ROOTCODE FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT

2024

rootcode FOUNDATION

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

In 2024, Rootcode Foundation continued its mission to bridge the digital divide by fostering technology education among underprivileged children in Sri Lanka. Mawathgama Kanishta Vidyalaya was selected as the beneficiary of our year-long initiative, following the success of our inaugural program. Throughout the year, the team at Rootcode conducted monthly ICT teaching sessions, equipping students with essential digital skills and hands-on experience. A state-of-the-art computer lab was established to provide continuous learning opportunities, while outstanding students were recognized through monthly scholarships. Beyond student engagement, we extended our impact to teachers, conducting specialized training sessions to enhance their ability to integrate technology into the curriculum. Additionally, industry awareness programs introduced students to real-world applications of technology, broadening their career aspirations. As we move forward, Rootcode Foundation remains dedicated to expanding its reach, empowering more young minds with the skills and knowledge to thrive in the modern digital age.

PROJECT METRICS

TOTAL STUDENTS REACHED

140+

TOTAL SESSIONS CONDUCTED

11

TOTAL HOURS SPENT

345+

TOTAL NUMBER OF HUMAN HOURS

950+

ROOTCODE: WHO ARE WE?

Rootcode, a leading global technology firm specializes in building world-class digital products, Artificial Intelligence and UX Design. With a mission rooted in empowering businesses by building great technology, Rootcode has enabled numerous clients worldwide to successfully launch impactful digital products in international markets. Established in 2014, Rootcode has swiftly emerged as a prominent entity in the global tech arena, serving a diverse clientele spanning over 30 industries worldwide.

OUR MISSION

In December 2022, Rootcode Foundation was officially launched with the core aim of empowering underprivileged children with technology education. Our journey commenced on January 14th, 2023, as we adopted our very first school.

We believe that real change requires time. Therefore, once we adopt a school, we commit an entire year to that school, conducting monthly full-day teaching sessions. These sessions are based on a comprehensive syllabus we have curated, covering a wide range of tech related topics spanning across the fields of IT, Programming, and AI. Rootcode Foundation is also dedicated to supporting the enhancement of IT infrastructure in schools through the establishment of computer labs and the provision of essential facilities.

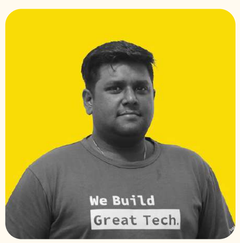
MESSAGE FROM THE LEADERS

This past year has been a testament to the incredible impact we can create through Rootcode Foundation. With unwavering dedication and enthusiasm, we have continued our mission to uplift and empower students in underserved communities, and the results speak for themselves. At Rootcode, we believe in the power of education and technology to break barriers and unlock new opportunities. We understand that access to both can change the trajectory of a life, and we are dedicated to bridging the gap for those who have been left behind. Our work through Rootcode Foundation is not just focused on teaching technical skills, but about inspiring young minds to dream big and giving them the tools they need to shape their own futures.

We are grateful to our Rootcode team for their dedication and tireless efforts, which have been instrumental in bringing our vision to life. Their passion and commitment continue to fuel our mission, and together, we look forward to expanding our impact even further in the years ahead.

Alagan Mahalingam
Founder & CEO
Rootcode

Mangala Perera
Partner & COO
Rootcode



Krishan Samarawickrama
President
Rootcode Foundation (2024)

PROJECT GOALS

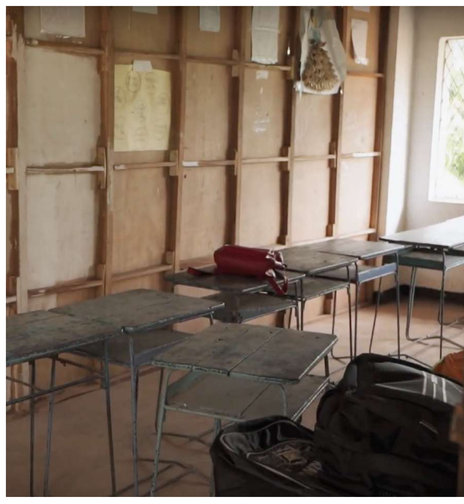
Our project aims to :

- **Cultivate Technological Literacy and Innovation:** Promote digital literacy and innovation among students.
- **Enhance Tech Education Quality by Empowering Educators:** Improve the quality of tech education by empowering teachers with essential technical skills and resources.
- **Provision of Scholarships for Academic Excellence:** Motivate students through scholarships, recognizing academic excellence and encouraging further learning.
- **Establish a Modern Learning Environment:** Establish an environment equipped with essential IT infrastructure to ensure students have access to requisite resources for comprehensive ICT education.

For a detailed breakdown of the project methodology, refer Annexure 1: Project Methodology.

SELECTED SCHOOL

Located in the outskirts of Homagama within the Western Province, Mawathgama Kanishta Vidyalaya caters to over 140+ students ranging from grades 1-11. The school operates as a mixed-gender institution and is supported by a dedicated academic staff of 20 teachers. The primary language of communication is Sinhala, with English being taught as a secondary language. Despite facing resource limitations, the school's teachers and parents remain deeply committed to providing quality education to their students. This dedication highlights the potential for lasting, positive change within the community, making Mawathgama Kanishta Vidyalaya the next ideal project for Rootcode Foundation.



TARGET COMMUNITY AND DEMOGRAPHIC DETAILS

STUDENT DISTRIBUTION BASED ON GRADES

GRADE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Grade 02	03	01	04
Grade 03	04	08	12
Grade 04	08	05	13
Grade 05	04	05	09
Grade 06	07	08	15
Grade 07	11	11	22
Grade 08	07	05	12
Grade 09	10	03	13
Grade 10	12	06	18
Grade 11	14	09	23

**Year = Grade*

STUDENTS' GENDER DISTRIBUTION:

- Male Students: 56.74%
- Female Students: 43.26%

ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY:

- Availability of devices at home
  - Desktop Computers: 7%
  - Laptops: 5%
  - Tabs: 11%
- Access to the internet at home
  - Fibre Connection: 0%
  - Wifi Routers: 2%
  - Mobile Data: 98%

PREVIOUS IT EDUCATION:

- Previous exposure to IT courses or training: 0%
- Participation in workshops, or competitions: 0%

CAREER ASPIRATIONS (BEFORE THE PROJECT):

- Future career goals within the IT sector: 0%
- Awareness of different IT career paths: 5%-10%

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY:

- Proficiency in mother tongue (Sinhala): 100%
- Proficiency in English: 10%-20%

IT SECTOR EMPLOYABILITY IN SRI LANKA IN 2024

The IT sector in Sri Lanka continues to be a vital contributor to the national economy, with steady growth in employment opportunities and a rising demand for skilled professionals. According to the SLASSCOM Employability Skills Survey 2024 conducted in collaboration with Deloitte, the industry has demonstrated resilience in the face of economic challenges, with companies actively hiring graduates and undergraduates to fill critical roles in the tech workforce.

Current Employment Landscape:

- The IT/BPM sector in Sri Lanka currently employs over 80,000 professionals, playing a key role in driving innovation and economic progress.
- Software Engineering remains the most in-demand profession, with 92% of IT companies actively employing professionals in this field.
- Other key roles in demand include Software Quality Assurance (65%), Business Analysis (59%), UI Engineering (54%), and Software Project Management (54%).
- The top skills expected from graduates include programming literacy (78%), software development lifecycle knowledge (45%), data science (38%), and cybersecurity literacy (30%).

Projected Demand for IT Professionals:

- Projections till 2026 reveal that Software Engineering (70%), Software Quality Assurance (51%), and Business Analysis (49%) will continue to be among the top hiring priorities for IT companies.
- Companies also anticipate a rising need for QA Automation and DevOps professionals, reflecting the industry's shift toward automation and cloud-based solutions.

Source: SLASSCOM Employability Skills Survey 2024

In conclusion, Sri Lanka’s IT sector is a rapidly expanding industry with vast career opportunities; justifying Rootcode Foundation’s efforts towards providing access to quality technology education, and fostering career aspirations in underserved communities.

ICT EDUCATION IN SRI LANKA

Access to Information and Communication Technology (ICT) education remains a crucial factor in bridging the digital divide in Sri Lanka. While recent years have seen advancements in computer literacy and access to technology, significant disparities still persist between urban and rural areas, limiting opportunities for students in underserved communities.

COMPUTER LITERACY RATE

Computer Literacy Rate refers to the percentage of the country's population between the ages 5 - 69 who are capable of using a computer on their own. As of 2023, Sri Lanka's computer literacy rate stands at 39%, reflecting a 1% increase from 2022. While urban areas report a significantly higher literacy rate of 52.9%, rural communities lag behind at 37.1%. It is evident that, although there has been some progress in computer literacy nationwide, the disparity in access to digital education remains a challenge for students in less-developed regions.

Source: Computer Literacy Statistics 2022, 2023- Department of Census and Statistics, Sri Lanka

HOUSEHOLD COMPUTER OWNERSHIP

Household computer ownership is a key determinant of digital accessibility outside the classroom. In 2023, 22.2% of Sri Lankan households owned a desktop or laptop computer, compared to 22.5% in 2022, marking a 0.3% decrease over the past year. Moreover, the gap between urban and rural areas remains evident, with 37.2% of urban households owning a computer versus only 19.6% of households owning a computer in rural communities. This limited access restricts opportunities for self-learning, online education, and digital skill development for students in underprivileged areas.

Source: Computer Literacy Statistics 2022, 2023- Department of Census and Statistics, Sri Lanka

SCHOOL SELECTION

The school selection for Rootcode Foundation's 2024 core project was carried out following our established methodology. (Refer Annexure 1: Project Methodology: Pages 47-49)

1. **Identification of Potential Schools:**
   - 15 schools were identified as potential candidates for the project through references of Rootcoders and the academic staff at Sri Siddhartha Kanishta Vidyalaya, the school adopted under the 2023 project.

2. **Shortlisting & Visiting Schools:**
   - 5 schools were shortlisted through the candidate pool, with on-site visits conducted at each of them in order to identify the most suitable school for the core project.

3. Examination of Schools & Final Decision Making:

Following an in-depth evaluation, Mawathgama Kanishta Vidylaya was selected as the beneficiary of the core project, fulfilling the following criteria:

- The Cooperativeness and Commitment of the Principal and Academic Staff

Through initial conversations held during our on-site visit to Mawathgama Kanishta Vidyalaya, it became evident that the school's principal and teachers showed high levels of enthusiasm and commitment towards our proposed plans for the year. Their willingness to collaborate, coupled with their eagerness to adopt new teaching methods, assured us that they would actively support and sustain our initiatives.

- The Capabilities of the School to Sustain the Carried-Out Initiatives

Our evaluation also revealed that the school possessed a sufficient level of resources and organizational structure necessary to continue the programs we introduce. The presence of a highly motivated ICT teacher and the school's commitment towards teaching the G.C.E. ICT syllabus reflected a strong foundation that could effectively carry forward the skills and knowledge imparted through our initiatives.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Our journey at Mawathgama Kanishta Vidyalaya was not merely about introducing technology but about sparking curiosity and a love for innovation among students and teachers alike. From the very beginning, our approach extended beyond conventional classroom teaching, striving to create an enriching educational experience that went beyond textbooks and lectures. With careful planning and dedicated execution, we remained steadfast in our mission to make a lasting impact on the school community.

1. ICT TEACHING SESSIONS

As one of the core initiatives of our project, we carry out ICT teaching sessions through out the year. These sessions are conducted according to our pre-established strategy. (Refer Annexure 1: Project Methodology: Pages 46-48)

However, we are always looking to tailor and adapt our approach to better meet the needs of the students. With this in mind, we introduced a key change to this year's strategy:

- **Shifting to Full-day Monthly School Visits**

This year, we introduced a significant change to our ICT teaching session strategy to improve the learning experience for students. Instead of conducting half-day biweekly visits, we transitioned to full-day monthly school visits. This change allowed us to create more immersive and engaging sessions, giving students extended time to grasp complex concepts and participate in hands-on activities.

CURRICULUM FOR THE YEAR

The curriculum taught to the students during the monthly teaching sessions was designed to cover a wide range of IT-related topics. The curriculum was especially crafted by the team to impart as much knowledge to the students as possible within the time constraints present, all while ensuring that the content taught aligns with each age group's level of comprehension. Through the forthcoming content, we have provided a detailed breakdown of all the areas covered through our curriculum.

1. Introduction to Computers and Basic IT Skills

- Fundamentals of computer hardware, software, and operating systems.
- Hands-on exercises in computer usage, troubleshooting, and file management.
- Basics of multimedia and system navigation.

2. Introduction to the Internet and Digital Literacy

- Understanding how the internet works and safe browsing practices.
- Online privacy, data protection, and recognizing cyber threats.
- Practical exercises on implementing security settings and identifying phishing scams.

3. Introduction to Word Processing and Spreadsheets

- Creating and formatting documents using Microsoft Word or Google Docs.
- Introduction to spreadsheets, data entry, and basic calculations.
- Practical applications such as budget creation and data organization.

4. Introduction to Multimedia and Presentation Skills

- Basics of image, audio, and video editing.
- Effective slide creation and public speaking techniques.
- Hands-on practice in developing and delivering presentations.

5. Basic Coding Concepts

- Introduction to coding through Scratch programming.
- Hands-on exercises in simple coding logic and project-based learning.
- Collaborative coding projects to build problem-solving skills.

6. Web Design Basics

- Introduction to HTML and building a simple web page.
- Applying CSS for styling and responsive designs.
- Practical application by creating and enhancing a webpage.

7. Introduction to Robotics and Automation

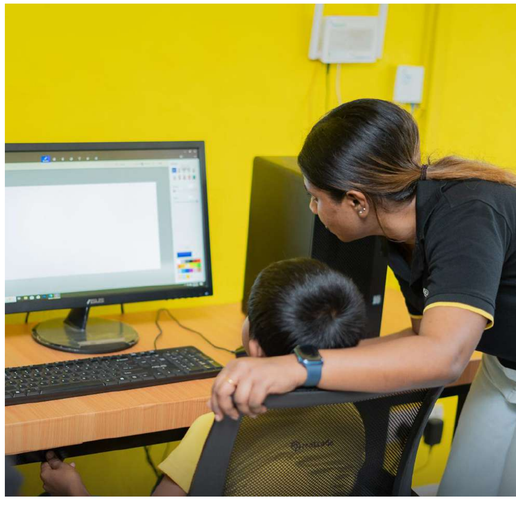
- Fundamentals of robotics and programming robots.
- Applications of automation in real-world scenarios.
- Hands-on automation and robotics projects.

8. IT Projects and Career Guidance

- Collaborative IT project development for real-world problem-solving.
- Career exploration, resume building, and interview preparation.
- Practical sessions, including mock interviews and career planning.

2. BUILDING A COMPUTER LAB

This year, we successfully established a dedicated computer lab at Mawathgama Kanishta Vidyalaya, significantly enhancing the school's ICT learning environment. The lab is fully equipped with 13 desktop computers, along with all necessary furniture and fittings. To further support the school’s ICT education, we also facilitated a new internet connection for the school. Recognizing the importance of uninterrupted access to online resources, we have also committed to covering the total internet cost for a two-year period. This initiative aims to ensure that students and teachers can seamlessly access educational content and stay connected with the broader digital world.



3. TEACHER TRAINING WORKSHOPS

To support the successful adoption of digital learning, we organized dedicated teacher training sessions at Mawathgama Kanishta Vidyalaya. These workshops covered essential topics such as e-learning platforms, productivity software, email communication, and internet navigation. The training was designed to be practical, allowing teachers to confidently apply these skills in their daily lessons. By equipping educators with these capabilities, we aimed to foster an ICT-ready teaching environment that extends the benefits of our project well into the future.

4. SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

During the 2024 project, Rootcode Foundation awarded a total of 108 scholarships to exceptional students in the ICT teaching program. These scholarships, in the form of monthly cash awards, were distributed over a period of 12 months. They served as both a recognition of academic excellence and a means of financial support to help students continue their educational journey.

Funded jointly by Rootcode and generous contributions from Rootcoders, this initiative reflects a shared commitment to empowering the next generation of tech talent. In total, Rs. 1,080,000 was allocated toward the scholarship program, with Rs. 300,000 being contributed by Rootcode and Rs. 780,000 being donated by our own Rootcoders.

5. ROBOTICS AND IOT DEMONSTRATION SESSION

As part of our commitment to fostering innovation and hands-on learning, we conducted an interactive Robotics and IoT Demonstration Session to introduce students to emerging technologies. This session was carried out using STEM Learning Kits obtained through Magicbit. By exposing students to cutting-edge technology, the session aligned with our goal of equipping the next generation with the skills and knowledge required to thrive in a rapidly digitalizing world.

6. A SPECIAL SESSION FEATURING ONE OF OUR CLIENTS

We had the privilege of hosting a special session with Kujtim Salihu, one of our valued customers from Sweden. His visit was an incredible opportunity for students to hear firsthand about what the tech industry has to offer on an international scale.

Kujtim shared his inspiring story, reflecting on his childhood, dreams, and the path that led him to the tech industry. He spoke about the challenges he faced, the lessons he learned, and how technology became a driving force in his life. His words encouraged students to believe in their potential and recognize the opportunities that lie ahead in the world of technology.

To ensure meaningful engagement, we facilitated two-way translation, allowing students to fully grasp Kujtim's insights while also enabling them to share their own thoughts and aspirations with him. We hope this experience left a lasting impact, motivating students to aspire for greater goals and embrace the endless possibilities that technology education can offer.

7. ROOTCODE HQ OFFICE VISIT

A group of students and teachers from Mawathgama Kanishta Vidyalaya got the opportunity to visit the Rootcode Headquarters in Colombo. This visit provided them with an immersive experience into the world of technology and innovation, offering valuable insights into the industry. The day was filled with interactive sessions and engaging activities, designed to inspire students and spark their curiosity about the IT field. A highlight of the visit was a session led by Mangala on “What We Do at Rootcode”, where students gained an understanding of the work we do and how technology is shaping the future. Through real-world examples, they learned about the endless possibilities that tech education can unlock.

Beyond the learning sessions, students also got a chance to explore our workspace, interact with Rootcoders, and experience the dynamic environment of a tech company firsthand. This visit not only broadened their perspective on career opportunities in IT but also motivated them to pursue knowledge and dream bigger in the field of technology.


Build Great Tech.

8. OTHER INTERACTIVE ACTIVITIES

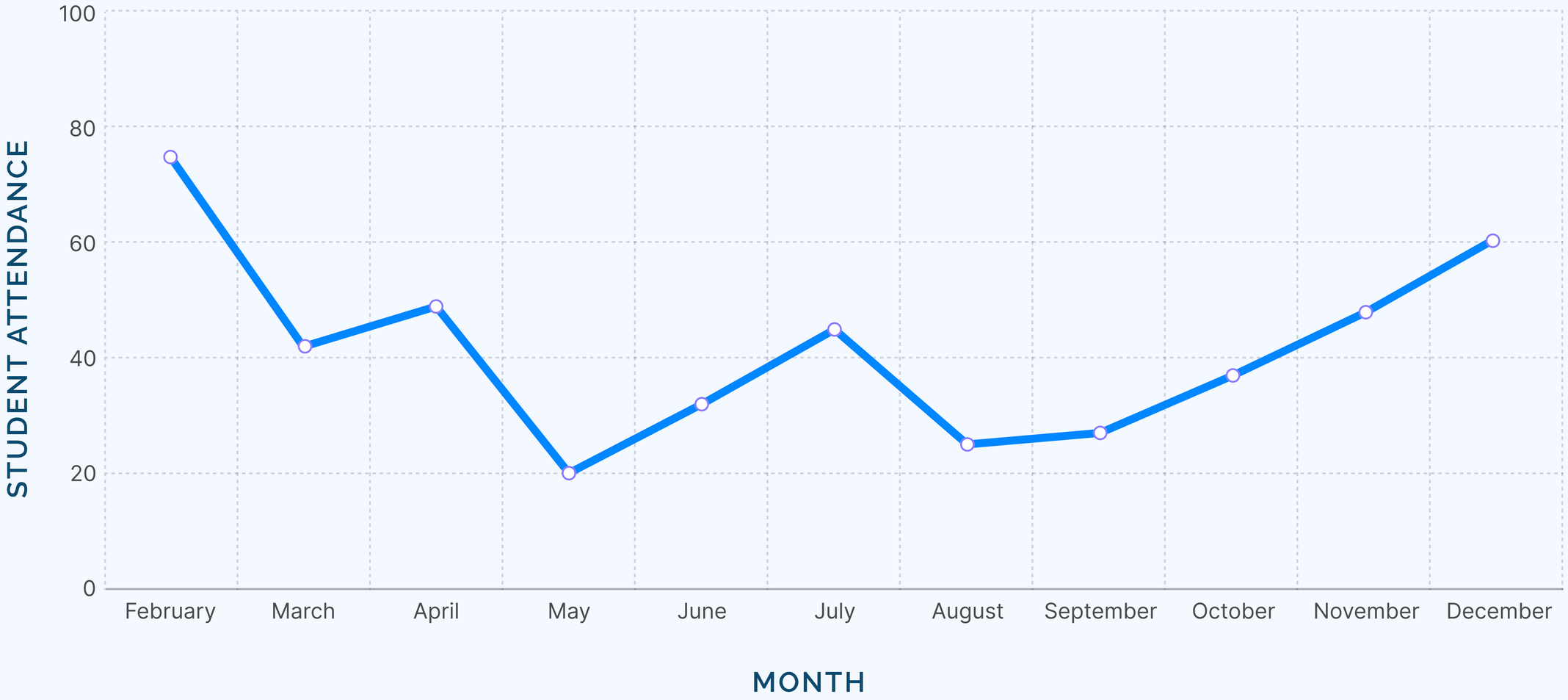
In addition to the formal curriculum, efforts were made to cultivate a dynamic and enjoyable learning environment through interactive sessions and engaging activities. From friendly cricket matches to energetic musical performances, students were given opportunities for holistic growth. By blending education with entertainment and practical experiences, the goal was to create a learning journey that was both enriching and inspiring, fostering a positive and engaging atmosphere in the school.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

STUDENTS' ATTENDANCE

A key focus of our educational initiatives has been promoting student engagement and active participation in every session. Encouraging students to fully immerse themselves in the learning process has played a crucial role in fostering an interactive and dynamic environment. The accompanying chart, which highlights attendance trends, reflects our efforts to maintain strong student involvement. By consistently reinforcing the importance and practicality of these sessions, we have successfully nurtured a culture of ongoing enthusiasm and commitment to learning. This dedication to active participation not only enriches the educational experience but also drives the overall success of our initiatives.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

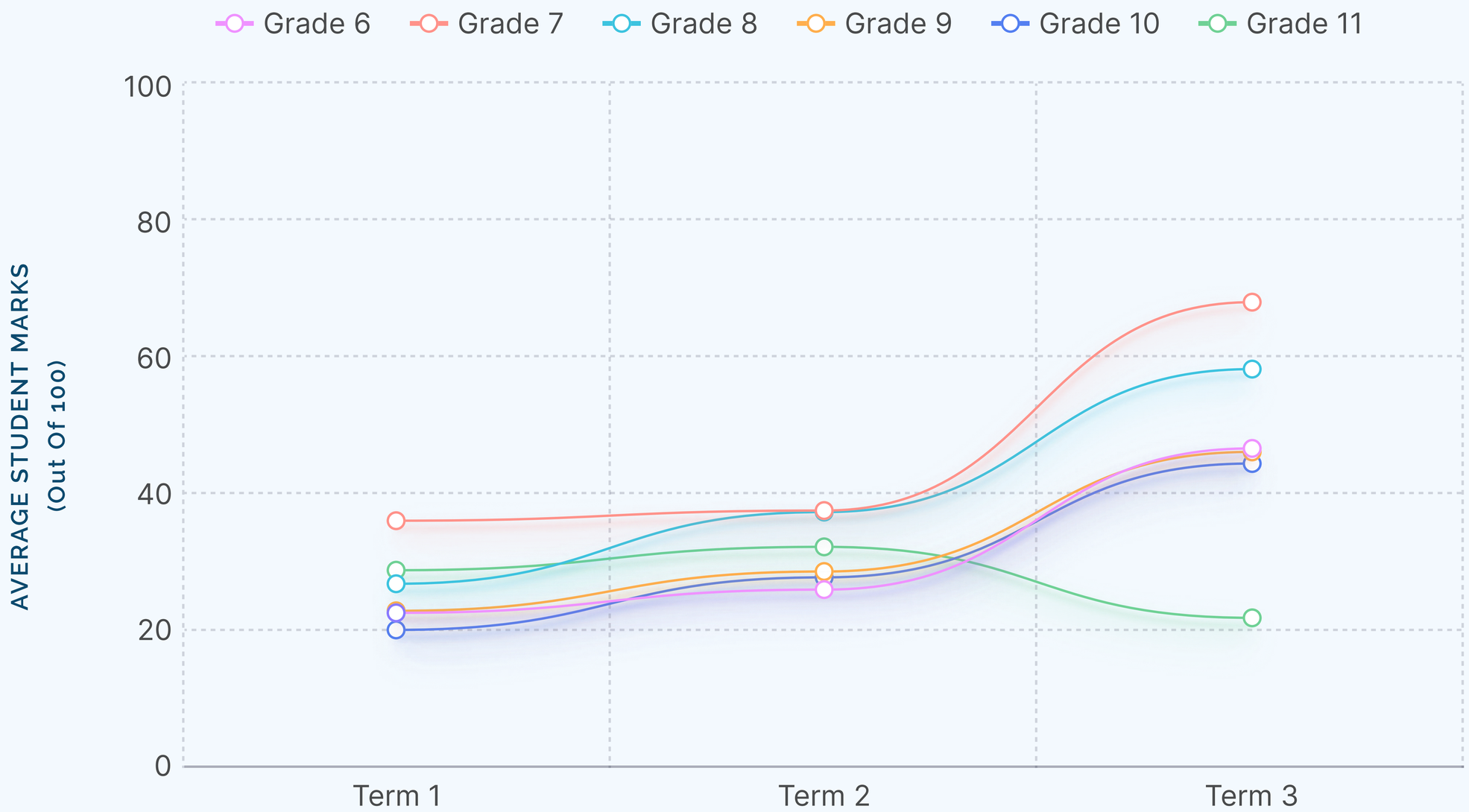


IMPACT ASSESSMENT

STUDENTS' PROGRESS BASED ON GRADES

Continuous assessment has been essential in tracking students' progress throughout the academic year. By systematically evaluating assignments and tests, we have been able to calculate marks, offering a clear overview of each student's academic journey. The charts provided visually depict the overall progress of students across all grades throughout the year. This ongoing assessment not only enables us to monitor individual achievements but also guides our efforts to refine educational strategies and support systems, ensuring that every student receives the personalized guidance necessary for their academic success.

OVERALL STUDENTS' PROGRESS



TESTIMONIALS AND SPOTLIGHTS

KAVINDU KAUSHALYA

GRADE 11 STUDENT

Over the course of an entire year, the team at Rootcode visited us once a month, to teach us technology education through not merely theoretical, but practical hands-on sessions. I think I speak for everyone when I say that these sessions are something that all of us look forward to throughout the entire month. After every visit, we're all counting the days till the next time the team at Rootcode comes to visit us. On top of everything, they have left their mark on our school for years to come by building a computer lab from which all the students can further learn technology education. I'm really sad that we will not be having the monthly teaching sessions anymore and I will greatly miss the brothers and sisters from Rootcode who taught us so much over the past year. At the same time, I know their journey has to continue. So, whoever the next group of students of this programme are, all I can say are they are a very lucky bunch.

TESTIMONIALS AND SPOTLIGHTS

MR. NELSON SENARATHNA

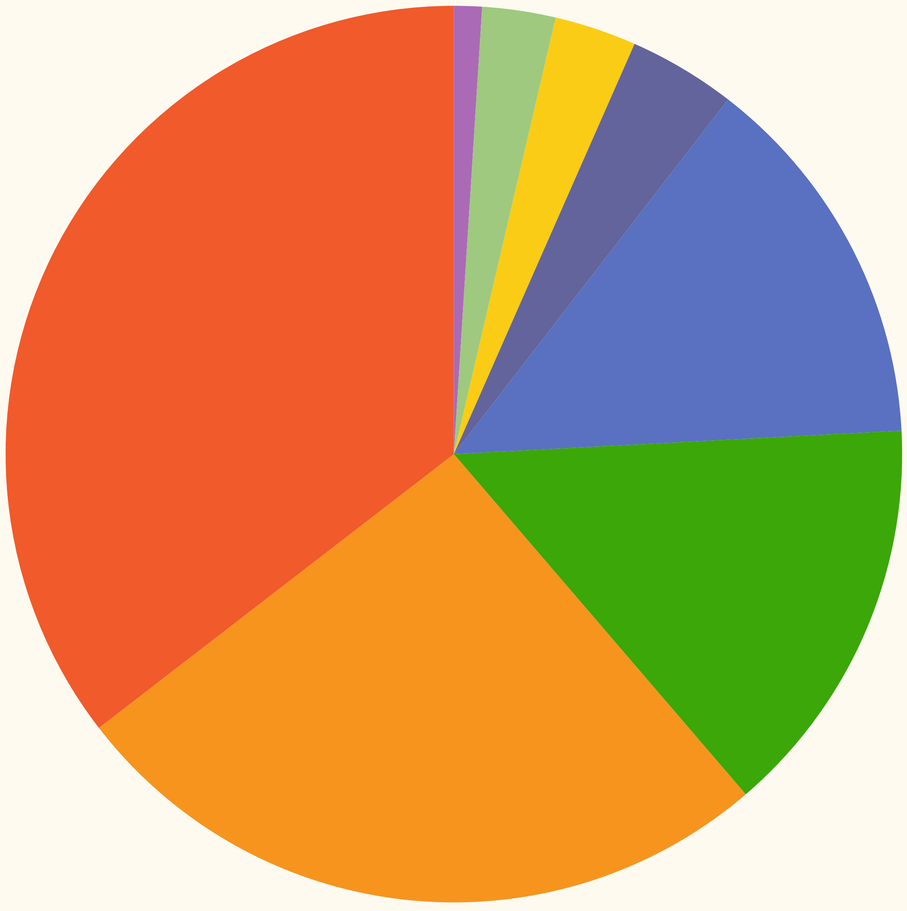
THE PRINCIPAL OF MAWATHGAMA KANISHTA VIDYALAYA

Rootcode Foundation has undoubtedly left an everlasting mark on our school and students. I'm honestly grateful for the level of effort the team put in to teaching the students and uplifting the level of technology education here at this school. If someone were to walk in during one of their teaching sessions, they would undoubtedly believe that they are trained, professional teachers. I believe that's a testament to the hard work, dedication, effort, and preparation they put in for each and every session. While the team at Rootcode Foundation will be moving onto helping another school from now onwards, I will always be keeping up with their journey, wishing them the best, and helping them in whatever capacity possible.

BUDGET

We have provided a detailed overview of Rootcode Foundation’s financials, underscoring our commitment to transparency and efficient fund management. Each allocation has been thoughtfully directed to ensure that our efforts have the greatest possible impact, driving meaningful and lasting change within the communities we serve.

BREAKDOWN OF THE BUDGET (IN LKR)



INTERNET & EQUIPMENT	30,645.42
PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOS	80,500.00
LIGHTING/SOUNDS/SCREEN	90,000.00
SCHOOL VISITS	118,015.45
LEARNING PACKS & GIFTS	416,925.00
FOOD & REFRESHMENTS	443,111.03
COMPUTER LAB	786,711.50
SCHOLARSHIPS	1,080,000.00

TOTAL VALUE

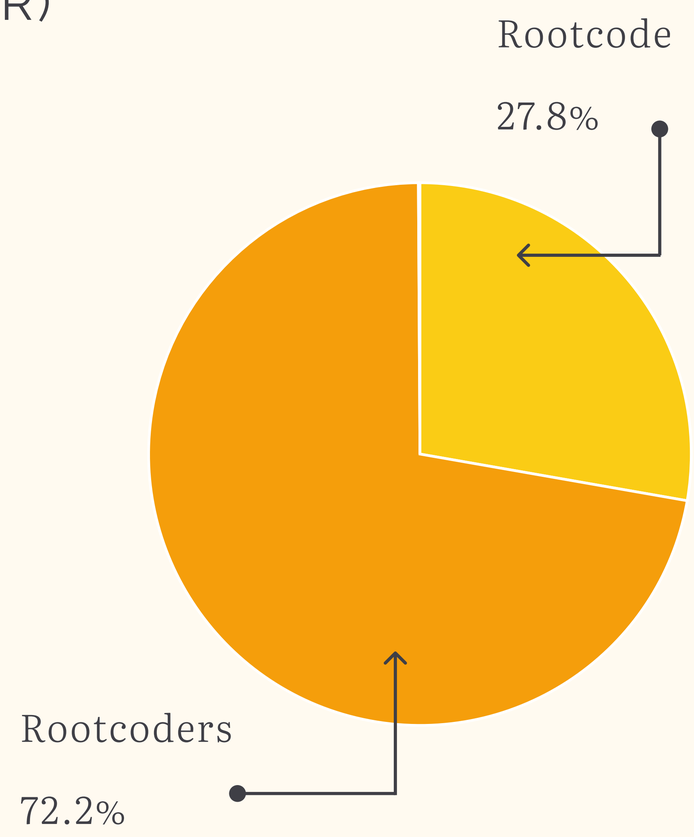
3,045,908.40

BREAKDOWN OF THE BUDGET (IN LKR)

COMPUTER LAB	**786,711.50**
Furniture	180,750.00
Computers	350,000.00
Infrastructure	193,120.00
Equipment & Materials	62,841.50
SCHOOL VISITS	**118,015.45**
Transport	99,900.25
Stationary	18,115.20
INTERNET & EQUIPMENT	**30,645.42**
Internet bill for 2024 (2,846.43*4)	11,385.72
Internet bill for 2025 (2,846.43*12)	18,000.00
Router	1,259.70
SCHOLARSHIPS	**1,080,000.00**
Company Contribution	300,000.00
Rootcoders' Contribution	780,000.00
FOOD & REFRESHMENTS	**443,111.03**
PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOS	**80,500.00**
LEARNING PACKS & GIFTS	**416,925.00**
LIGHTING/SOUNDS/SCREEN	**90,000.00**

CONTRIBUTION FOR THE SCHOLARSHIPS (IN LKR)

Recognizing the importance of equal access to education, Rootcoders took the initiative to fund scholarships, ensuring that bright and deserving students receive the support they need. Their contributions go beyond financial aid, reflecting a genuine commitment to fostering talent and creating opportunities for growth. By investing in students' academic journeys, they are helping to cultivate a culture of learning and empowerment. Through their generosity, Rootcode Foundation continues to drive meaningful change, opening doors for the next generation to thrive.



- Rootcode - 300,000.00
- Rootcoders - 780,000.00
- Total Allocation - 1,080,000.00

ROOTCODE FOUNDATION - 2025 PROJECT

Get ready for our 2025 project as we expand our initiatives to Koralaima Soyza Vidyalaya, Polgasowita. Stay tuned for more updates in the upcoming annual report as we continue to make strides in our mission of empowering underprivileged children in Sri Lanka with technology education.

ROOTCODE FOUNDATION COMMITTEE 2024

PRESEIDENT

Krishan Samarawickrama

ADVISERS

Alagan Mahalingam

Mangala Perera

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Adeepa Bandara

Milinda Sandaruwan

Pabashani Herath

Sanduni Wijerathne

Tiran Hettiarachchi

Beyond those mentioned, every member of our Rootcode team played a crucial role in steering this impact initiative towards success.

EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE

With heartfelt gratitude, we extend our appreciation to all those who contributed to the success of the 2024 project. We express our deepest thanks to the school principal and staff for their commitment and collaborative efforts.

We extend our sincere thanks to the supportive parents who entrusted us with their children's education and to the students whose eagerness to learn fueled our efforts; we are immensely grateful.

And finally, to our Rootcode team, your unwavering dedication and hard work formed the foundation of our accomplishments. Thank you to everyone involved for the invaluable contributions, commitment and passion, which proved to be a transformative journey in the lives of the students.

ANNEXURE 1 : PROJECT METHODOLOGY

At Rootcode Foundation, we believe that technology education has the power to transform lives. Our mission is to bridge the digital divide by equipping students in underprivileged schools with the knowledge and skills necessary for the modern world. This document outlines the structured methodology we follow to ensure the effective selection of partner schools and the successful implementation of our initiatives.

Our approach is rooted in a commitment to sustainability, collaboration, and impact-driven decision-making. By conducting thorough assessments, engaging with key stakeholders, and designing tailored learning experiences, we aim to create a long-term, meaningful difference in the communities we serve. From selecting the right schools to implementing comprehensive ICT education programs, each step of our methodology reflects our dedication to fostering innovation and curiosity among students and educators alike.

This methodology document serves as a guide to understanding our strategic approach to school selection, project execution, and long-term sustainability.

METHODOLOGY FOR SCHOOL SELECTION

Ensuring the success of educational initiatives begins with selecting the right partner schools. Our approach to school selection involves a structured methodology aimed at identifying schools that align closely with our project's objectives and have the potential for sustainable impact.

1. Identification of Potential Schools:

- Compile a list of potential schools based on existing contacts, and known information in collaboration with Rootcoders.
- Conduct in-depth analyses of the unique needs and obstacles faced by schools in disadvantaged regions, ensuring a targeted selection process.

2. Shortlisting Schools:

- Apply established criteria to shortlist schools that closely align the project requirements.
- Conduct a thorough review of documentation, engage in discussions with school administrators, and assess current ICT capabilities and challenges.

3. Contact and Visit Shortlisted Schools:

- Initiate communication with the shortlisted schools to express interest and gather additional information.
- Conduct phone interviews or virtual meetings to understand the school's perspective and needs.
- Schedule on-site visits for first-hand assessments of infrastructure, learning environment, and community dynamics.

4. Examination of Schools:

- Conduct in-depth examinations of ICT facilities during on-site visits based on the following key criteria:
    - The Cooperativeness and Commitment of the Principal and Academic Staff
    - The Capabilities of the School to Sustain the Carried-Out Initiatives
- Evaluate readiness of educators and students to embrace technology, and the overall socio-economic context.
- Engage with key stakeholders, including teachers, students, and community members, to gain insights into unique challenges and strengths related to tech education.

5. Final Decision Making:

- Consolidate gathered information and assess each school against established criteria.
- Make the final decision based on a holistic evaluation, considering the alignment of the school's needs with the project objectives and potential for sustainable impact.
- Communicate the decision to the selected school and initiate the collaborative process for implementing ICT education support initiatives.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Our annual commitment towards the school we adopt is not merely about introducing technology but about sparking curiosity and a love for innovation among students and teachers alike. From the very beginning, our approach extended beyond conventional classroom teaching, striving to create an enriching educational experience that went beyond textbooks and lectures. With careful planning and dedicated execution, we remain steadfast in our mission to make a lasting impact on the school community.

1. TEACHING SESSIONS

The ICT teaching sessions are conducted through a carefully crafted and collaborative strategy:

(a) Formation of Specialized Groups:

- To ensure personalized attention and effective teaching, smaller groups are formed, focusing on specific grades.
- Each group has a designated leader selected based on expertise and passion, fostering a cohesive and supportive learning environment.

(b) Volunteer Engagement:

- Rootcoders, driven by a shared mission, dedicate their weekends to visiting the school and imparting knowledge.
- Volunteers are assigned to smaller-groups based on their skills and preferences, fostering a sense of ownership and commitment.

(c) Designing Curriculum and Study Materials:

- Extensive research is conducted to develop a curriculum that aligns with the learning needs and interests of each grade level.
- Covering everything from fundamental principles to advanced applications, every lesson is structured to be interactive, engaging, and practical.
- The curriculum covers a wide range of topics spanning the fields of IT, coding, web design, and robotics. (For a detailed breakdown of the latest curriculum, refer pages 20-24 of the 2024 Annual Report.)

(d) Annual Planning:

- A comprehensive annual plan is mapped out, scheduling monthly full-day school visits while accounting for public and company holidays.
- This structured framework ensures regular engagement and continuous progress tracking throughout the academic year.

(e) Creation of Learning Materials:

- A variety of learning resources, including quizzes, assessments, and presentations, are created to align with the relevant syllabi.
- Preparation sessions are organized prior to each school visit, where Rootcoders would personally curate and craft the required learning materials based on their individual areas of expertise.
- Great emphasis is placed on making these materials both educational and captivating, fostering curiosity and enthusiasm among students.

(f) Monthly School Visits

- Teaching sessions begin with fundamental concepts and gradually advance to more complex topics, ensuring all students progress at their own pace.
- Hands-on activities play a crucial role in familiarizing students with computers, peripherals, and essential software applications.
- Each monthly visit focuses on specific subject areas and modules, providing a structured and comprehensive tech education experience.

(g) Continuous Assessment:

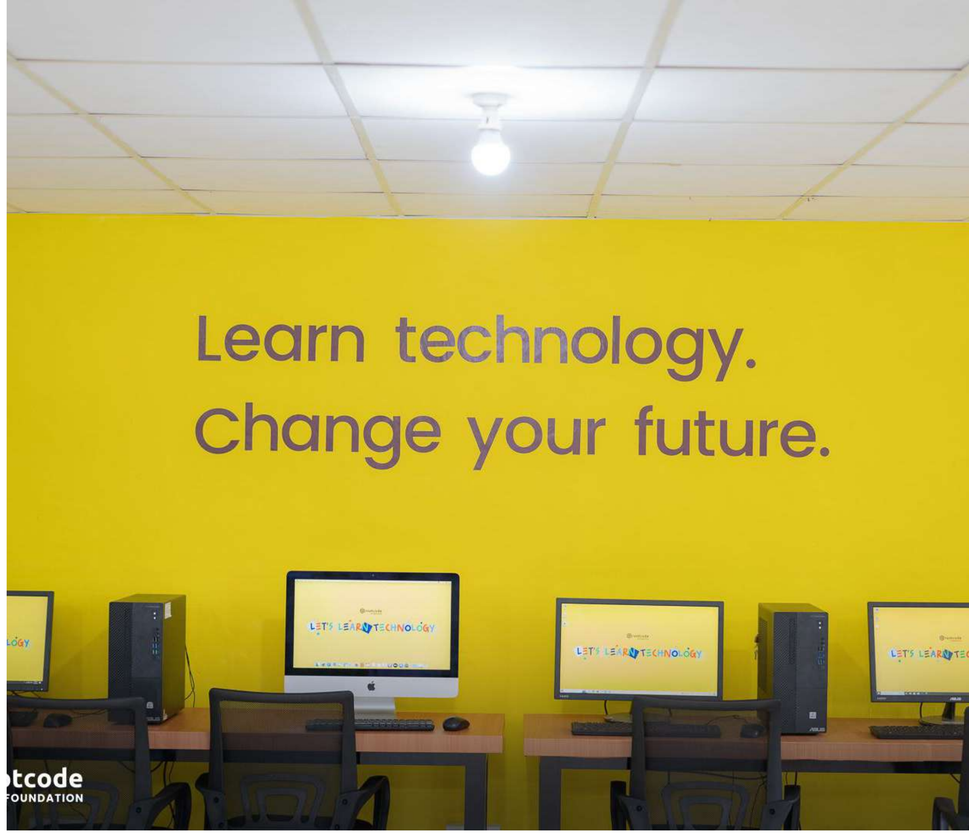
- A continuous evaluation system is established, incorporating quizzes, tests, and regular assessments to monitor student progress effectively.
- Constructive feedback and personalized support is provided to bridge learning gaps, ensuring that every student has the opportunity to thrive.

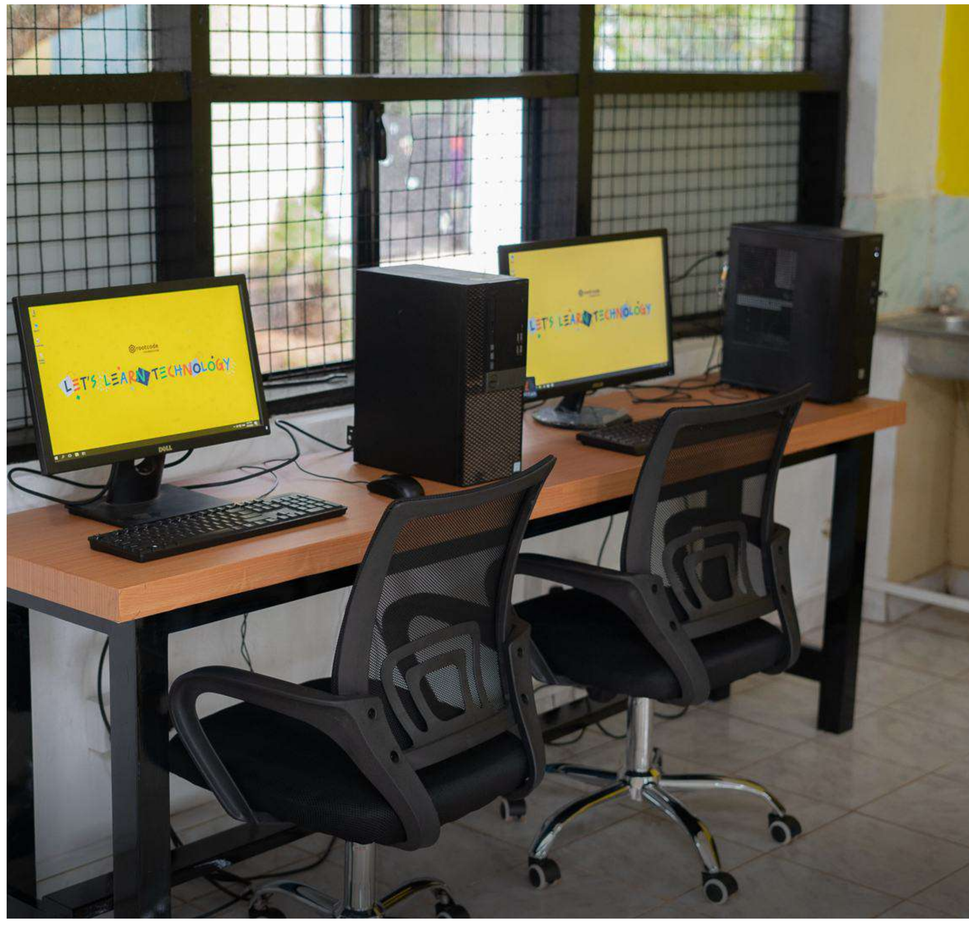
2. BUILDING A COMPUTER LAB

As a key initiative of each project, we establish a fully-functional computer lab to ensure students have access to essential digital learning resources.

We assess the selected school's existing facilities and identify a suitable space for the new computer lab. Once the designated area is identified, our Rootcoders take an active role in preparing the space, including cleaning, painting, and making all necessary renovations. Our team’s hands-on involvement extends beyond technical setup, reflecting our commitment to creating a space where students feel motivated and inspired to learn technology education.

Through this initiative, we aim to provide students with the resources they need to develop vital ICT skills, opening doors to new learning opportunities and future career prospects.





3. TEACHER TRAINING WORKSHOPS

To ensure the long-term success of our project, we conduct teacher training sessions aimed at enhancing educators' digital skills. These sessions are designed to build teachers' confidence in using technology, enabling them to integrate ICT tools effectively in their classrooms and continue digital learning beyond our project timeline.

4. SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

To recognize academic excellence and provide meaningful support for continuous learning, monthly scholarships in the form of cash awards are awarded to outstanding students in our ICT teaching program. These scholarships, funded by both the company and our Rootcoders, are designed not only to reward achievement but also to encourage and assist promising students in their educational pursuits.

Driven by a shared commitment to giving back, Rootcoders generously contribute to these scholarships, demonstrating their dedication to education. Their support goes beyond financial assistance and reflects a deep belief in the power of education to transform lives. Through their generosity, the impact of Rootcode Foundation extends beyond technology education, creating valuable opportunities for students to reach their full potential.

STEPS TAKEN TO ENSURE THE SUSTAINABILITY OF THE PROJECT

Support Maintenance of the Computer Lab:

- Maintenance activities for the computer lab and its associated facilities are systematically conducted through scheduled visits throughout the year following the project's conclusion. This approach guarantees the ongoing sustainability of the infrastructure facilities through regular check-ups and timely repairs. By prioritizing upkeep, the optimal performance and durability of the computer lab's facilities can be preserved in a more effective manner.

Teacher Training Programs:

- Comprehensive teacher training programs are conducted to empower teachers with the necessary skills for effective ICT integration. This initiative supports the sustainability of the project by ensuring that teachers are well equipped with the foundational ICT knowledge to continue guiding the students.

rootcode FOUNDATION

On a mission to help underprivileged students in Sri Lanka to learn technology and change their lives.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