



SANDY SPRING FRIENDS SCHOOL

Let Your Lives Speak

INTERSESSION FACTS:

- Intersession is a signature experience of the Upper School program. Sandy Spring Friends School has included Intersession as part of its educational approach since 1968.
- Intersession is an educational experience that is a required part of the Upper School curriculum for all students in grades 9 through 12.
- While the goal of a vacation may be to relax or to be entertained, the goal of Intersession is to be challenged, to learn, and to grow. Intersession trips are educational experiences that present to students a challenge that is cultural, physical, educational, intellectual, and/or creative in a group setting. Participants also have a lot of fun along the way.
- Intersession involves experiences that include travel down the street or to the other side of the globe. Either way, Intersession should transport a student outside of their usual comfort zone.
- Service is a frequent component of Intersession trips. Students must participate in a "Service Intersession" at least once during their years at SSFS and are encouraged to do more. Service Intersessions include service activities for at least 20 hours. Some Intersessions may include some service experience as part of the mix but are not designated "Service Intersessions." In these cases, the completed service hours will count towards the students' service hours requirement for graduation.
- The faculty strives to offer a range of experiences at a range of costs, from around \$200 to over \$2500. The cost of Intersession is in addition to tuition.
- Students are asked to express their preference for Intersessions, and the selection process attempts to match students with their choices. However, Intersession assignments are done by the School, and no student is guaranteed a space on any specific Intersession.
- Intersession programs for the 9th grade are part of the same program but are organized and run by the 9th Grade Team specifically for 9th grade students. The 9th Grade Intersession is designed to provide a mix of experiences, including some service work, as an "Intersession sampler."
- Intersession is graded on a pass/fail grading scale.