



# SANDY SPRING FRIENDS SCHOOL

*Let Your Lives Speak*

# SSFS School Profile 2023-2024

16923 Norwood Road, Sandy Spring, MD 20860

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CEEB Code: 210937

## Our Mission

Sandy Spring Friends School provides a welcoming and nurturing learning community with Friends testimonies and Meeting for Worship central to its life and vitality. A challenging academic curriculum, enriched arts program, inclusive athletics, and service opportunities promote intellectual excellence and strength of character. Recognizing the unique worth of each person, the School strives to develop individual talents and foster caring and effective citizens of the world

## School and Community

Founded in 1961, Sandy Spring Friends School is a progressive, coed, independent day and boarding school serving approximately 700 students from age three through 12th grade. The campus is located on 144 acres in the historic Sandy Spring area of Montgomery County, Maryland. Sandy Spring Friends School is approved by the Maryland State Board of Education and accredited by the Association of Independent Maryland/DC Schools. SSFS maintains a diverse community of learners. For the 2023-2024 school year:

- 54% of our students identify as students of color;
- 18 international students are enrolled, representing 5 different countries;
- 36 students reside in the campus dorm;
- SSFS allocated over \$6.3 M in financial aid.

## Quaker Education

Our school's culture—rooted in the idea that collaboration engenders achievement—can be traced to our Quaker heritage and abiding belief in the Quaker values of Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community, Equality, and Stewardship (SPICES). Our teachers are lifelong mentors and strive to identify and cultivate each student's intellectual, extracurricular, and social passions. SSFS students are taught to act upon what they learn, and this call to action propels their accomplishments as graduates.

## Commitment to Equity, Justice, and Belonging

Sandy Spring Friends School's programming (curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular) embraces the School's commitment to diversity, equity, justice, and belonging as critical to our core mission. These values inform the education and development of all in our community, and actively foster a culture of inclusivity that values multiple perspectives and is supported by transformational dialogue and civic engagement.



## SCHOOL LEADERSHIP & COLLEGE COUNSELORS

Dr. Rodney Glasgow

HEAD OF SCHOOL

Celeste Jamison McDaniels, PhD

HEAD OF UPPER SCHOOL

Meredith Shankle

ASSISTANT HEAD OF UPPER SCHOOL | DIRECTOR OF ACADEMIC PLANNING | REGISTRAR

Christopher Miller

DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE COUNSELING

Candice Ashton

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE COUNSELING

Magi Valdez-Lane

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

## Associations and Memberships

Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools; Friends Council on Education; National Association for College Admission Counseling; National Association of Independent Schools; ACT State Organization—Maryland/DC/Delaware; The College Board

## The Curriculum

Sandy Spring Friends School offers an inquiry-based college preparatory program that emphasizes deep understanding throughout the curriculum while encouraging collaboration, instilling confidence, fostering practical experience, and cultivating respect for others. SSFS teachers help students internalize a process we call “QRA”—Question, Reflection, Action—which ensures that they think critically, integrate new knowledge, and apply what they learn.

The Upper School operates on a semester system with graduation requirements that encourage students to explore a wide range of interests in the arts, humanities, math, science, and cultural studies. Students receive  $\frac{1}{2}$  credit for semester-long courses and 1 credit for year-long courses. All ninth grade students are taught Quakerism in the Freshman Seminar course and it is threaded throughout the World History and US History curricula. All credits toward graduation must be earned in grades 9-12.

### Minimum graduation requirements are as follows:

**ENGLISH**  
4 English Credits

**MATH**  
3 Math Credits  
*(incl. Algebra II)*

**HISTORY**  
3 History Credits  
*(incl. World & US History)*

**SCIENCE**  
3 Science Credits  
*(one year of biological science  
& physical science required)*

**ART**  
3 Art Credits  
*(Arts & Ideas required)*

**GLOBAL LANGUAGE**  
3 Global Language Credits

**PHYSICAL  
EDUCATION**  
3 P.E. Credits

**QUAKERISM**  
Included as part of the  
History & Advisory  
Curricula

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**  
100 Hours of Community Service  
*(for students entering in 9th grade)*



## 2023-2024 Upper School Course Offerings

### ARTS

Full Year Course: Arts & Ideas

Semester Courses: Acting • Ceramics • Contemporary Dance • Adv. Contemporary Dance • Digital Music Production • Digital Photography • Handbells • Instrumental Music • Musical Theater Production • Photographic Arts • Play Production • Rhythmic Heritages Around the World • Spinning Yarn & Fiber Exploration • Stagecraft • Studio Art • Adv. Studio Art • Vocal Music • Weaving & Fiber Arts • Woodworking • Yearbook & Digital Media Arts

### ENGLISH

Full Year Course: English 9 • English 10 • AP English Language & Composition • AP English Literature & Composition: British Literature • AP English Language & Literature: Dramatic Literature

Semester Courses: African-American Literature • Critical Writing I • Critical Writing II • Dystopian Literature I: The Twentieth Century Classics • Dystopian Literature II: The Modern Global Approach • Magic Realism in Literature and Cinema • Modern Voices in Short Fiction • Poetry of Identity & Innovation • World Literature I • World Literature II • Writing Lab I • Writing Lab II

### GLOBAL LANGUAGES

Full Year Course: French Foundation • Intermediate French • Pre-Advanced French • Advanced French • AP French Language & Culture • Spanish Foundations • Intermediate Spanish • Pre-Advanced Spanish • Advanced Spanish 1 • Advanced Spanish 2 • AP Spanish Language & Culture • Linguistics • Sociolinguistics

### HISTORY

Full Year Course: AP Comparative Government and Politics • AP United States History • U.S. History and Government • World History I: Prehistory to 1450 • World History II: Modern History

Semester Courses: Asian Studies I • Asian Studies II • Knowing Right from Wrong: Ethical Decision Making • Latin American Studies I • Latin American Studies II • Peace & Conflict Studies • Quakerism

### MATHEMATICS

Full Year Course: Algebra I • Integrated Geometry • Algebra II • Advanced Algebra II • PreCalculus • Advanced Precalculus • Calculus • AP Calculus AB • AP Calculus BC • AP Calculus AB/BC • Finance with Applied Mathematics • Introduction to Statistics • AP Statistics

Semester Courses: Introduction to Computer Science • iOS Applications Development

### SCIENCE

Full Year Course: Advanced Techniques in Fabrication & Design • Anatomy and Physiology • AP Biology • AP Chemistry • AP Environmental Science • AP Physics C Mechanics • Astronomy • Biology • Chemistry • Forensics • Introduction to Engineering • Physics • Physics 12

Semester Courses: Bioethics • Farm to Table: The Science of Growing Our Food

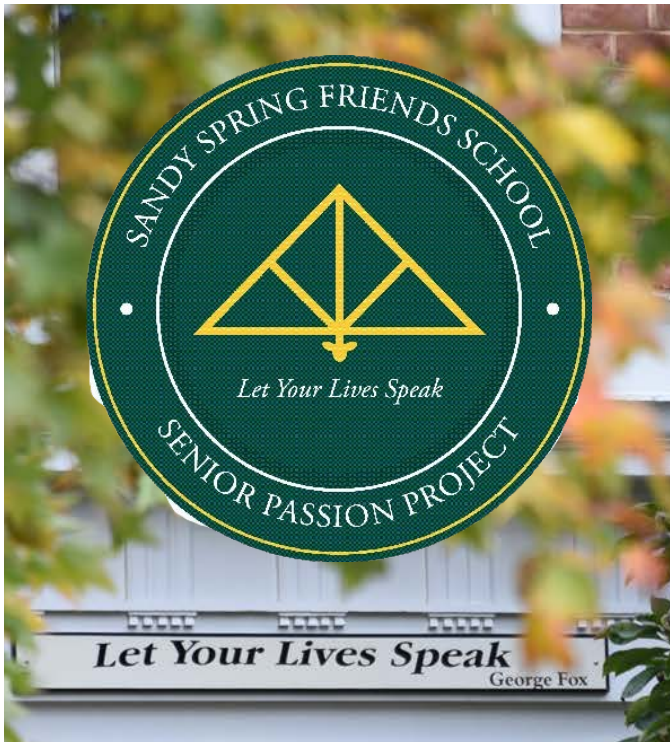
## Campus Leadership and Activities

SSFS offers a wide variety of opportunities annually for students to lead our community and engage the world outside the classroom. In keeping with Quaker tradition, leaders of campus committees and organizations are designated as “Clerks” and chosen by their peers to facilitate meetings and initiatives. Some activities include:

- Affinity, Alliance, and Social Justice Groups
- Campus Ambassadors
- Performing Arts: Plays and musicals, instrumental, vocal, and dance ensembles
- Physical Education and Intramural Sports: Badminton, Basketball, Contemporary Dance, Farming for Fitness, Kickball, Rock Climbing, SSFS Morley Games, Yoga
- Speech /Debate Team
- Student Publications
- TORCH – Student Government Association
- Quaker Youth Leadership
- Quiz Bowl/It’s Academic Team
- Varsity Sports: Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Golf, Ice Hockey (Club Team), Lacrosse, Rock Climbing, Soccer, Track and Field, Volleyball, Softball

## English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

In recognition of the diversity of the school, SSFS offers non-native English speakers a full two- to three-year program of language development instruction and support in English and History. ESOL courses at SSFS are very rigorous, combining the same content that they would receive in non-ESOL courses with additional guidance in reading, writing, listening, speaking, vocabulary, and grammar. Experienced teachers who are specially trained in teaching English Language Learners teach these courses. This specialized instruction ensures that students are well-prepared to succeed in mainstream (non-ESOL) high school and college courses.



## Ambassadors Program

The Ambassador Program draws on the Quaker principle of "Eldering," engaging students to co-create opportunities of growth while giving back to the campus community. All Upper School students can apply to be an Ambassador; they are selected by a committee of faculty and administrators and matched with mentors (Elders) in designated areas of school leadership. For Fall 2021, Ambassadors will serve in the offices of: Admission, Advancement, Marketing & Communications (MarCom), Facilities, and the Office on Institutional Equity, Justice, and Belonging. The Ambassadors program is a year-long commitment that culminates in a presentation at the end of year.

## Intersession

Intersession is a one-to-two-week period each spring when all students and faculty participate in special projects outside the classroom at either the local, regional, national, or international level. Participation is required each year of enrollment at SSFS. These projects offer students the opportunity for service learning or further hands-on study of topics covered in their classes. Recent experiences have included: Quaker Legacy of Social Justice; Paint the Desert: New Mexico National Art Immersion; El Camino de Santiago: Hiking Spain's "The Way of St. James."

## Independent Study & Senior Projects

Students who wish to pursue a topic beyond the Upper School curriculum may propose the formation of an independent study course. Independent study is reserved for students who have exhausted available offerings in a particular department or discipline, and it is expected to demand of a student at least as much time and academic demand, if not more, as a scheduled course. Courses are sponsored by SSFS faculty who oversee the student's work and assesses the student's performance. Independent studies must be requested by an extensive, formal, written proposal created by the student, with the help of the sponsoring faculty member.

Seniors have the option to apply for and participate in the Senior Project program. Grounded in experiential and project-based learning, and with inquiry, reflection and action at its core, Senior Projects are selective, elective, learner-centered and self-directed passion projects that affords approved participants the opportunity to let their lives speak beyond the traditional high school environment and culminates in a formal and reflective presentation to a panel of faculty, staff, alumni and Trustees. The Senior Project is recognized as a second semester elective course on the transcript and is graded in the form of Pass/Fail.





# List of College Acceptances (2020-2023)

Colleges listed in **bold** indicate at least one matriculated student from SSFS.

## US/DOMESTIC COLLEGES:

**Allegheny College**

**American University**

Auburn University

Bard College

Bates College

Baylor University

Beloit College

Bennington College

Binghamton University

Birmingham-Southern College

**Boston College**

**Boston University**

Bowie State University

**Brandeis University**

**Bryn Mawr College**

Bucknell University

Butler University

**Carleton College**

**Carnegie Mellon University**

**Case Western Reserve University**

**Chapman University**

Clark Atlanta University

Clark University

**Clarkson University**

**Coastal Carolina University**

Colby College

**Colgate University**

College For Creative Studies

**College of Charleston**

College of the Holy Cross

Colorado College

Colorado State University

Connecticut College

The Cooper Union

**Cornell University**

Curry College

**Denison University**

DePaul University

**Dickinson College**

Drew University

**Drexel University**

Earlham College

**Eastern Mennonite University**

**Eckerd College**

Elizabethtown College

**Elmhurst University**

**Elon University**

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

**Emerson College**

**Emory University**

**Fashion Institute of Technology**

Fisk University

Florida A&M University

Florida Institute of Technology

**Fordham University**

Franklin and Marshall College

Furman University

**George Mason University**

**George Washington University**

Georgia Tech

**Georgia State University**

**Germanna Community College**

**Gettysburg College**

**Goucher College**

Grinnell College

Guilford College

**Hamilton College**

**Hampton University**

Harvey Mudd College

**Haverford College**

Hawaii Pacific University

High Point University

Hobart William Smith Colleges

**Hofstra University**

Hollins University

Hood College

**Howard Community College**

**Howard University**

**Illinois Institute of Technology**

**Indiana University-Bloomington**

**Ithaca College**

**James Madison University**

**Juniata College**

**Kenyon College**

**Lafayette College**

Landmark College

**Lehigh University**

Lesley University

Lewis & Clark College

**Louisiana State University**

Loyola Marymount University

**Loyola University Chicago**

**Loyola University Maryland**

Loyola University New Orleans

Lynn University

**Macalester College**

Marist College

Maryland Institute College of Art

**McDaniel College**

**Middlebury College**

**Milwaukee School of Engineering**

Mitchell College

Monmouth University

**Montgomery College**

**Morehouse College**

**Morgan State University**

**Mount Holyoke College**

**Muhlenberg College**

**New York University**

Norfolk State University

North Carolina A&T University

North Carolina Central University

North Carolina State University

**Northeastern University**

**Northwestern University**

**Nova Southeastern University**

Oberlin College

Occidental College

Ohio State University

**Pace University**



# List of College Acceptances (2020-2023) | Continued

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## **Pennsylvania State University**

Pepperdine University  
Pitzer College  
Pomona College  
Prince George's Community College

## **Princeton University**

Providence College  
Purdue University  
Quinnipiac University

## **Reed College**

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
Rhodes College  
Rider University

## **Roanoke College**

## **Rochester Institute of Technology**

Rollins College

## **Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology**

## **Rutgers University**

## **Saint Joseph's University**

Saint Louis University

## **Salisbury University**

## **Salt Lake Community College**

## **Santa Clara University**

## **Sarah Lawrence College**

## **Savannah College of Art and Design**

School of the Art Institute of Chicago

## **Scripps College**

Seattle University  
Seton Hall University  
Shenandoah University

## **Skidmore College**

## **Smith College**

## **Spelman College**

St. Lawrence University  
St. John's College (MD)  
St. John's University (NY)

## **St. Mary's College of Maryland**

Stevens Institute of Technology

## **Stevenson University**

Stony Brook University

## **Suffolk University**

## **SUNY At Albany**

Susquehanna University

## **Syracuse University**

## **Temple University**

Tennessee State University

## **Texas Tech University**

The Catholic University of America

## **The College of Wooster**

## **The New School**

## **The University of Texas At Austin**

Sewanee-University of the South

## **Towson University**

Trinity Washington University  
Tufts University

## **Tulane University of Louisiana**

Union College

University of Alabama

## **University of California-Davis**

University of California-Irvine

## **University of California-Los Angeles**

University of California-Riverside

University of California-San Diego

University of California-Santa Barbara

University of California-Santa Cruz

## **University of Colorado Boulder**





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**University of Connecticut**

**University of Delaware**

**University of Denver**

University of Florida

**University of Hartford**

**University of Illinois**

University of Iowa

University of Kansas

**University of Mary Washington**

**University of Maryland-Baltimore County**

**University of Maryland-College Park**

University of Massachusetts

**University of Miami**

**University of Michigan**

University of Minnesota

University of Missouri

**University of New Hampshire**

**University of New Haven**

**University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill**

**University of North Carolina School of the**

**Arts**

**University of Notre Dame**

**University of Oregon**

**University of Pittsburgh**

University of Puget Sound

University of Redlands

University of Rhode Island

University of Richmond

**University of Rochester**

**University of San Diego**

**University of San Francisco**

University of South Carolina

**University of Southern California**

**University of Vermont**

**University of Virginia**

University of Washington

**University of Wisconsin**

University of Wyoming

**Ursinus College**

Vanderbilt University

**Vassar College**

**Villanova University**

**Virginia Tech**

Virginia State University

**Wake Forest University**

**Warren Wilson College**

Washington College

**Washington University in St. Louis**

**Waynesburg University**

**Wellesley College**

Wentworth Institute of Technology

Wesleyan University

West Virginia University

**Wheaton College**

**Whittier College**

**Widener University**

Willamette University

**William & Mary**

**Williams College**

**Worcester Polytechnic Institute**

Xavier University of Louisiana

**York College of Pennsylvania**

## **OUTSIDE US/INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITIES**

**Bocconi University (Italy)**

**Carleton University (Canada)**

**Concordia University (Canada)**

Dalhousie University (Canada)

Hokkaido University (Japan)

**Istituto Marangoni London (UK)**

Lancaster University (UK)

**McGill University (Canada)**

McMaster University (Canada)

**New York University- Shanghai**

Queen's University (Canada)

Simon Fraser University (Canada)

**Trinity College Dublin (Ireland)**

**University of Aberdeen (Scotland)**

University of Alberta (Canada)

University College Dublin (Ireland)

University of Dundee (UK)

University of Edinburgh (Scotland)

University of Glasgow (Scotland)

University of Guelph (Canada)

University of Leeds (UK)

University of Maynooth (Ireland)

**University of New Brunswick (Canada)**

**University of Oxford (UK)**

University of Sheffield (UK)

University of St Andrews (UK)

University of Toronto (Canada)

University of Victoria (Canada)

**University of Waterloo (Canada)**

Western University (Canada)

York University (Canada)

