** within those schools. Through Round Square opportunities, students' lives are enriched and staff professional development is fostered, and when the tenets of Round Square are fully integrated into the philosophy and programs of the school, the education of all students is transformed.

As a member **school** you will;

- gain access to our global **network** of like-minded, high calibre schools;
- gain access to our custom designed collaborative, best practice **intranet** site and resource library;
- have the right to be publicly identified as a member;
- have the right to be a voting member of the organisation, and the right to vote, in accordance with the applicable Regional Charter, to elect a Regional Trustee to represent your region on the Round Square Board;
- gain access to Round Square advice, guidance, communication media and resources;
- participate in and host activities including **conferences** on a local, regional and international level.
- have the opportunity for collaboration with other **Members**, including in relation to: student and staff **exchanges**; curriculum; staff development; best practice sharing; alumni engagement; and **service projects**.

→ The benefit of Round Square membership to **students**:

- are exposed to different **cultures** and viewpoints through Round Square student **exchanges**;
- engage in **international service projects** with students from around the world working toward common goals, and are immersed in a **culture different from home**;
- have the opportunity to participate in regional and **global conferences** that foster friendship, dialogue, servant leadership and **cultural understanding**;
- benefit from a holistic education experience in which the **IDEALS** of Round Square are embedded;
- develop life-long friendships around the globe that positively impact their adult lives;
- develop understanding between themselves and others by listening to one another's ideas and sharing their own through a mutually respectful exchange;
- make continuous enquiries in pursuit of truth. They explore the world around them and seek out their place within it;
- learn to value the strength and solidarity of an inclusive society that embraces all individuals;
- discover the ability and confidence to think clearly and creatively to tackle a problem in a focused way and find the best possible solution(s) in the circumstances;
- discover in themselves a sense of personal, moral, ethical, social and **civic duty**;
- make a commitment to manage their use and application of the **earth's resources** to live within its means for the benefit of future generations;
- discover in themselves the ability to persevere when confronted with challenge, and learn from their mistakes, with a readiness to try again;
- discover in themselves the ability and willingness to confront fear, pain, danger, uncertainty, or intimidation;
- cultivate their understanding of themselves, their personality, values, attitudes, strengths and weaknesses, through personal discovery;
- discover the benefits of working together in a group with others in pursuit of a common goal;
- develop new ideas and demonstrate divergent thinking, creativity, imagination and innovation; and
- discover in themselves a desire and capacity to feel and share another's emotions, perspective and opinions.

→ The benefit of Round Square membership to **staff**:

- teachers design global curriculum knowing that direct resources are available and communication can occur with schools around the world;
- teachers can integrate the Round Square **IDEALS** into their curriculum delivery;
- faculty can participate in **RSIS projects** and both international and regional **conferences**;
- faculty can access leadership and safety training through RSIS that extends to other aspects of the school; and
- faculty can explore an **exchange** with another school or be welcomed at another Round Square school as a visitor or visiting teacher.

→ The benefits of Round Square membership to **the Head, Governors and the School** as a whole:

- Round Square membership provides a **network of high caliber schools** that forms a global family among diverse but like-minded institutions;
- The Head develops valuable professional collegiate relationships with Heads from around the world;
- The Head can contribute professionally to Round Square and participate in extensive professional development on a global scale;
- A school's reputation is enhanced through membership in Round Square and the **IDEALS** help to define the values system or ethos of the school;
- The research, extensive planning and implementation of **international service projects** overseen by Round Square, ensures the highest safety and risk assessment standards are applied;
- Safety and cost effectiveness are paramount to Round Square **exchanges**; students continue to pay tuition to their home school and pay only for their travel and miscellaneous expenses at their exchange school;
- Round Square activities provide extensive opportunities for articles and news features; and
- Interest in Admissions is increased because of membership in Round Square.