ITZ'AT
STEAM ACADEMY

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INFORMATION SHEET 2024

About the School

Itz'at STEAM Academy is a four year government high school that opened in 2023 with 63 students. It is located on St Joseph Street in Belize City. It will continue to add a new first form intake each year until it reaches its maximum capacity of 300 students in 2026.

Itz'at STEAM Academy aims to create a diverse and inclusive school community that inspires young people to improve their own lives and the lives of those around them.

It delivers value drive, competency-based programs that use constructionist and problem based approaches to build knowledge science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) as well as Belizean studies, language and physical education.

School Values	School Competences
Collaboration	Agency
Innovation and Experimentation	Communication
Resilience	Self and Social Awareness
Integrity	Multiculturalism
Inclusion	Fabrication and Creation
Diversity	STEAM Mindset

2024 Applications

There are 75 places available for students to enter its first form in August 2024. Applications can be made for any student who will have completed primary school by 31 August 2024. Application is free and is done via the school's webiste: www.itzat.edu.bz If there are more applicants than spaces, priority will be given to students that were born after July 31 2010 and those who reside in Belize City. The school also aims to have an intake that is 50% male and 50% female.

The first day of classes for students will be Monday August 26, 2024.

The School Day

The school campus opens at 7:30 a.m. and closes at 5:30 p.m. Classes begin at 8:00 a.m. and end at 3:45 p.m. The day is divided into five 75-minute blocks with a 15-minute break between each block. Lunch is 12:15 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. On Fridays, the there is an early closure with the last class finishing at 2:15 p.m.

The ISA Curriculum

ISA aims to develop core skills in science and technology, language, math, global humanities, art. As they progress through the school, students develop the competencies of agency, communication, fabrication and creation, multiculturalism, self and social awareness and STEAM Mindset.

ISA believes students learn best when they are engaged in practical, hands-on tasks related to long term projects that promote social, emotional and cultural learning, transdisciplinary academics and community engagement.

The subjects in first and second form are:

Sustainable Development Projects	Belizean Studies
Quantitative Reasoning (applied mathematics)	Digital Art
Language Arts	Fine Art
Science and Technology	Physical Education
Maker	Seminars

In 2023, seminar options included swimming, robotics, DIY crafts, vertical gardening, chess, self defence, football, volleyball, dance and pastry making.

ISA uses a competency based assessment system. The acquisition of these core skills is evaluated using the Ministry of Education four point proficiency scale. The grades on this scale are Emerging, Developing, Achieving and Mastery.

Advisory Groups and Student Support

All students are placed in an advisory group. They do most of their lessons in this group. A teacher is the group advisor. Advisors monitor the attendance, social and emotional learning, academic progress and the wellbeing of the students in their group.

Itz'at STEAM Academy has a full time school counsellor. It also provides additional support for students struggling in literacy and numeracy.

Food and Beverages

Students are required to bring a full reusable water bottle each day. The school has various water stations where these can be topped up. Carbonated sodas and soft drinks may not be brought onto campus.

Lunch can be ordered from the school caterer or students can bring their own food. Since the school policy is to aim for zero single-use plastic, they should use re-usable containers. Students may not leave the campus to buy lunch and may not order lunch to be delivered.

Clothing

The Itz'at STEAM Academy uses a dress code that identifies students as members of the school community. The code is the same for both male and female students. On most days, students wear school branded polo shirts

and either khaki long pants or skirts. They wear an official school PE shirt and short pants for PE and other designated activities. Students may use any footwear that fully covers the foot and does not have heels greater than 2 inches in height. Limited amounts of jewellery and make-up may be worn and hair can be any length or style as long as it is neat and clean.

Fees and Other Annual Costs for 2024

The total costs of educating a first form student at Itz'at STEAM Academy is as follows:

Item	Estimated Cost	Notes
Fees	$600	$50 registration fee plus $550 annual tuition fee
School Clothing	$300	4 polo shirts and 2 PE shirts
Other Clothing	$300	For example, khaki pants, PE shorts, shoes. These are not provided by the school
Chromebooks	$250	All students need a chromebook for all classes. Unless provided free by the Ministry of Education, these will be available on a "rent to buy" basis under which parents will be asked to pay $250 per year until the cost of the chromebook has been met. Apart from chromebooks, students do not need any other electronic device.*
Equipment	$500	Computer peripherals, stationery, books, protective clothing, art supplies.
Activities	$300	For example, field trips, seminars,

Behaviour

Students are expected to follow the student code of conduct and school rules at all times they are on campus or participating in official school activities.

The school rules list infractions and the school's responses under four categories: mild, moderate, severe and extreme. Most mild and moderate infractions will be resolved by teachers working with students. Severe and extreme infractions are responded to by the school discipline committee, led by the vice principal.

Student Code of Conduct

As a student of Itz'at STEAM Academy I will:

1. Abide by all school rules on and off campus when engaging in a school related activity
2. Be a well-rounded responsible member of the school community.
3. Focus on my own strengths and challenges and seek to become the best possible version of myself.
4. Work positively to set and achieve individual and shared goals.
5. Manage my learning, physical wellbeing, time and personal belongings effectively.
6. Promote the safety and happiness of all, respecting their needs, aspirations and property.
7. Resolve conflicts peacefully and handle difficult situations with grace and poise.
8. Take steps to repair any harm I do to others.