

The Personal Learning Device (PLD) Initiative



Briefing for Parents

21 December 2023

A PRESENTATION BY
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SINGAPORE

The National Digital Literacy Programme and the PLD Initiative

An Overview

The National Digital Literacy Programme (NDLP)

1. The NDLP was launched in March 2020 to help students **strengthen their digital literacy and acquire digital skills** needed to navigate an increasingly digitalised world.
2. Under the NDLP, every secondary school student will **own a school-prescribed Personal Learning Device (PLD)**. Students may use funds from their Edusave Account to pay for the PLD.

Intended Outcomes of the PLD Initiative

The use of the PLD for teaching and learning aims to:



Support the Development of Digital Literacy



Support Self-Directed and Collaborative Learning



Enhance Teaching and Learning

Learning with a PLD

Pasir Ris Secondary School

Note: The information contained in this deck of slides is customised according to our school's context and the device selected.

How will your child/ward use the PLD?

At PRSS, your child/ward will be using the PLDs for:

- ❑ **active and greater personalised learning** [*primary platforms: SLS & Google Suit of tools*]
- ❑ **collaborative learning in and out of the classroom**
- ❑ **inter-disciplinary project-based learning (IPW)**
- ❑ **authentic learning tasks** that require research, digital creation and collaborative learning
- ❑ **development of Digital Literacies** (*e.g. coding and computational thinking*)
- ❑ **acquiring skills in ICT productivity tools** (*e.g. OneNote, Google Docs, Sheets, Slides, Calendar*)

Supporting Students in the Safe and Effective Use of the Devices

Supporting Students in the Safe and Effective Use of the Devices

The school has measures in place to enable a safer digital environment for learning with the use of PLDs, e.g.

- ✓ School rules on digital device use
- ✓ Classroom management and routines
- ✓ Cyber Wellness Education in CCE
- ✓ Partnering parents/guardians to support students in their use of technology for learning
- ✓ Device Management Application (DMA) to support a safer digital environment for learning



| | | |
|----------|--|---|
| C | harge PLD Fully ✓ Charge your PLD fully before coming to school |  |
| H | ighlight Issues ✓ Seek help from ICT Champs ✓ Inform Teachers if necessary ✓ Approach ICT Office for unresolved issues |  |
| A | lert in Safeguarding PLD & Belongings ✓ Do not leave your PLD unattended ✓ Carry your PLD in a suitable laptop carrier ✓ Protect your PLD from potential hazards |  |
| M | anage WiFi, Calendar & Online Lessons ✓ Check that WiFi is connected to pdlp@SSOE in school ✓ Actively learn and be self-directed ✓ Keep track of tasks in Google Calendar ✓ Complete assignments and activities promptly |  |
| P | rotect Passwords ✓ Remember your passwords and keep them safe ✓ Attempt self-reset of passwords first ✓ Inform your Teacher / ICT Office after 2 failed logins |  |
| S | reendown Fully & Pay Attention ✓ Lower your screens and listen carefully when your Teacher is giving instructions or going through lessons |  |
| | When I am not in class with my PLD, have I secured it in my PDLP locker? Is my PLD ready for my next lesson? |  |

Cyber Wellness Education in CCE



Educating students on Cyber Wellness

MOE has made significant changes to the Character and Citizenship Education (CCE) curriculum. Cyber Wellness lessons will feature significantly in these lessons.

The school also has strategies to enable school-wide implementation of CCE. These include:

- ✓ Foregrounding Cyber Wellness lessons before issuing PLDs
- ✓ Empowering of Cyber Wellness Champs to promote the safe and responsible use of the internet to their peers
- ✓ Reinforcing of Cyber Wellness messages through educational talks and Cyber Wellness Fest for Sec 1s
- ✓ Student advocacy through poster design for the Sec 2 cohort
- ✓ Sharing of Cyber Wellness Parent tips on school website



Parents'/Guardians' Role

- We would like to partner parents/guardians so that that students are well supported in their use of technology for learning.
- As parents/guardians, you can help in the following ways:
 - ✓ **Model good digital habits** for your child/ward e.g. parents/guardians not using devices during family meals.
 - ✓ **Know your child/ward** well, and **have conversations** with your child/ward about safe and responsible use of technology.
 - ✓ **Set ground rules** for internet/device usage.
 - ✓ **Guide your child/ward** to use productivity tools using his/her PLD, to organise information and simplify tasks for efficiency.

Role of the DMA in Providing a Safer Digital Environment for Learning

DMA Installation

- Your child's/ward's PLD will be installed with a **Device Management Application (DMA)** to provide a safer digital environment for learning.
- DMA will be installed after the collection of the device. Students will be guided on the installation.
- The installation of DMA **applies to both devices purchased through the school and any student-owned devices** that parents/guardians opt for the student to use in lieu of the school-prescribed PLD.
- The DMA will be **funded by MOE** and will be **uninstalled** from the device **when your child/ward graduates/leaves the school.**

In-School DMA Settings (Default)

Schools will determine DMA settings for **in-school use**. As a default, these settings will continue to be in place after school as well:

- MOE and the school will set the level of web content filtering, including filtering out objectionable content or content that may not be conducive to teaching and learning (e.g. social media, pornography, gambling, or websites containing extremist content)
- Students will be able to use the device from **6 a.m. to 11 p.m.** daily
- The school will determine the apps and programs to be installed to support teaching and learning

Providing Parents/Guardians with Greater Choice of After-School DMA Parent Options

The following tables outline the different levels of restrictions, controls, and monitoring for the different DMA options after school hours.

| Default | Option A | Option B |
|---|---|--|
| <p>In-school DMA settings will continue after school hours</p> | <p>Parents/Guardians can modify the DMA settings after school hours</p> | <p>Parents/Guardians can choose to disable DMA after school hours</p> |
| <p>For parents/guardians who want their child’s/ward’s use of the device to be restricted only to teaching and learning, and prefer to leave it to the school to decide on DMA settings after school hours.</p> | <p>For parents/guardians who want more leeway over the use of the device, and prefer to take charge of the level of restrictions for their child’s/ward’s use of the device after school hours.</p> | <p>For parents/guardians who do not want their child’s/ward’s use of the device to be regulated by DMA after school.</p> |

- Having default school settings continue after school hours is the best option for parents/guardians who prefer not to, or do not feel ready to manage their child’s/ward’s device use on their own.
- Parents/guardians can request to change their choice of DMA settings at any time.

Providing Parents/Guardians with Greater Choice of After-School DMA Parent Options

| | Default | Option A | Option B |
|--|---|---|-----------------------------|
| Protecting students from objectionable content | MOE/school sets level of web content filtering | Parents/Guardians can apply additional content filtering | No content filtering |
| Reduce distractions from learning through control of applications | Parents/Guardians and students are <u>unable</u> to install additional applications | Parents/Guardians and/or students can install additional applications after school hours, but these applications are disabled during school hours | |
| Limit screen time | School sets hours during which students are able to use the device online | Parents/Guardians can modify the amount of screen time | No control over screen time |

Providing Parents/Guardians with Greater Choice of After-School DMA Parent Options

| | Default | Option A | Option B |
|---|---|----------|---|
| Parent/guardian account | Provided to allow monitoring of PLD activities after school hours | | Not provided |
| Monitor students' cyber activities | Parents/Guardians can track their child's/ward's browser history after school hours | | <p>Parents/Guardians will not be able to monitor or control their child's/ward's use of the device through the DMA after school hours</p> <p>No data* will be collected during use of PLD after school hours</p> |

Deciding on the Choice of After-School DMA Parent Option

Parents/guardians may wish to consider the following questions before deciding on which After-School DMA Parent Option is best for your child/ward.

1. Child's/ward's current device usage habits

- How much time does my child/ward spend on their device?
- How well is my child/ward able to regulate their device usage on their own?
- Does my child/ward get easily distracted while doing online learning?

2. Parents'/Guardians' involvement

- How confident and familiar am I with managing my child's/ward's cyber wellness?
- Are there existing routines and open conversations on the use of the Internet at home?
- Am I aware of how to prevent different types of cyber threats that my child/ward might face?

Additional Resources for Parents

To support you in keeping your child/ward safe online, you may refer to these additional resources:

- Parent Handbooks (I) and (II) on Learning with a Personal Learning Device (shared by the school)
- Parent Kit on Cyber Wellness for Your Child (<https://go.gov.sg/moe-cyber-wellness>)
- Parent Kit on Raising a Digitally Smart Child (<https://go.gov.sg/moe-raising-a-digitally-smart-child>)
- Parenting with MOE: Instagram Live session on Raising Digitally Smart Kids (<https://go.gov.sg/iglive-raising-digitally-smart-kids>)
- Schoolbag article 'Keeping our teens safe online' (<https://www.schoolbag.edu.sg/story/keeping-our-teens-safe-online>)
- MOE Cyber Wellness Programme (<https://www.moe.gov.sg/education-in-sg/our-programmes/cyber-wellness>)
- Media Literacy Council's Resources for Parents (<https://go.gov.sg/better-internet-sg>)
- National Library's Learning & Information Literacy Resources (<https://sure.nlb.gov.sg/>)
- TOUCH Community Services (<https://help123.sg>)

Device and Funding Information

Pasir Ris Secondary School's PLD

REFRESHED MODEL



**Intel N100 processor Quad-core,
8GB RAM, 64GB Storage,
11.6" Touch Screen**

The school will be using the **Acer R756TN Chromebook** for teaching and learning.

Total cost of the bundle includes 3-year warranty and 3-year insurance with GST: **\$553.72**

Benefits of the Chromebook:

- ✓ Economical
- ✓ Long battery life per charge
- ✓ Lightweight (1.35 kg)
- ✓ Rugged Durability
- ✓ Convertible Laptop
- ✓ Antimicrobial Touch Screen
- ✓ EMR Pen (built-in stylus)

PLD Bundle

| Device Bundle includes |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Acer R756TN Chromebook <input type="checkbox"/> Power Adaptor, Mouse, Active Stylus, Carrying Case <p><i>*Students will need a earpiece / headset with mic to be purchased separately</i></p> |

Your child’s/ward’s PLD will come with the **Enhanced Device Bundle** which includes:

- **3-year warranty and 3-year insurance**

| Insurance Coverage | Claimable |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire • Lightning • Power Surges • Accidental e.g water spillage, drop etc • Theft due to forcible entry • Robbery <p><i>* Accidental loss will not be covered by insurance.</i></p> | <p>2 repairs or 1 replacement (3-year insurance)</p> |

*The price of the PLD Bundle may appear to be higher than similar models on the retail market as the price of those devices usually does not include extended warranty and insurance coverage.

Funding Support for Singapore Citizen (SC) Students

- **The cost of the device bundle can be paid using your child's/ward's Edusave account**, after setting aside provision for payment of miscellaneous fees.
- To ensure the affordability of devices, MOE has provided Edusave top-ups of \$200 in 2020 to 2022, and \$300 in 2023, to all eligible Singaporean students in primary and secondary schools.
- This is on top of the annual \$290 credited into the Edusave account for Secondary School students and \$230 for Primary School students.

Funding Support for Singapore Citizen (SC) Students

- For SC students who are on MOE Financial Assistance Scheme or whose family's monthly income meets the following criteria:

Gross Household Income (GHI) \leq \$3,000, or

Per Capita Income (PCI) \leq \$750

MOE will subsidise 50% of device bundle cost or \$350, whichever is lower.

- The remaining amount will be payable from the students' Edusave account. If there is insufficient balance in the students' Edusave account for the remaining amount, MOE will provide additional subsidy so that the cash out-of-pocket (OOP) is \$0.

Funding Scenario: Student A (SC)



Acer R756TN
\$553.72

| Student A (SC on MOE FAS) GHI ≤ \$3,000 or PCI ≤ \$750 | |
|---|--|
| Device Bundle Cost | \$553.72 |
| Student Subsidy | \$276.90 (rounded up to nearest 10 cents) |
| Available Edusave Balance <i>(After setting aside for misc fees)</i> | \$200.00 before deduction \$200.00 will be deducted |
| Additional Subsidy | \$76.82 |
| Cash Out-of-pocket | \$0.00 |

For more details on financial assistance, please approach the school.
Each student would receive a personalised bill subsequently.

Funding Support for Singapore Citizen (SC) Students

- For SC students whose family's monthly income is:

$\$3,000 < \text{Gross Household Income (GHI)} \leq \$4,400$, or

$\$750 < \text{Per Capita Income (PCI)} \leq \$1,100$

MOE will subsidise 30% of device bundle cost or \$200, whichever is lower.

- The remaining amount will be payable from the students' Edusave account. If there is insufficient balance in the students' Edusave account for the remaining amount, MOE will provide additional subsidy so that the cash out-of-pocket (OOP) is not more than \$50.

Funding Scenario: Student B (SC)



Acer R756TN
\$553.72

| Student B (Non MOE-FAS SC from lower income family) \$3,000 < GHI ≤ \$4,400 or \$750 < PCI ≤ \$1,100 | |
|---|--|
| Device Bundle Cost | \$553.72 |
| Student Subsidy | \$116.20 (rounded up to nearest 10 cents) |
| Available Edusave Balance <i>(After setting aside for misc fees)</i> | \$200.00 before deduction \$200.00 will be deducted |
| Additional Subsidy | \$187.52 |
| Cash Out-of-pocket | \$50.00 |

For more details on financial assistance, please approach the school.
Each student would receive a personalised bill subsequently.

Funding Support for Singapore Citizen (SC) Students

- SC students whose family's monthly Gross Household Income (GHI) > \$4,400 or monthly Per Capita Income (PCI) > \$1,100, no subsidy will be provided. Parents/Guardians can use their child's/ward's Edusave or cash to defray the device bundle cost.
- **The entire cost of the PLD may be fully funded using Edusave if there is sufficient balance inside.**

What's Next?

PLD Procurement

| Time Frame | Activity |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 22 Dec 2023 – 5 Jan 2024 | <p>Parents with Singpass can submit the Parental Consent for the Purchase of Personal Learning Device (PLD) via the FormSG link: https://go.gov.sg/pdlpadmin</p> <p>Parents without access to Singpass can submit their consent via <u>hardcopy</u>, which includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intent to Purchase Personal Learning Device (PLD); • Standing Order for Use of Edusave Account; and • Authorisation Form. <p><i>Hardcopy versions of the form can be obtained from the school General Office</i></p> |
| Upon receiving School Bill | Parent/Guardian to make payment via Giro/PayNow (<i>where necessary if <u>not</u> using Edusave</i>) |
| Feb 2024 (TBC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection of devices by students • Parents to indicate choice of after-school DMA settings |

Collection of Devices

Your child/ward will be collecting his/her device in school **from mid-February 2024.**

If you would like to verify the condition of the device during collection with your child/ward:

- You may arrange to collect the device **at the vendor's service/collection centre*** or appoint an adult proxy to do so.
- Your child/ward would need to bring the device to school and arrange for the school's IT department to install the DMA.

Please approach the school for further advice or clarification if you would like to make this arrangement.

*** Parents/Guardians (or adult proxy) will not be able to collect the PLD from the school.**

Important Contacts / Helplines

| To access / find out more about... | Contact / Helpline |
|--|---|
| This deck of slides | https://www.pasirrissec.moe.edu.sg/signature-programmes/National-Digital-Literacy-Programme-NDLP/ |
| Edusave balance | 6260 0777 |
| Financial assistance (via School General Office) | 6501 0800 |
| School ICT Helpdesk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Troubleshooting of device issues • Solve connectivity issues • Collection of devices to be sent for repairs | 6501 0891 |

Blended Learning Day

- Fortnightly BL Days** on even week Wednesdays in 2024. (*Date of 1st BL Day TBC*)
- Sec 1 students who require a device for BL Day may loan from ICT Office in the interim before delivery of the PLD

During Week of BL Day

- Students can loan the device from Mondays of the BL Day week
- Students must return the loaned device by Thursdays of the same week
- One-time parental consent required

Opening of Comp Lab to support in-school learning during BL Days

Students may inform HTs if they would like to return to school

Some students may be invited back for BL Days

FAQs

Frequently Asked Question #1

“Can my child use an existing portable computing device (e.g. Windows laptop, Apple iPad, etc.) at home as his/her PLD?”

The school-prescribed PLD in PRSS is the **Chromebook**.

Laptops or tablets not operating on the Chrome O.S. will not be allowed.

Students and parents without an existing Chromebook are strongly encouraged to purchase the PLD through the school-facilitated PLD procurement.

Frequently Asked Question #2

***“Is the installation of the DMA compulsory?
Must it be installed even if we are using our own Chromebook?”***

All PLDs (i.e. Chromebooks) which are used in school for learning must be installed with the DMA, which includes content filtering features to restrict access and exposure to inappropriate sites.

Parents may have the option to remove the DMA after-school hours (i.e. after-school DMA Option B) although this practice is highly discouraged.

More information about the DMA and the after-school DMA settings will be shared during the rollout of the PLD.

Frequently Asked Question #3

“Is there free Wi-Fi for students to connect their other personal gadgets and handphones in school?”

Yes, students may use the school Wi-Fi for their personal devices.

The PLD (Chromebook) will be connected automatically while other devices will require a user login and password.

The details for the login will be shared with students during the Sec 1 Orientation.