

Homestay Dates

Thank you for considering opening your home to an international student during our Round Square conference.

Host families are vital to the success of student exchanges You'll promote global understanding and cultural acceptance Create lifelong friendships and memories

Dates: September 28-29, 2026

Duration: 2 evenings

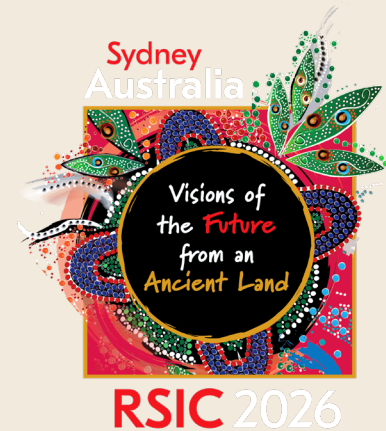
Student Ages: 15-18 years old

Activities: School-based conference program during the day



Where do students come from?

- Students from Round Square schools worldwide
- Countries include UK, Asia, Africa, Americas and Europe
- Placement is based on compatibility and availability
- Preferences will be considered but cannot be guaranteed
- Welcome to indicate a request on the application form.



What do Host Families Provide?

- 4 Meals; 2 Dinners & 2 Breakfasts
- Basic household amenities
- A comfy place to sleep

Students are responsible for:

- Personal spending money and souvenirs
- Conference fees and school activities
- Medical insurance and medical expenses
- Long distance calls and mobile data

Number of Students per Family

- **Typical:** 1-2 students per family
- **Maximum:** Based on your home capacity but the more the merrier!
- Consider the benefits of hosting 2 students where possible.



Who Can Host?

All family types are welcome:

- We welcome extended family, church groups, friends of Barker College
- Min one Adult to a home in attendance.
- Each home member over the age of 18 must provide a NSW Working with Children Check (volunteer)
- Overnight adult supervision required

Can Students Share a Room?

- Same gender students: Yes, may share
- With your children: Same gender, similar age only upon agreement
- Arrangements are assessed during matching process

Accommodation Requirements

- Clean, safe, comfortable sleeping space, being mindful= that the space provides a reasonable level of privacy.
- Own bed, students can share a room but not a bed.
- Trundle beds and inflatable guest beds are acceptable, foam camping mattresses will **not** suffice.
- Access to bathroom facilities



What Do I feed them?

- Provide 2 breakfasts and 2 dinners (lunch, morning and afternoon tea at conference)
- Nutritious meals as you would for your own family
- No need for special menus - regular family meals
- Students will advise of any dietary restrictions



Special Dietary Requirements

You'll be informed in advance of any:

- Food allergies (nuts, celiac, dairy, etc.)
- Religious restrictions (halal, kosher, vegetarian)
- Cultural preferences
- Domestic allergies
- Please let us know if your family specialises in any dietary regimes! Celiac, Vegetarian, gluten free etc.



Communication Strategy

Honest communication ensures a successful experience for everyone. A Barker staff member will assist with your connection once allocations are finalised.

- Contact student before arrival (email, phone, video call) facilitated by Barker college.
- Discuss house rules and expectations early
- Share family routines and schedules

Discuss with your student:

- Mealtimes and family routines
- Laundry arrangements
- Internet and device use
- Curfew times (weekday conferences require focus)
- Privacy and personal space boundaries
- House security
- Emergency contact procedures

Evening Schedule and Activities

- **Evenings:** Simple family time at home is perfect
- No obligation to sightsee or plan entertainment
- Optional: short local outing if time permits
- Kids will be tired from traveling and homestays provide a safe place to rest and recuperate
- Remember, what we see everyday and take for granted, is an adventure and exciting for an international!



Making your Guests Feel Welcome

- Show them local attractions on your drive home
- Include them in family activities
- Introduce them to Australian food and traditions
- Help them practice English in relaxed setting

What Students Need Most

- A warm, welcoming atmosphere
- Clear expectations and guidance
- Inclusion in family life
- Patience and understanding

What Do I Need to Prepare?

- Clean bedroom with fresh linens and towels
- Clear space in bathroom for toiletries
- Plan meals considering any dietary restrictions
- Make contact with student before arrival (Barker will facilitate)

Balancing Hospitality & Privacy

- Students may need downtime after conference days
- Private areas provides necessary personal space
- Balance inclusion with allowing independence
- Check in regularly without being intrusive

Celebrating Differences

- Respect religious practices and observances
- Be sensitive to cultural differences
- Maintain open-minded, welcoming attitude
- Ask questions respectfully to learn



Common Host Family Concerns

"What if we don't get along?"

- Students are carefully matched to families
- Short duration (2 days) makes it manageable
- School coordinator available for support

"What if there are language barriers?"

- Students have functional English for Round Square
- Use simple, clear language and gestures
- Translation apps available if needed

Pre-Arrival Checklist

- Brief your own family on house guest expectations
- Ensure WiFi password is available
- Plan transportation schedule
- Review student's profile and interests

During the Stay: Best Practices

- Welcome them warmly on arrival
- Give house tour and show important locations
- Review emergency procedures
- Maintain regular communication

Addressing Concerns

If any issues arise during the hosting period:

- Contact conference coordinator immediately
- Document any incidents or concerns



What If a Student Becomes Unwell?

- **Minor illness:** Treat as you would your own child and advise your designated Teacher contact at earliest opportunity.
- **Medical attention needed:** An easy-to-use medical incident flow chart will be shared with families to follow in case of illness, including 24hr access to medical advice and staff support.
- The Barker Health Centre team will be supporting the Conference with a nurse on call 24 hours to triage and navigate illness if it occurs.
- Partnered with the Madison Medical Practice to access a Registered GP if needed.
- We will have beds in Boarding as a back up for illness.

Are students Insured?

Yes - comprehensive coverage required:

- All students have international medical insurance
- Coverage includes medical emergencies and accidents



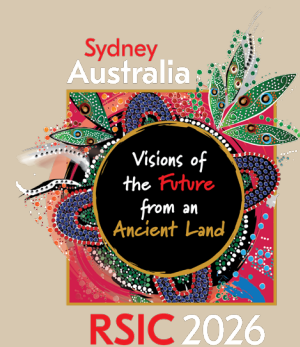
Do I need to Transport?

Yes, hosts provide transportation:

- Collection on Monday 28th afternoon approx. 4pm
- Morning drop-off to school Tuesday and Wednesday designated times between 8am & 8:30am to manage traffic flow!
- Tuesday evening pick-up after conference designated times between 5:30pm & 6pm
- Can families coordinate carpools with other families; **Yes please!**

Pick Up & Drop Off

- To assist with efficient traffic movement and time management each family will be given
- **Specific** Pick up and drive thru drop off location at a **Specific** time. If we all do our part we can flow effortlessly.
- To best manage traffic flow, you may be asked to take an alternative route or avoid a certain direction, there will be method to this advise, please follow your route to assist us in avoiding traffic issues.



Your Support Network

You won't be doing this alone!

Comprehensive support available:

- Dedicated conference coordinator contact
- 24-hour emergency contact line
- Pre-arrival student information pack
- Contact student before arrival (email, phone, video call) facilitated by Barker college.

Benefits for Your Family

- Broaden your family's worldview
- Learn about different cultures firsthand
- Create international connections
- Model global stewardship for your children



Next Steps to Become a Host Family

1. Complete Homestay registration Form.
2. Prepare or apply for a NSW **Working with Children Check** for each resident over 18yrs.
3. Attend future information sessions; TBA
4. Receive student placement information



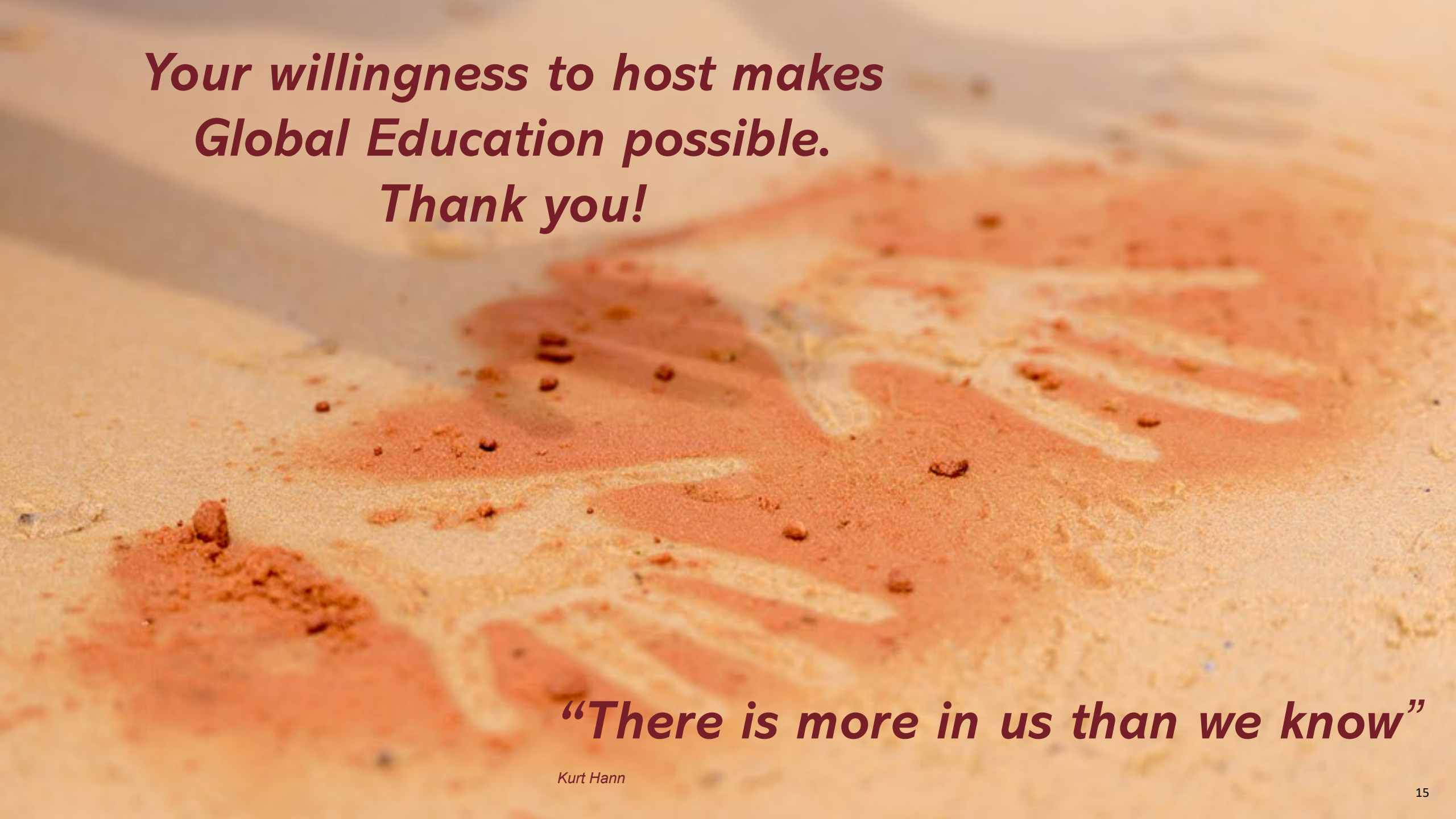
Contact Information

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A close-up photograph of a handprint made in sand. The handprint is formed by reddish-brown sand against a lighter, tan-colored background. A metal shovel is partially visible in the upper left background, its blade resting on the sand.

***Your willingness to host makes
Global Education possible.
Thank you!***

“There is more in us than we know”

Kurt Hann