

NIHERST iSTEM CLUB

Term 3 2023-24 – Fyzabad Regional Community Complex

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What are the iSTEM Club about? What is the topic/theme?

NIHERST's iSTEM Club is designed to orient the minds of our future leaders towards science and technology. It's the perfect environment to cultivate students' curiosity and creativity while teaching them to base their reasoning on evidence and solve problems via interactive and hands-on inquiry- and problem-based learning.

The following club theme will be available for Term 3 of Academic Year 2023-2024:

Digital Dream Team	<i>Join the Digital Dream Team and embark on an electrifying journey into the world of STEM! ✨ Are you ready to unlock the secrets of coding and technology while having a blast with like-minded enthusiasts? 🚀 Get ready for a whirlwind of fun-filled activities where you'll dive into the wonders of coding, unleash your creativity, and conquer challenges with cutting-edge tech tools! From creating your own digital masterpieces to cracking codes and building awesome projects, there's never a dull moment with the Digital Dream Team. Don't miss out on the adventure – register now and let's dream big together!</i>
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General Learning Objectives:

- **Understanding STEM Principles:** Students will gain a solid understanding of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) principles as they relate to the world information technology. This includes learning about coding, algorithms and programming.
- **Exploration of game design:** Students will nurture their curiosity and deepen their knowledge of coding through game development. This involves the implementation of commands and responses within given algorithms.
- **Technology in coding and programming:** Students will interact with robotic devices and manipulate their features.

2. What are the club meeting dates and times?

During this school term, the club will meet in person and virtually on the following dates:

Session #	Meeting Date	Meeting Time
1	Saturday 18 th May	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
2	Saturday 25 th May	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m..

3	Saturday 8 th June	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
4	Saturday 15 th June	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
5	Saturday 22 th June	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Your child can be dropped off as early as 9:30 a.m. and must be collected no later than 1:30 p.m.

Note: Saturday 15th June is a virtual session.

3. What is the club venue?

Club meetings will be conducted at the Fyzabad Regional Complex, Guapo Road, Fyzabad.

[CLICK HERE for directions to Fyzabad Regional Complex](#)

4. How can I register?

The registration process is done entirely online.

You can register using the Registration Link on our website and social media platforms ([Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [Twitter](#)). Once the registration form is submitted, you will receive instructions for payment. ***Please note that your child's spot is not guaranteed until you make your payment.***

Once we confirm your payment on our end, you will be notified of your confirmed registration status.

5. Is there a registration fee?

The iSTEM Club fee is \$300.00 for the term. ***Materials and supplies are included.***

6. How can I pay the registration fee?

Upon submission of your completed online registration form(s), you will receive an email with instructions on how to make payment. At present, we will be accepting direct deposits (over-the-counter bank transactions, fast deposits, online banking transfers).

Please note you are required to retain a screenshot or photo of your proof of payment to submit to us via email (istemclub@niherst.gov.tt) as this is what will be used to confirm your spot in the club once space is available.

7. Can I register outside of the age range?

Registrations outside of the age ranges will not be permitted.

8. Can I register for more than one location?

There is only one location available – the Fyzabad Regional Complex.

9. Can I register on the first day of the club?

Registration at the first club meeting will not be facilitated. Registration for the club will be closed at noon two (2) business days before the club's first meeting date, or earlier as necessary if the club reaches maximum capacity.

10. Is my spot confirmed once I submit my registration form?

No. Submission of the registration form creates a "Pending Registration" status for your child/children. Your spot is only confirmed upon when you submit your proof of payment via email to istemclub@niherst.gov.tt.

Once you submit your proof of payment, your registration status will be updated to "Confirmed".

11. Does my child need a separate email address?

Children are not required to have a separate email address. The email address inserted on the registration form in the "Member Email Address" section will be the address used to add him/her to the online sessions, as well as to forward additional resources. However, if you wish to setup an email address for your child, you can use the following link as a guide (Gmail): <https://support.google.com/families/answer/7103338?hl=en>

12. What is required for iSTEM Club?

Your child should have access to an internet-connected device with camera and microphone, as well as the **Zoom** program as this is the platform we are using.

For all virtual sessions, minimal materials are required. Details would be shared upon confirmation of registration.

13. What are the basic Online Course requirements?

Online Course Requirements:

- Mac or Windows PC only
- Webcam (functional)
- Stable internet connection with access to Microsoft Teams
- Any additional software required for the club sessions will be sent in an email upon confirmation of payment where applicable
- Internet Browser (Chrome, Safari, Internet Explorer etc.)
- Headset or headphones with built in microphone are strongly recommended

14. Can I get assistance setting up the software?

Yes, we will provide you with an email address to access support if you need assistance to make sure your computer system is ready.

15. Can I use a virtual background?

Ideally, students should be seated in a distraction-free area of their home. Virtual backgrounds can be distracting to the facilitators and other members, so we do not encourage members to use these.

16. How do we join the session(s)?

Once registration is complete and payment is confirmed, a recurrent meeting link will be sent to the email address listed for your child to join the session on **Zoom**. The activity booklet will also be attached in this email. Additionally, this recurrent meeting link will also be included in the **Welcome Note**.

17. Are parents allowed to stay during the meeting session(s)?

It is mandatory for an adult (or older sibling) is present with each member in the 5-6 and 7-9 age groups. This is to ensure proper supervision and to assist with activities. Parents may be allowed to view the 10-13 and 14-17 age groups session(s), but this is at the discretion of the facilitator.

18. Are virtual sessions recorded?

Sessions may be recorded to ensure quality delivery of content and to evaluate for future programmes.

19. Are breakfast, lunch and snacks provided?

Breakfast, lunch, and snacks are not provided.

20. What should my child/children walk with to club meetings?

Members can walk with breakfast and/or lunch as well as sufficient snacks and water as necessary. There is a cafeteria on-site and the kids are allowed to purchase snacks.

21. Is there a dress code?

Yes. See Member Code of Conduct on the [NIHERST website \(click\)](#). Members can bring a jacket as the location is air-conditioned.

22. Will there be any field trips?

No field trips have been scheduled for this term. Members and facilitators will remain at the location for the duration of each meeting.

23. Are parents allowed to attend field trips?

There are no field trips.

24. Are parents allowed to stay at the location?

No. Parents are kindly asked to leave members in the care of the club's facilitators once dropped off at the venue.

25. How many members do you take in for each age group?

Each age grouping (5-6 years, 7-9 years, 10-13 years and 14-17 years) will accommodate up to 20 members.

26. What is the ratio of facilitators to members?

1 facilitator: 10 members

27. Are background checks conducted on facilitators?

iSTEM Club facilitators are experienced and trained NIHERST staff. Any additional facilitators are interviewed and based on their performance are hired accordingly.

28. Can I get the facilitators' contact information?

No. Contact information for NIHERST is publicly available. In the event of an emergency at the club venue, you will be contacted immediately.

29. Can I get a refund?

Please refer to the Refund Policy for Cancellations outlined on the Registration Form.

