Personal Learning Device (PLD) Initiative

Briefing for Parents

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 **make digital learning inclusive** by **equipping students with the digital skills** to be future-ready.

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

Students' Experiences

Learning with a PLD
Yishun 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 Yishun Secondary School, your child/ward will be using the PLDs for

- Active learning in all subjects

- Collaborative learning with teachers and classmates

- Self-directed learning anytime, anywhere

- Home based learning

- Basic ICT courses and use of digital tools

Supporting Students in the Safe and Effective Use of the Devices

Cyber Wellness Concerns Identified by International Studies

Harmful Online Content

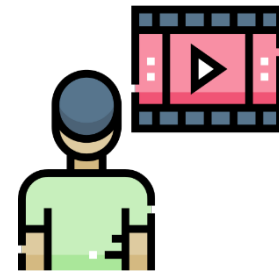50% of Singaporean teenagers are exposed to cyber threats and 28% of them are exposed to violent content.

(COSI, 2020)

Distraction from Learning

72% of teens feel compelled to immediately respond to texts, social posts and notifications.

(Kimball & Cohen, 2019)

Excessive Screen Time

Teens who don't sleep enough report higher levels of depressive symptoms than well-rested peers (31% vs. 12%).

(Kimball & Cohen, 2019)

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.

- Classroom management and routines

- Educating students on Cyber Wellness

- Partnering parents/guardians to support students in their use of technology for learning

- Device Management Application (DMA)

Classroom Management and Routines

The school will be sharing with our students a PLD User Handbook to guide our students in using their PLD.

Information is found here:
https://sites.google.com/moe.edu.sg/ysspdlp/home

Cyber Wellness Education

Educating students on Cyber Wellness

MOE has made significant changes to the Character and Citizenship Education (CCE). Cyber Wellness lessons will feature significantly in the CCE2021 lessons.

Topics covered in the Cyber Wellness lessons include:

- Cyber Use
- Cyber Identity
- Cyber Relationships
- Cyber Citizenship
- Cyber Ethics

Cyber Wellness Education

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

- Assembly programme
- Selected student ambassador training

In addition, through various programmes in school, students will continue to learn to be **respectful, safe, and responsible users of technology**.

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.
  - Encourage your child/ward to use productivity tools using his/her PLD, to organise information and simplify tasks for efficiency.

Parents' Voices: In Conversation on Students' Use of PLDs for Learning

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

Device Management Application Installation

- Your child's/ward's PLD will be installed with a Device Management Application (DMA) to provide a safer digital environment for learning.

- Installation of the DMA will be performed after the collection of the device. Students will be guided on the installation.

- This applies to both devices purchased through the school and student-owned devices.

- The DMA will **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 **6:00 am to 11:00 pm** daily

- The school will determine the apps and programs to be installed to support teaching and learning

Providing Parents/Guardians with Greater Choice for After-School PLD Use

The school will provide parents/guardians with more information on exercising the options.

Default	Option A	Option B
In-school DMA settings will continue after school hours	**Parents/Guardians can modify the DMA settings after school hours**	**Parents/Guardians can choose to disable DMA after school hours**
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.	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.	For parents/guardians who do not want their child's/ward's use of the device to be regulated by DMA after school.

- 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 for After-School PLD Use

	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 **unable** 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

*Screen time limits set by the school will override parents'/guardians' settings during school hours.

Providing Parents/Guardians with Greater Choice for After-School PLD Use

	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		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 No data* will be collected during use of PLD after school hours

Deciding on the Choice of After-School DMA Option

Parents/guardians may wish to consider the following questions before deciding on the choice of after-school DMA option which is best for your child's/ward's learning.

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?

Have a conversation with your child/ward to talk about which setting is best for your child's/ward's learning.

Data Collected by the DMA

The DMA does **NOT** collect any of the following data:

- Login IDs and passwords entered into websites or into any applications

- Actions performed (e.g. posts, online comments, items added to a shopping cart, etc.) when visiting websites and using apps

- Documents and photos stored in the PLDs

- PLD location

- Webcam videos and microphone recordings

Data Collected and Access Rights

- All user data collected through the DMA will be stored in secure servers managed by appointed DMA Vendors with stringent access controls and audit trials implemented. The DMA solutions used are cloud-based Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) solutions and are trusted solutions that have been operating for many years. They have also been subject to regular security review and assessment by independent reviewers.

- MOE has assessed and concluded that the DMA solutions have sufficient security robustness to ensure data collected are properly stored and protected. MOE will also subject the DMA Vendors to regular audit on the security of the system based on tender requirements.

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/programmes/cyber-wellness/)

- Media Literacy Council (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

Yishun Secondary School's PLD

Intel Celeron N4500; 8GB RAM; 64GB eMMC; 11.6" display

The school will be using the

Acer 11" Chromebook Convertible R753TN for teaching and learning.

Estimated Total cost of the bundle includes 3-year warranty and 3-year insurance with GST: $**564.80.**

Yishun Secondary School's PLD

Intel Celeron N4500; 8GB RAM; 64GB eMMC; 11.6" display

The school chose the device because of:

- Portable

- > 10 hours battery life

- Multi-touchscreen

- Built-in stylus (inking function)

- Video recording

- Google Apps are integrated into ChromeBooks

PLD Bundle

Device Bundle includes
• Acer 11" Chromebook Convertible R753TN • Power Adaptor, Mouse, Stylus, Carrier Bag • USB Type-C earpiece • Insurance and Warranty

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

- 3-year warranty and 3-year insurance
- 2 repairs or 1 replacement claim

*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.

Insurance Coverage

The package includes a 3-year warranty, and 3-year insurance which includes:

Insurance Coverage	Claimable
• Fire • Lightning • Power Surges • Accidental e.g water spillage, drop etc • Theft due to forcible entry • Robbery * Accidental loss will not be covered by insurance.	2 repairs or 1 replacement (3-year insurance)

Technical Support for Students' Devices

Technical support will be provided to students through:

- Service Desk set up in school during breaks and after school
    - Troubleshooting of device issues
    - Solve connectivity issues
    - Collection of devices to be sent for repairs
- Acer's service centres
    - Repair of devices (hardware issues)

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 second-tier miscellaneous fees.

- To ensure the affordability of devices, MOE has provided Edusave top-ups in 2020 to 2022 ($200 in each year) to all eligible SC 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) ≤ $3,000, or

  Per Capita Income (PCI) ≤ $750

  the school 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, school will provide additional subsidy so that the cash out-of-pocket (OOP) is $0.

Funding Scenario: Student A (SC)

11" Acer Chromebook $564.80

Student A (SC on MOE FAS) GHI ≤ $3,000 or PCI ≤ $750	
Device Bundle Cost	**$564.80**
Student Subsidy	**$282.40**
Available Edusave Balance *(After setting aside for 2nd-tier misc fees)*	$200.00 before deduction $200.00 will be deducted
Additional Subsidy	**$82.40**
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 < Gross Household Income (GHI) ≤ $4,400, or

    $750 < Per Capita Income (PCI) ≤ $1,100

    the school 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, school will provide additional subsidy so that the cash out-of-pocket (OOP) is not more than $50.

Funding Scenario: Student B (SC)

11" Acer Chromebook $564.80

Student B (Non MOE-FAS SC from lower income family) $3,000 < GHI ≤ $4,400 or $750 < PCI ≤ $1,100	
Device Bundle Cost	**$564.80**
Student Subsidy	**$169.40 (rounded up to nearest 10 cents)***
Available Edusave Balance *(After setting aside for 2nd-tier misc fees)*	$200.00 before deduction $200.00 will be deducted
Additional Subsidy	**$145.40**
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.

Funding Scenario: Student C (SC)

11" Acer Chromebook $564.80

Student C (Not Eligible for Subsidy) GHI > $4,400 or PCI > $1,100	
Device Bundle Cost	**$564.80**
Available Edusave Balance *(After setting aside for 2nd-tier misc fees)*	$200.00 before deduction $200.00 will be deducted
Cash Out-of-pocket	**$364.80**

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

Funding Support for Non-Singapore Citizen Students

- Permanent residents (PR) and international students (IS) who need support could apply for subsidies, particularly those whose Gross Household Income (GHI) is below $4400 or Per Capita Income (PCI)[#] is below $1100.

- For more details, please approach the school.

#PCI is Gross Household Income divided by the number of household members.

What's Next?

For Singapore Citizens (SC) Students

Time Frame	Activity
16 January 2023	Submit Letter to Parents for Procurement which includes the following annexes: • Intent to purchase • Use of Edusave A letter with instructions on how to procure the PLD through the school will be sent out.
March/April 2023	Collection of devices by students

For Permanent Residents / International Students

Time Frame	Activity
16 January 2023	Submit Letter to Parents for Procurement which includes the following annex: • Intent to purchase A letter with instructions on how to procure the PLD through the school will be sent out.
By 15 February 2023	Parent/Guardian to make payment via Giro/PayNow/Cheque/Cash.
March/April 2023	Collection of devices by students

Letter to Parents for Procurement

Parents with Singpass can access the Letter to Parents for Procurement to indicate your consent via the following link:

https://go.gov.sg/pdlpadmin

* Parents/Guardians without Singpass can request for the hardcopy letter via your child's/ward's form teacher.

Collection of Devices

Your child/ward will be collecting his/her device in school **by end of March/April 2023.**

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.   44

Important Contacts / Helplines

To access / find out more about…	Contact / Helpline
This deck of slides	https://sites.google.com/moe.edu.sg/ysspdlp/home
Edusave balance	6260 0777
Financial assistance	6876 7129

Thank you

Ministry of Education

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