

The 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 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

Meridian 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 Meridian Secondary School, your child/ward will be using the PLD for...

1. Active Learning in all subjects (SLS lessons and learning resources, Video conferencing lessons, online quizzes and submission of work)
2. Creation of digital products using ICT tools in co-curriculum areas such as Applied Learning Programme, VIA, Learn for Life Programme
3. Communication and collaboration with peers and the community (sharing of artefacts and online SLS discussions with guidance from teachers)
4. Independent and self-directed learning (Productivity Lesson in SLS, completing guided tasks and self-initiated tasks online)

**Supporting Students in the Safe
and Effective Use of the Devices**

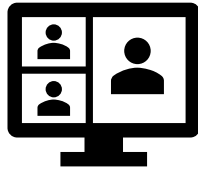
Cyber Wellness Concerns Identified by Local Studies/Surveys



**Harmful Online
Content**



**Gaming and
associated risks**



Cyberbullying



**Excessive social
media use**

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

Desired Student Outcomes

1. Joyful Learners who are **motivated and engaged in learning**
(passionate and intrinsically motivated)
 - a. Be curious and eager to learn new knowledge
 - b. Be open and willing to embrace challenges
 - c. Pursue and sustain passion
2. Creative Thinkers who **can innovate and solve problems**
(self-directed and independent)
 - a. Take ownership over learning
 - b. Plan monitor and regulate learning
 - c. Search, access, acquire information
 - d. Extract and evaluate information, continually refine understanding
3. Compassionate Leaders who **can empathise and support others**
(effective in communication and collaboration)
 - a. Show respect for self and others
 - b. Practise safe and responsible use of technology

School Rules on Digital Device Use

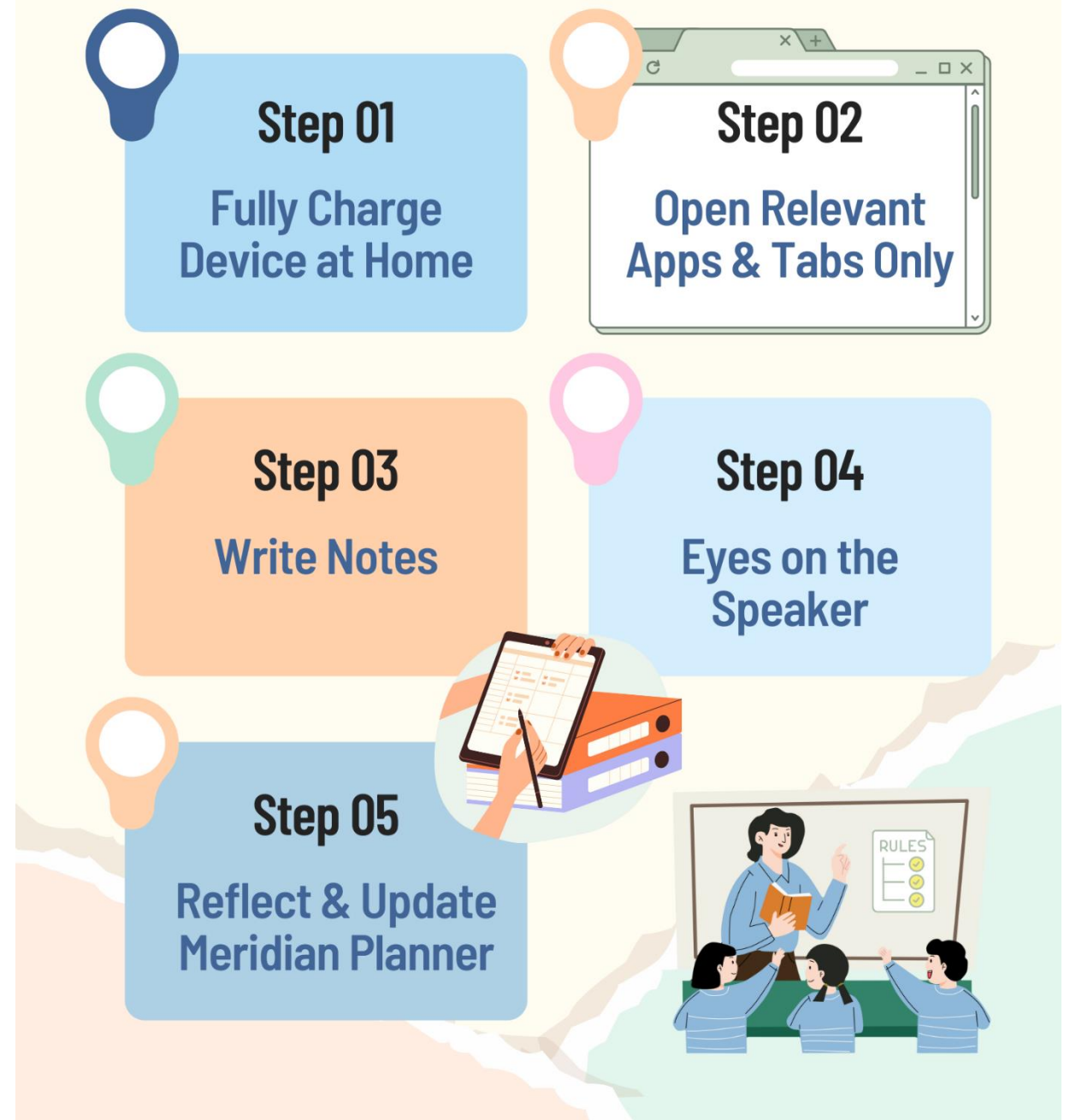
- To provide clarity for the use of the Chromebooks in and out of school.

Chromebook General Rules

Only for Learning Purposes	Responsible Use	Charging of Chromebooks
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Chromebook is meant for Learning Purposes during curriculum hours activities or official school activities.2) It should not be used for recreational, leisurely or personal use that does not aid in learning.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Do not leave Chromebook unattended at all times.2) Lock Chromebook in lockers during recess, PE or CCA.3) No Chromebooks are allowed during Recess or in the canteen.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Strictly no charging of Chromebooks in the school. If Chromebook runs out of battery, you may have to seek permission from Subject Teachers. Exceptions may be given on a case-by-case basis if there is a valid reason.

Classroom Management and Routines

- To develop responsibility and good habits in the use of Chromebooks.
- To ensure that the Chromebooks are kept in good condition for subsequent use.



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 broad topics covered in Cyber Wellness are:

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



Through CW education in CCE, students learn to be respectful, safe, and responsible users of technology and be a positive peer influence, advocating for the good of the community online.

These are the key messages which students will understand:

- a Embrace the affordances of technology while maintaining a balanced lifestyle between online and offline activities
- b Be a safe and responsible user of technology and maintain a positive online presence
- c Be responsible for personal well-being in the cyberspace



CW in CCE focuses on the positive physical and psychological well-being of students as they navigate the cyber world. It involves an understanding of the norms of responsible behaviour regarding technology use as well as knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes on how to protect oneself and other users in the cyber world. Topics in CCE Lessons include:

Cyber Use

- maintain a healthy balance of their online and offline activities (i.e. excessive use of technology)

Cyber Identity

- develop a healthy online identity
- express oneself online appropriately to be authentic and achieve congruence between online and offline identity

Cyber Relationships

- develop safe, respectful, and meaningful online relationships (e.g. address cyber bullying, build positive relationships)

Cyber Citizenship

- understand the cyber world and make informed choices about participation in online activities (e.g. accessing online content with malicious intent/inappropriate websites with content that is violent, sexual or harmful in nature)
- recognise and protect oneself and others from online risks associated with people who may have malicious intent (e.g. hackers, scammers, online predators)
- have a positive presence in the cyber community and be a positive influence

Cyber Ethics

- create and share online content in a responsible manner (e.g. not sharing content from questionable sources and not propagating deliberate online falsehoods)
- respect copyright

Cyber Wellness Education in CCE

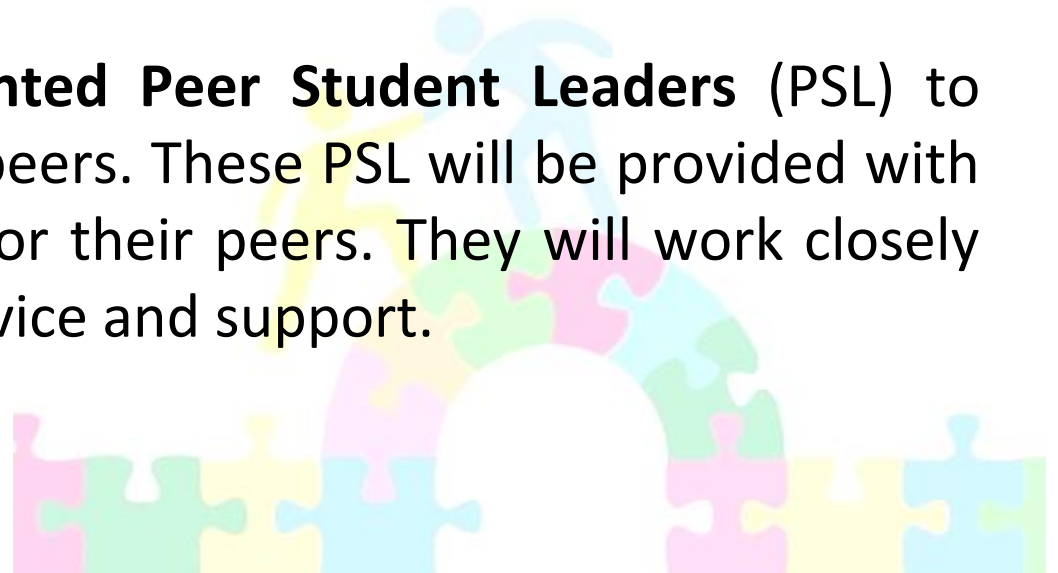
Throughout their Secondary School education, students will learn about:

- Balanced use and self control
- Cyber bullying and Upstanding
- How to be a positive influence online
- How to handle online falsehoods
- How to manage social media (peer influence, emotions, echo chambers)
- Online relationship and Online safety (grooming, self disclosure)
- To respect intellectual property rights

Cyber Wellness Programmes

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

- All students will be taught basic **peer-helping skills**. They will learn to look out for their peers.
- **Each class will also have four appointed Peer Student Leaders (PSL)** to watch out for signs of distress in their peers. These PSL will be provided with more training to provide the support for their peers. They will work closely with their Form Teachers for further advice and support.



Parents'/Guardians' Role

- We would like to partner parents/guardians so 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.
 - Discuss and come up with ground rules for internet/device usage that both your child/ward and you can agree with.
 - Encourage 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

- The Chromebook Device Management Application (DMA) solution, Lightspeed Systems®, will be installed on all students' devices to provide a safe learning experience for students. The DMA will be funded by MOE.
- 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 uninstalled from the device when students graduate or leave 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 objectionable content or content that may not be conducive to teaching and learning (e.g. social media, pornography, gambling, or websites containing extremist content).
- School hours is defined to be from 6 a.m. - 6 p.m. and after school hours would be from 6 p.m. – 11 p.m. The device will shut down at 11 p.m. by default.
- The school will determine the applications and programs to be installed to support teaching and learning.

After-School DMA Parent Options

1. After-School DMA Parent Options provide parents with the flexibility in managing your child's/ward's use of PLD after school hours.
2. The following tables outline the different levels of restrictions, controls, and monitoring for each After-School DMA Parent Option.

Default	Option A	Option B
In-school DMA settings will continue after school hours	DMA settings can be modified by Parents/Guardians after school hours	DMA will be inactive* 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 prefer to take charge of the level of restrictions for their child's/ward's use of the device after school hours regulated by the DMA.	For parents/guardians who do not want their child's/ward's use of the device after school hours to be regulated by the DMA at all.

*No data will be collected after school hours when the DMA is inactive.

- 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, which is the existing practice.

After-School DMA Parent Options

	Default Setting (This will apply if no Alternative Setting is chosen)	Alternative Setting: Option A (DMA settings can be modified from the Default settings in place)	Alternative Setting: Option B (DMA will be inactive only after school hours)
Protect students from objectionable content	Web content filtering will include, but not limited to the following categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Violent/extremist content Sexual/pornographic content Gambling-related content 	Parents/Guardians will be able to include additional web content filtering by submitting a request to the school.	No content filtering at all after school hours.
Reduce distractions from learning through control of applications	Parents/Guardians and students will be <u>unable</u> to install additional applications.	Parents/Guardians will be able to install additional applications by submitting a request to the school. Applications will be accessible both during and after school hours.	Parents/Guardians and/or students will be able to install additional applications after school hours. Applications installed by parents/guardians and/or students after school hours will not be accessible during school hours.

After-School DMA Parent Options

	Default Setting (This will apply if no Alternative Setting is chosen)	Alternative Setting: Option A (DMA settings can be modified from the Default settings in place)	Alternative Setting: Option B (DMA will be inactive only after school hours)
Limit screen time	The school will define the specific hours during which the device is allowed to access the internet.	Parents/Guardians can: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• modify the amount of screen time for their child/ward by submitting a request to the school*;• turn their child's/ward's web browsing on or off, controlling whether the PLD can access the internet; and• allow/disallow certain categories of web access.	No control over screen time.

*Parents would have to choose from a range of pre-determined hours and submit their request to the school. Screen time limits set by the school will override parents’/guardians’ settings during school hours.

After-School DMA Parent Options

	Default Setting (This will apply if no Alternative Setting is chosen)	Alternative Setting: Option A (DMA settings can be modified from the Default settings in place)	Alternative Setting: Option B (DMA will be inactive only after school hours)
Monitor students' cyber activities	Parents/Guardians will <u>not</u> be able to track their child's/ward's browser history.	Parents/Guardians can track their child's/ward's browser history.	Parents/Guardians will <u>not</u> be able to monitor or control their child's/ward's use of the device through the DMA.
Provision of Parent Account	X	✓	X

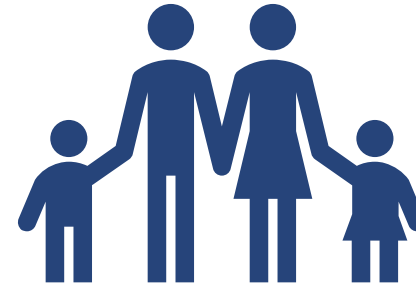
Support for Parents/Guardians

Parents/guardians may wish to consider the following questions to decide the After-School DMA Parent Option that best suits your child/ward.



A. 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?



B. 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?

Supporting Resources

Parents/guardians play a crucial role in guiding your child/ward to use devices responsibly and safely. DMA complements your efforts in supporting your child/ward as they navigate the digital space. Here are some resources that you can refer to:

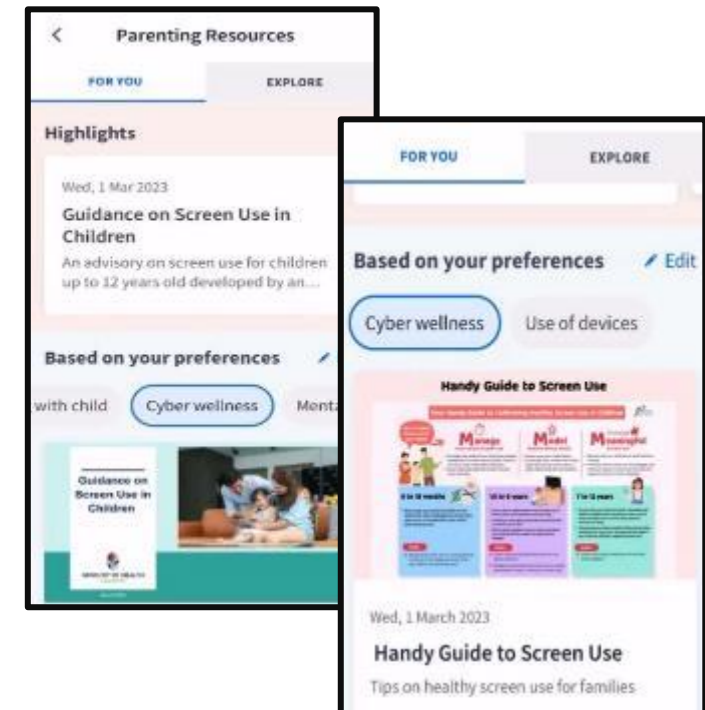
A. Parent Kit



B. Bite-size tips and advice via Parentingwith.MOEsg Instagram



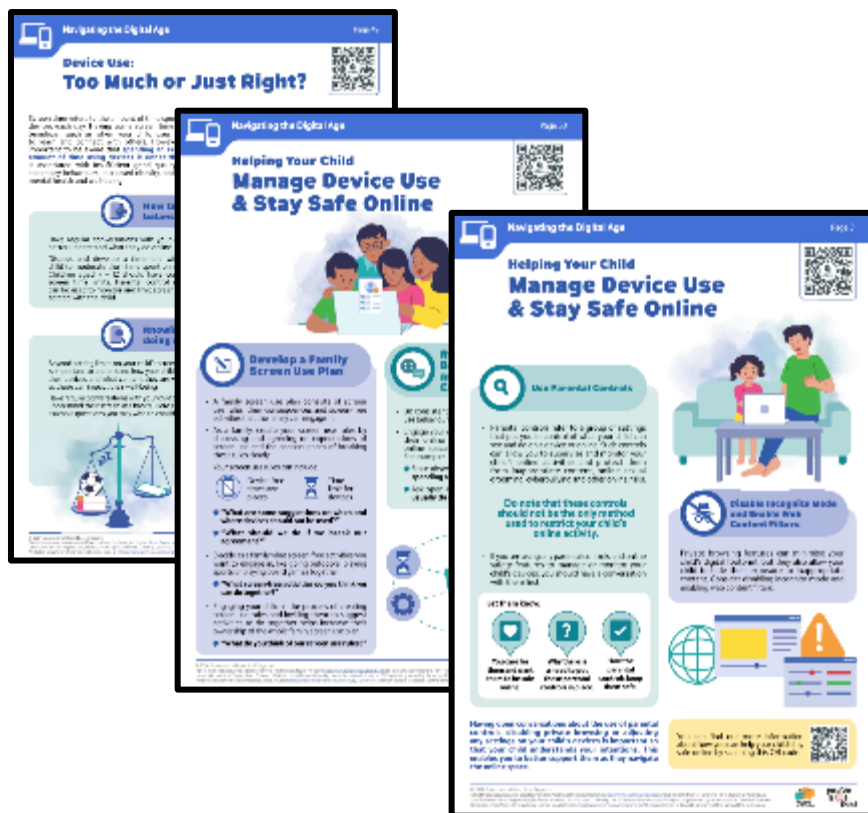
C. Resources from MOE and other agencies (available on resources repository in Parents Gateway)



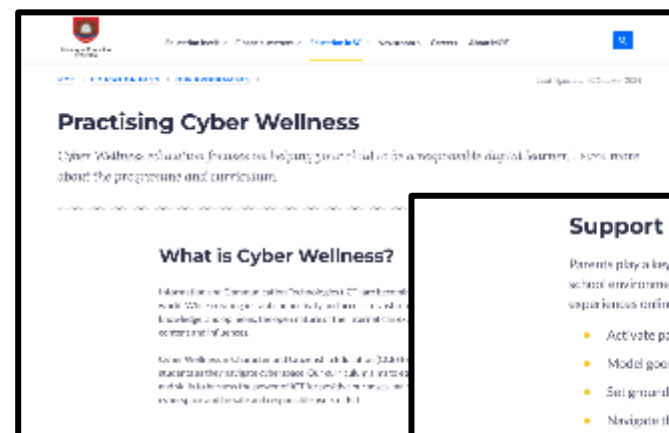
Supporting Resources

D. Parenting for Wellness Toolbox for Parents

The following extracted quick tips and strategies have been shared to you via Parents Gateway. Click on the pink header to download the full suite of resources of the Toolbox.



E. More resources are available via MOE Cyber Wellness Webpage



Support at home

Parents play a key role in their children's growth. Students benefit the most when the home and school environments are aligned to each other. To help your child stay safe and have positive experiences online, you can:

- Activate parental controls on your home devices.
- Model good digital habits for your child.
- Set ground rules for internet use.
- Navigate the internet together to understand their usage.

Resources

Learn more about how to keep your child safe online through these resources.

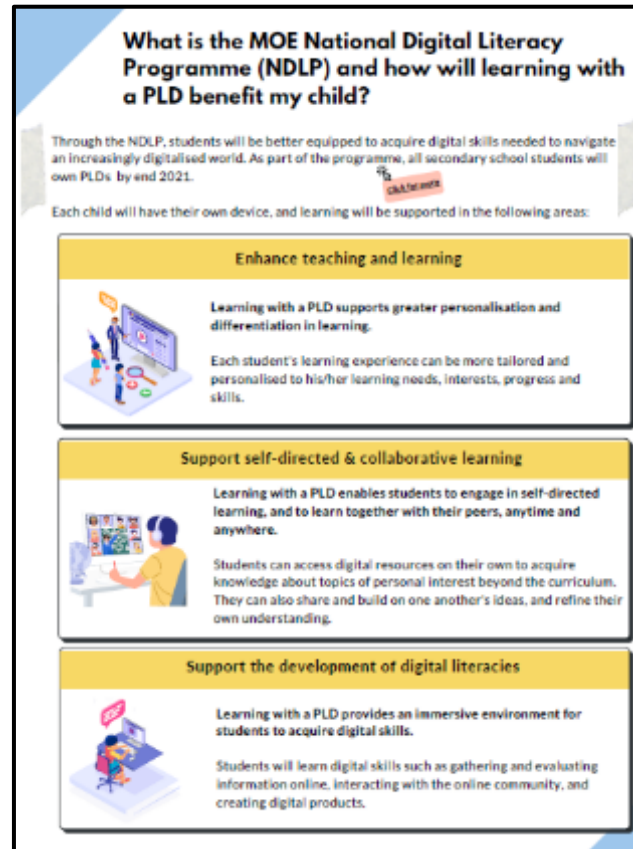
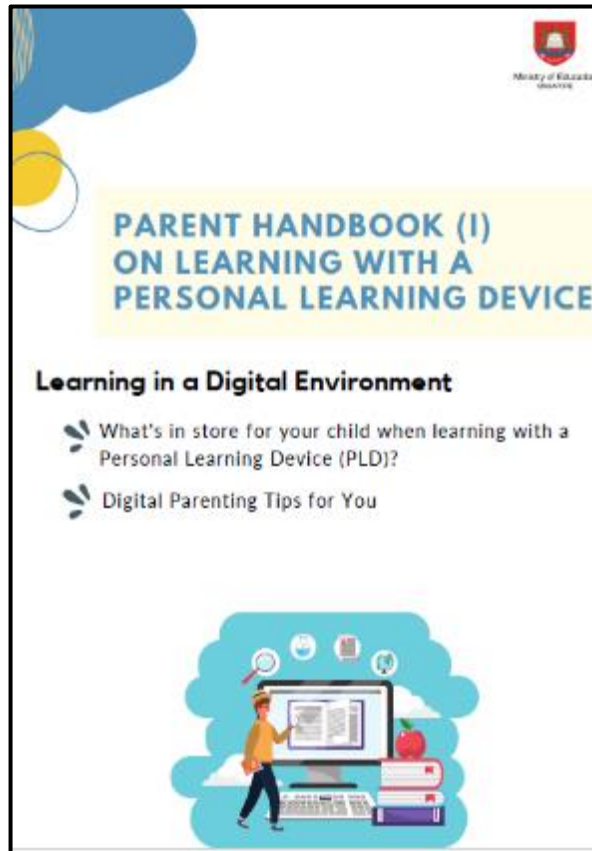
From MOE

- [Children and their devices: How to strike the right balance](#)
- [Future tense: Keeping kids grounded while tech turns the world upside down](#)
- [What does a student's AI-enhanced day look like? Here's a peek](#)
- [Are you struggling with your child's excessive device use?](#)
- [7 things every parent can do to keep kids cyber-safe: A tech dad's special](#)
- [The future looks real: why this dad isn't afraid of the rise of AI](#)
- [Keeping kids safe online – A community effort](#)
- [Parent Kit – Raising A Digitally Smart Child](#)
- [Parent Kit – Extending Blended Learning with Our Children](#)
- [Recording of Instagram Live – Raising Digitally Smart Kids](#)

Supporting Resources

F. Parent Handbooks (I) and (II) on Learning with a Personal Learning Device

These Handbooks provide tips on supporting your child in the use of PLDs for learning and are shared via the PG notification together with the letter to purchase PLDs.



Data Collected by the DMA

1. 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
2. Parents may request corrections to their personal data (e.g. email addresses, names) by contacting the school, in accordance with the Personal Data and Protection Act (PDPA).

Data Security

- All user data collected through the DMA will be stored in secure servers managed by appointed DMA Vendors with stringent access controls and audit trails 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.

Data Security

- 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.
- To prevent unauthorised access, DMA Administrators and DMA Vendors will be required to access their accounts using 2-factor authentication or the equivalent to ensure proper accountability for information access and other activities performed. There will be regular account reviews and audits for DMA Administrators' and DMA Vendors' accounts.

Device and Funding Information

Meridian Secondary School's PLD



Intel N150 processor, 8GB
RAM, 64GB Storage, 12.2"
Screen Size

The school will be using the
Acer Chromebook Spin R857TN for
teaching and learning.

Total cost of the enhanced bundle
with GST: **S\$553.70**

**(Enhanced bundle includes 3 years
warranty and insurance plus upgrade of
RAM)**

Meridian Secondary School's PLD



Intel N150 processor, 8GB
RAM, 64GB Storage, 12.2"
Screen Size

The school chose the device because of:

- Portability
- Durability
- Teaching & Learning Affordances

PLD Bundle

Device Bundle includes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Device, Power adaptor, USB Mouse, Carrying Case, Active Stylus• 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 (which includes 2 repairs or 1 replacement claim)

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

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 additional 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 Chromebook Spin
R857TN
S\$553.70

Student A (SC on MOE FAS) GHI ≤ \$3,000 or PCI ≤ \$750	
Device Bundle Cost	\$553.70
Student Subsidy (50%)	\$276.90
Available Edusave Balance <i>(After setting aside for misc fees)</i>	\$200.00 before deduction \$200.00 will be deducted
Additional Subsidy	\$76.90
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 Chromebook Spin
R857TN
S\$553.70

Student B (Non MOE-FAS SC from lower income family) \$3,000 < GHI ≤ \$4,400 or \$750 < PCI ≤ \$1,100	
Device Bundle Cost	\$553.70
Student Subsidy (30%)	\$116.10
Available Edusave Balance <i>(After setting aside for misc fees)</i>	\$200.00 before deduction \$200.00 will be deducted
Additional Subsidy	\$137.60
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)



Acer Chromebook Spin
R857TN
S\$553.70

Student C (Not Eligible for Subsidy) GHI > \$4,400 or PCI > \$1,100	
Device Bundle Cost	\$553.70
Available Edusave Balance <i>(After setting aside for misc fees)</i>	\$200.00 before deduction \$200.00 will be deducted
Cash Out-of-pocket	\$353.70

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 \$4,400 or Per Capita Income (PCI)[#] is below \$1,100.
- For more details, please approach the school.

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

What's Next?

Parental Consent for Procurement

1. Parents can access the **Parental Consent for the Purchase of Personal Learning Device (PLD)** via a Parents Gateway (PG) notification* that will be sent to you on 9 January 2025.
2. Parents who want to use Edusave funds for the PLD (for Singapore Citizens students only), please submit the online Standing Order Form via this link:

<https://go.gov.sg/edusaveformsgso>
by 17 January 2025.

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

For Singapore Citizens (SC) Students

Time Frame	Activity
9 Jan 2025 to 17 Jan 2025	<p>Submit:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> consent to PLD purchase via in the PG notification which includes the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intent to Purchase Personal Learning Device (PLD); Authorisation Form for the Collection of PLD the Standing Order (SO) for the use of Edusave Account via https://go.gov.sg/edusaveformsgso (for Singapore Citizen students only). Parents without access to PG can submit their consent via hardcopy.
4 April 2025 (Tentative)	Collection of devices by students

For Permanent Residents / International Students

Time Frame	Activity
9 Jan 2025 to 17 Jan 2025	Submit: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. consent to PLD purchase via in the PG notification which includes the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Intent to Purchase Personal Learning Device (PLD);• Authorisation Form for the Collection of PLDb. Parents without access to PG can submit their consent via hardcopy.
20 Jan onwards	Parent/Guardian to make payment via Giro/PayNow
4 April 2025 (Tentative)	Collection of devices by students

Collection of Devices

Your child/ward will be collecting his/her device in school **on 4 April (ILD6)**.
If you would like to personally/have another adult to verify the condition of the device during collection with your child/ward:

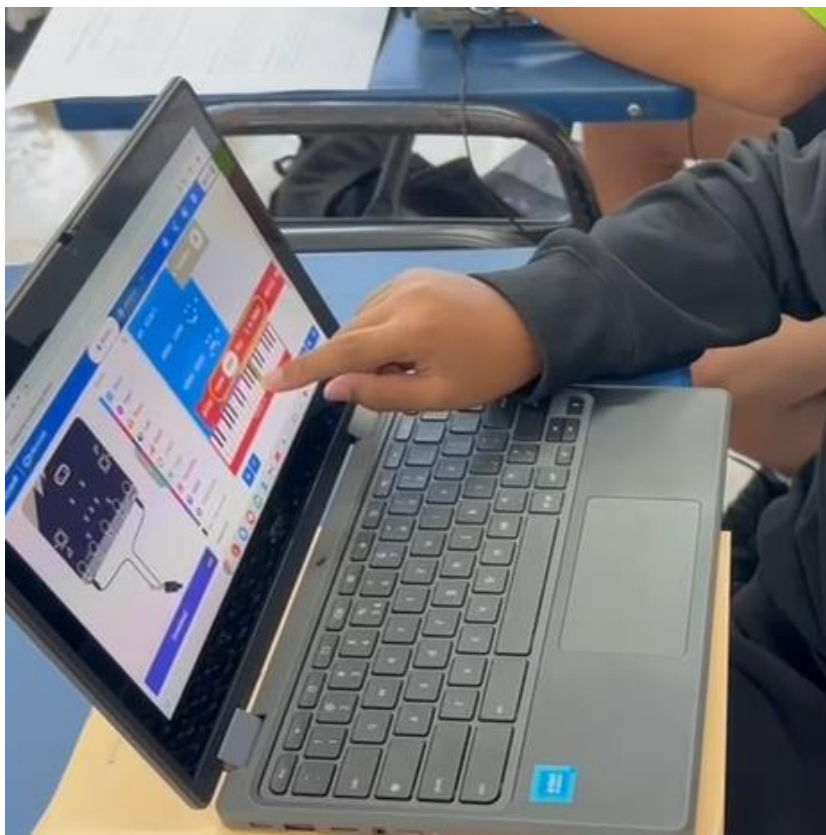
- You may arrange to collect the device **at the vendor's service/collection centre*** or appoint an adult proxy to do so.
- Your child/ward would need to bring the device to school and arrange for the school's IT department to install the DMA.

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	www.meridiansec.moe.edu.sg
Edusave balance	6260 0777
Financial assistance	Mr Halim B Hassan (Admin Manager) Email: halim_hassan@schools.gov.sg Mr Christopher Han Email: han_cheng_kwang_a@schools.gov.sg Tel: 65831387
Chromebook matters (Technical issue and Device management)	Ms Belinda Tan (SH ICT) Email: tan_hock_kiang@schools.gov.sg Ms Mastura (ICT Manager) Email: mastura_mhd_noor@schools.gov.sg Tel: 65831387



Thank you



Ministry of Education
SINGAPORE