



ROUND SQUARE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2024



Our School

.... Where we believe every person deserves every opportunity.

- Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School has a reputation for providing students of the South West with a high quality, well-rounded education, based on a strong academic foundation.
- Encouraging students to use all their gifts to flourish and to achieve their potential.
- Be a community exemplified by high expectations, where students build on their strengths and develop a strong moral character and resilience through perseverance, service, leadership and international opportunities.



Bogotá-Colombia RSIC2024

Colombia is looking forward to hosting the Round Square global family for RSIC2024 from 22nd to 28th September 2024.

The departure date from Perth will likely be 17 September to include the associated pre-conference tour. The theme for the 56th Round Square International Conference is ['Blooming from the Past'](#).

The Conference will be hosted in Colombia by five Round Square schools: Colegio Anglo Colombiano, Colegio Gran Bretaña, Colegio Los Nogales, Gimnasio Campestre and The English School. The schools will provide a mix of hotel accommodation and homestay.

Students will experience, first-hand, the warmth and hospitality of Colombian families.

"We invite you to grow with us and explore Colombia's breathtaking landscapes, experience its rich culture and create unforgettable memories"



What is Round Square?

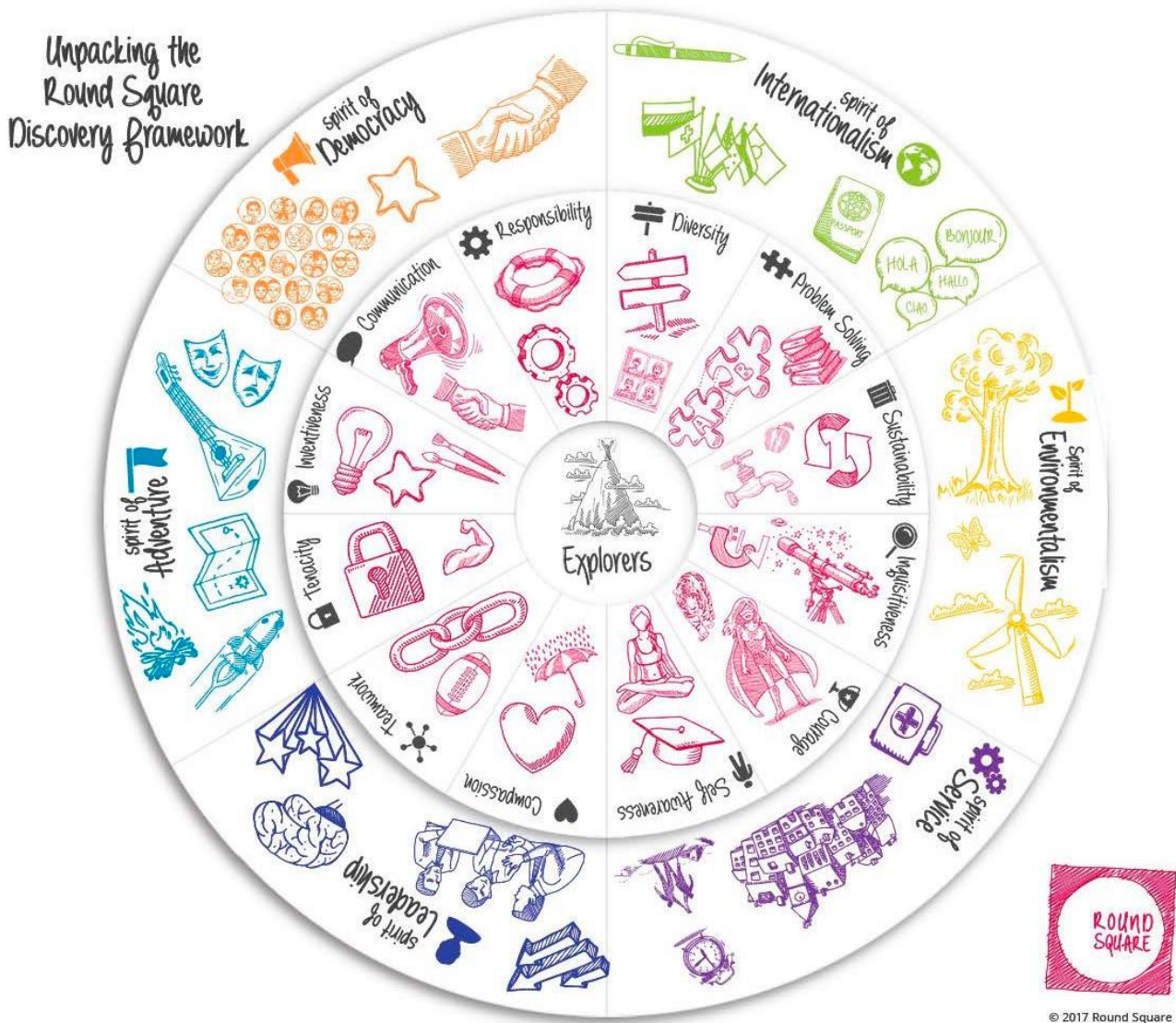
Founded in 1966, Round Square owes much of its heritage and philosophy to Kurt Hahn who founded the Duke of Edinburgh Award and Outward Bound. He also founded the two of the original member schools, Schule Schloss Salem in Germany and Gordonstoun in Scotland. Through experiential education, both schools were committed to equipping youth for leadership and service in a democracy by helping them to prepare for life.

Round Square (RS) is an international diverse network of 230 like-minded schools in 50 countries on six continents. Schools connect and collaborate to offer world-class programmes and experiences that develop character, leadership and global competence in students. Shaping the way students understand, prepare for and respond to the world's challenges both now and in the future is the aim of Round Square.

The network of Round Square schools share a commitment to the development of six themes called IDEALS. These IDEALS are underpinned by twelve Discoveries. This framework facilitates student voice, agency and development opportunities to grow a student's character, equipping them for life and inspiring a commitment to serve others.



Purpose of the Round Square Conferences



Each conference has a theme based on the IDEALS of Round Square, and offers a combination of guest speakers, group discussions, workshops, cultural visits, community service and adventure activities.

1. Students to grow in character and capacity to serve others
2. Share perspectives and achieve international understanding
3. Debate topical issues and expand understandings
4. Forge friendships
5. Support local communities

Details in Brief:

Departing Perth on or around 17 September for the Pre-conference tour. The RSIC 2024 will start by welcoming delegates to Bogota on Sept 22nd. Arrivals day will be at The English School, and students will stay in a homestay on that first evening (Sunday 22nd September) while adult delegates will be staying in nearby hotels.

The opening ceremony will take place at Colegio Los Nogales on Monday 23rd, after which delegates will leave the city and head north to spend four nights in the beautiful department of Boyacá (300 km east of Bogotá). The accommodation in this location will be hotels both for students and adults.

Everyone will return to Bogotá on Friday Sept 27th for the closing ceremony which will be held at Colegio Anglo Colombiano and students will stay the final night in a homestay again. Departures day will be Saturday Sept 28th.

Risk assessments are done very thoroughly by the organising committee and shared with schools giving us confidence that the activities and venues have been carefully assessed for risk and any necessary mitigating actions taken.

Meet the RSIC 2024 Host Schools

Colegio Anglo Colombiano, founded in 1956, is a private, coeducational, non denominational international day school based upon the British educational system, with a proud bicultural heritage. The Anglo is an IBO World School accredited by the International Baccalaureate Organization, as well as the Council of International Schools (CIS) and is one of Colombia's highest ranking and most prestigious private bilingual schools. The Anglo Colombiano embraces the 6 Round Square Ideals by offering students an international education through the International Baccalaureate Program and international opportunities through their exchange and GAP programs. They provide an education based on democracy, giving students mechanisms of representation and participation. They encourage environmental stewardship and expose students to adventure through experiential learning journeys throughout Colombia. They guarantee leadership through their well established student officer positions. The Anglo has a very strong service component which is embedded in the whole IB curriculum. <http://www.anglocolombiano.edu.co/>

Colegio Gran Bretaña is a private, co-educational, international day school (Nursery – Year 13) serving 460 students who represent 50 different nationalities. CGB is internationally accredited by the Council of International Schools and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. CGB is committed to holistic, personalised, and inclusive education. A challenging internationally recognised curriculum is offered through small class sizes in which the main medium of instruction is English. All students take some courses in Spanish, and French is also taught, allowing them to offer a truly international and multilingual education for today's learners. Diversity is embraced and celebrated in a caring and safe environment that fosters both excellence and equity. The school and its programs

are built on eight Foundation Blocks that intertwine learning as a holistic experience, covering; a Caring Community, Co and Extra Curricular Programs, Inclusion, International Mindedness, Leadership, Outdoor Education, Performing Arts, and Strong Academic Core. <http://www.cgb.edu.co/>

Colegio Los Nogales is a coeducational day and private bilingual PK-12 school located in Bogotá, Colombia. The school is accredited by the Council of International Schools, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and the Colombian Ministry of Education. Colegio Los Nogales is one of the top schools in Colombia. It offers an innovative curriculum and study abroad opportunities for students to develop international understanding. Democracy is promoted through their character education program and activities such as the student council. The school community participates in projects that promote environmental stewardship, such as experiential activities in their bio-refuge. Students experience adventure by participating in their extensive outdoor education program in Colombia and beyond. Students are given the freedom and space to develop leadership activities that benefit the community. Their commitment to service is evident in community service projects where students help people from diverse communities to promote inclusion. <http://www.nogales.edu.co>

Gimnasio Campestre is an all boys day school for students aged 4-18 in Bogotá, Colombia. It is a Colombian-International School accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), certified in the ACE learning framework (NEASC) and active member of the Council of International Schools (CIS). They are committed to the promotion of civic values within the community. At the same time, they understand and proactively assume their responsibility in promoting democratic values as part of their mission, and honestly believe in the necessity of educating young men in the comprehension of their shared mission to protect the world. As part of their mission, they seek to educate students in becoming leaders who humbly embody a spirit of leadership through service. To achieve this goal, the school understands the importance of assuming informed risks in order to achieve high and transcendent purposes.

Gimnasio Campestre achieves its educational purpose through an innovative and highly competitive curriculum that involves research as its central axis of the development of students' complex thinking, knowledge and social value. <https://campestre.edu.co/>

The English School: set on a 15-acre campus, TES is a thriving and renowned school with bilingual, confident students and has an excellent reputation as an IB school in Bogotá and Latin America. The English School opened its doors on September 1st, 1961, and has a long history of innovation. In 2023, they were certified to offer the Career-related program of the IB, completing the IB continuum (PYP, MYP, DP, CP). Their purpose is to maximise the academic and personal potential of each student through a comprehensive culture of excellence. The culture is holistic, based on the IB principles and programs, and encompasses distinction in the academic, artistic, and athletic fields. It fosters leadership and the ability to innovate, mindful of the unique strengths and interest of each student. Their vision is to be an agent of change for Colombia and the world, by educating global

citizens that are inspired and guided by the core values of integrity, excellence, and social and environmental responsibility and awareness.

The English School promotes the six Ideals of Round Square, working along with different initiatives like CAS (Social Service), TSMUN - TES Model of United Nations, Student Council (Democracy), Green Team (Environmental Stewardship), and Adventures (Journeys Program). TES empowers experiential learning and leadership in most of its internal projects and gives students the chance to participate in Round Square International Conferences and exchanges. <http://www.englishschool.edu.co/en/>

About our Destination: Bogotá and Boyacá in Colombia

Bogotá is the capital of Colombia and its largest city with approximately 7,968,065 inhabitants. It is the third-highest capital in South America, and in the world after Quito and La Paz, at an average of 2,640 meters (8,660 ft) above sea level.

It is located in one of the six regions of the country, named the Andean Region, that extends throughout the centre of the territory. Bogotá sits in the Cundiboyacense plateau.

Bogotá stands proudly between urbanism and nature, enriched by parks and hills that extend along its eastern borders and is also home to tall, modern buildings and authentic constructions that take us back to the colonial era.

In Bogotá, people from different regions of the country are always welcome, bringing together heritage, customs, cuisine, music, and artistic expressions from all over Colombia into one place.

During RSIC2024, for the service, adventure and environmentalism days, delegates will venture beyond Bogotá, to experience life in the breathtaking beauty of Boyacá, a department full of different biodiversity.

With a mixture of magnificent landscapes, captivating traditions, and preserved colonial architecture, this location serves as a living testament to Colombia's rich historical heritage.

We invite you to walk amongst the streets of the old colonial towns which were once the main epicentres of commerce. A place where traditions and history can still be found within its walls. A place that has been recognised as the top [3 "Most welcoming regions on Earth 2024" by Booking.com](#).



Accommodation – Where we will be staying

On the night of Sept 22nd and the night of Sept 27th students will be allocated to homestays in Bogotá city, and adults will stay in hotels. RSIC 2024's host schools will ensure that all Homestay families submit security background checks from the Colombian Police as a mandatory step within their application to host delegate students, as follows:

The certificate issued by the Police Department states that the referred Colombian citizen does not have any pending judiciary issues with the Colombian judicial authorities.

During the 4-night stay in Boyacá (from the Sept 23rd till the morning of Sept 27th) students and adults will be staying in local hotels. Please note that while each school delegation will be staying at the same hotel, student delegates will be sharing rooms with delegates from other schools to enhance their international experience and make the most of the accommodation. Adults' rooms will also be shared.

Travel information: Conference Arrivals and Departures

Arrivals day: Delegates are welcomed to Aeropuerto International Airport El Dorado, Bogota anytime on Sunday 22nd September, however:

- Delegations arriving at the airport before 3pm will be taken to The English School to enjoy some welcoming activities. Students will then be picked up by their host families, and adults will be taken to their hotels.
- Delegations arriving at the airport between 3pm and 6pm will be taken directly to their homestay families.
- Delegations arriving at the airport after 6pm will need to request special accommodation for the night for their students (at an extra cost) as they won't be able to be sent to their homestay families.

Departures Day: will be Saturday 28th September. All delegations will meet at Colegio Anglo Colombiano where there will be buses leaving for the airport from throughout the day.

Pre-Conference Information

We are in the process of confirming the pre-conference as this will depend on the flights and costs. Options so far;

2 – 3 days in Bogota exploring the city with 2 other Round Square schools (Newcastle Grammar & Barker College, NSW), led by a Newcastle Grammar staff member who is from Colombia (this is the most costs effective option for us)

3 – 4 days immersion into the cultural heart of Chile, Santiago, the city that captivates its visitors with its mix of old and new.

Proposed itinerary for Santiago; Prices still to be confirmed

17 September: accommodation at Rugendo by Time apartotel (hotel)

18 September: Private full day tour of the city/cable car/funicular

19 September: Private full day tour to Valparaiso and Vina del Mar

20 September: A half day tour up to the Andes Mountains up to the fabulous Condor's lookout

21 September: Private coach transfer back to the airport for flight to Bogota

Colegio Colombo Británico in Colombia will be offering a six-day pre-conference tour to Colombia's Coffee Region with an immersion into the Cocora Valley to discover the unique experience of the coffee culture in Colombia. Students will be trekking through the Cocora Valley, with options to visit cultural highlights such as the Botanical Garden Tour, the Zoo Tour and the Salsa Tour.

Costs

Estimated price: \$8,000 - 8,500 per person

Fees include

Flights; We are looking at Qantas flights; Perth to Sydney, Sydney to Bogota, via Santiago – same route for return flights.

- Pre-conference accommodation, activities & meals
- All meals throughout the duration of the conference
- All accommodation throughout the duration of the conference (for Adults this will be 6 hotel nights; for Students it will be 4 hotel nights and 2 host family stay nights)
- All transport throughout the duration of the conference (including pick up and drop off to the Airport (Aeropuerto Internacional El Dorado))
- All visits and activities throughout the duration of the conference.

*For all Round Square International Conferences, student delegates do not pay towards the staff costs.

We look at all possible options to keep the price within reason without compromising the travel times (lengthy layovers) and safety of all delegates.

We are looking at joining two Round Square schools from NSW for all flights and the selected pre-conference tour.

For further information please contact cathy.elliott@bcgs.wa.edu.au or phone 97226147

Ms Cathy Elliott

BCGS Round Square Representative

3	What character strengths and skills do you possess that could be asset to our delegation?
4	Which of the 6 IDEALS is important to you and please explain why
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ You are required to assist with fundraising activities for Round Square contributions throughout the year. ○ You may be required to attend and interview with a selection panel.
Student signature:	

Parent Consent:

I am willing to support my child's participation in this trip. I understand that it is a School expectation that payment of School fees would take priority over these additional expenses. This is a consideration that the School would apply in accepting an application to participate in a Round Square event.

Parent/Guardian signature

Date

Submit to: Ms Cathy Elliott cathy.elliott@bcgs.wa.edu.au

Applications close: Friday 1 March 2024