

# The Personal Learning Device (PLD) Initiative

Information 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

## 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)*
- ❑ **leveraging affordances of ICT productivity tools** *(e.g. OneNote, Google Docs, Sheets, Slides, Calendar)*

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

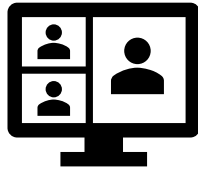
# Cyber Wellness Concerns Identified by Local Studies/Surveys



**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:

- 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**creendown 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 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 **7 a.m. to 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
<b>In-school DMA settings will continue after school hours</b>	<b>DMA settings can be modified by Parents/Guardians after school hours</b>	<b>DMA will be inactive* after school hours</b>
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)
<b>Protect students from objectionable content</b>	<p>Web content filtering will include, but not limited to the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Violent/extremist content</li> <li>• Sexual/pornographic content</li> <li>• Gambling-related content</li> </ul>	<p>Parents/Guardians will be able to include additional web content filtering by submitting a request to the school.</p>	<p>No content filtering at all after school hours.</p>
<b>Reduce distractions from learning through control of applications</b>	<p>Parents/Guardians and students will be <u>unable</u> to install additional applications.</p>	<p>Parents/Guardians will be able to install additional applications by submitting a request to the school.</p> <p>Applications will be accessible both during and after school hours.</p>	<p>Parents/Guardians and/or students will be able to install additional applications after school hours.</p> <p>Applications installed by parents/guardians and/or students after school hours will not be accessible during school hours.</p>



# 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)
<b>Limit screen time</b>	The school will define the specific hours during which the device is allowed to access the internet.	<p>Parents/Guardians can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• modify the amount of screen time for their child/ward by submitting a request to the school*;</li> <li>• turn their child's/ward's web browsing on or off, controlling whether the PLD can access the internet; and</li> <li>• allow/disallow certain categories of web access.</li> </ul>	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)
<b>Monitor students' cyber activities</b>	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.
<b>Provision of Parent Account</b>	X	✓	X

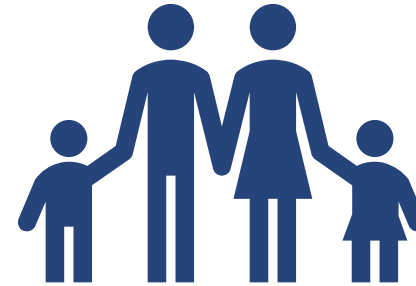
# Support for Parents/Guardians

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:

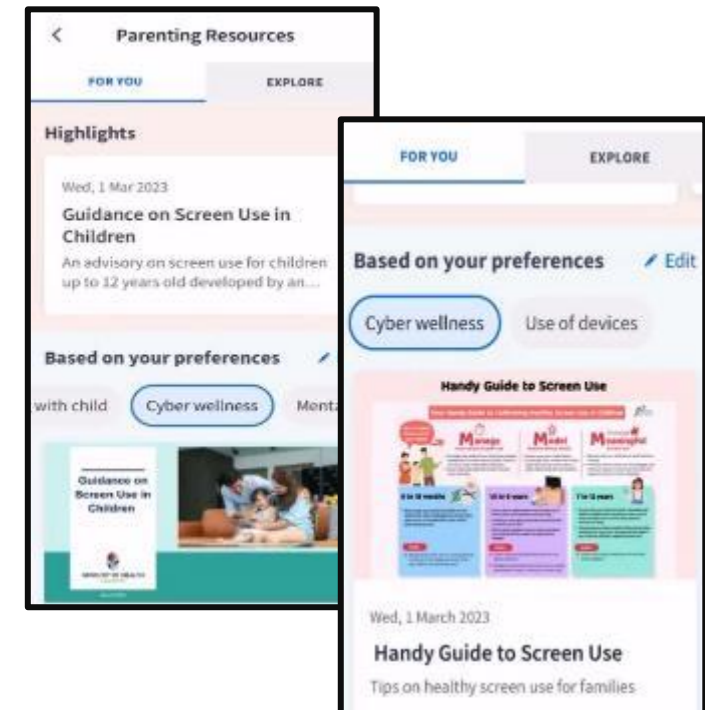
## A. Parent Kit



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



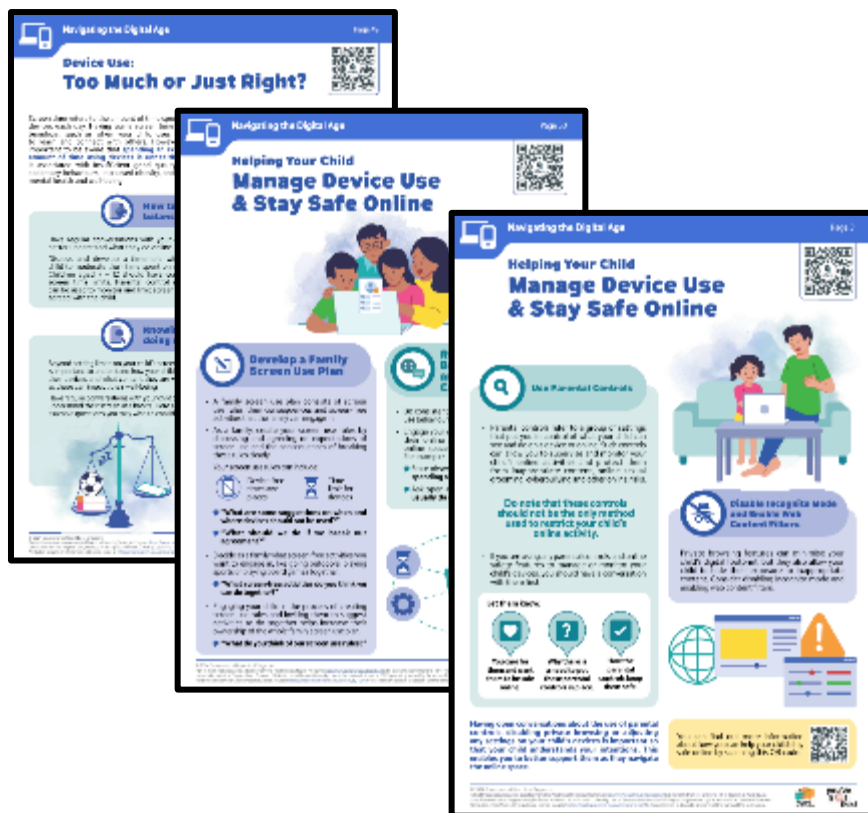
## C. Resources from MOE and other agencies (available on resources repository in Parents Gateway)



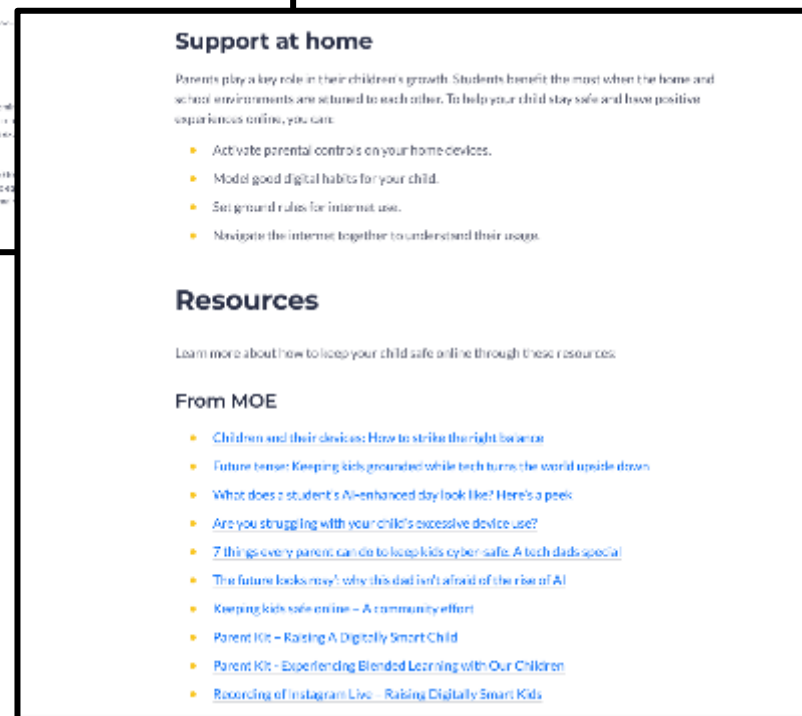
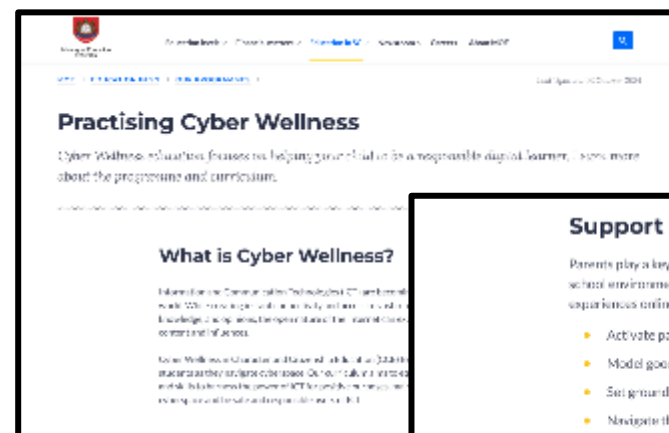
# Supporting Resources

## 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.



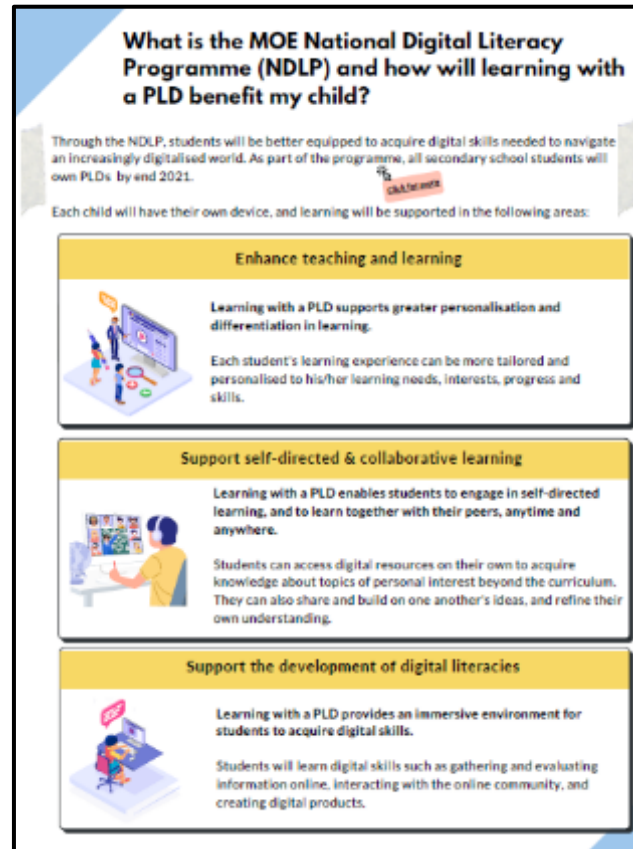
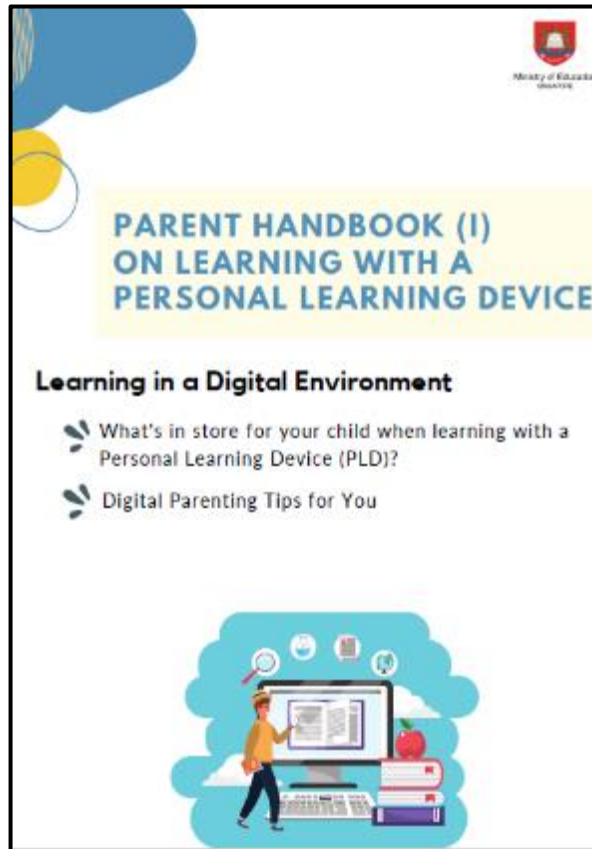
## E. More resources are available via MOE Cyber Wellness Webpage



# 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.
- 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

# Pasir Ris Secondary School's PLD

REFRESHED MODEL



**Intel N215 processor Quad-core,  
8GB RAM, 64GB Storage,  
12.2" Touch Screen**

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

Total cost of the bundle includes 3-year warranty and 3-year insurance with GST: **\$553.70**

Benefits of the Chromebook:

- ✓ Economical
- ✓ Better battery life
- ✓ Lightweight (1.25 kg)
- ✓ Rugged Durability
- ✓ Convertible Laptop
- ✓ Antimicrobial Touch Screen
- ✓ Active Stylus Pen (built-in stylus)

# PLD Bundle

Device Bundle includes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Acer R857TN Chromebook</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Power Adaptor, Mouse, Active Stylus, Carrying Case</li></ul> <p><i>*Students will need a earpiece 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"><li>• Fire</li><li>• Lightning</li><li>• Power Surges</li><li>• Accidental e.g water spillage, drop etc</li><li>• Theft due to forcible entry</li><li>• Robbery</li></ul> <p><i>* Accidental loss will not be covered by insurance.</i></p>	<p><b>*2 repairs or 1 replacement (3-year insurance)</b></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.

# Technical Support for Students' Devices

Technical support will be provided to students through:

## ❑ ICT Helpdesk in school every school day (8 am – 4 pm)

- Troubleshooting of device issues
- Solve connectivity issues
- Collection (and return) of devices to be sent to vendor for repairs (*may take up to 4 weeks due to collection cycles*)

## ❑ Acer Service Centre

- Repair of devices (hardware issues)

29, International Business Park  
#01-07, Acer Building, Tower A  
Service Centre (Side Entrance)  
Singapore 609923

### *Service Center Operating Hours*

- Monday to Friday, 8:45am to 5:15pm

Extended Hours:

- Wednesday, 5:15pm till 7:45pm

- Saturday, 9:00am to 12:00pm

(Closed on Sundays and Public Holidays)

# 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 R857TN**  
**\$553.70**

Student A (SC on MOE FAS) GHI ≤ \$3,000 or PCI ≤ \$750	
Device Bundle Cost	\$553.70
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	\$76.80
Cash Out-of-pocket	<b>\$0.00</b>

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 R857TN**  
**\$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	\$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	\$187.50
Cash Out-of-pocket	<b>\$50.00</b>

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.

**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 **20 December 2024**.
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 **10 January 2025** if you have not done so previously.\*

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

# PLD Procurement

Time Frame	Activity
20 December 2024 – 10 January 2025	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Submit: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. consent to PLD purchase via in the PG notification which includes the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intent to Purchase Personal Learning Device (PLD);</li> <li>• Authorisation Form for the Collection of PLD</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. [For Singapore Citizen students only] the Standing Order (SO) for the use of Edusave Account via <a href="https://go.gov.sg/edusaveformsgso">https://go.gov.sg/edusaveformsgso</a> if you have not done so previously.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p><i>Parents without access to PG can submit their consent via hardcopy obtained from 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>
End-Term 1 (TBC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collection of devices by students</li> <li>• Parents to indicate choice of after-school DMA settings</li> </ul>

# Collection of Devices

Your child/ward will be collecting his/her device in school **from end-Term 1 2025.**

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	<a href="https://www.pasirrissec.moe.edu.sg/signature-programmes/national-digital-literacy-programme/">https://www.pasirrissec.moe.edu.sg/signature-programmes/national-digital-literacy-programme/</a>
<b>Edusave balance</b>	6260 0777
<b>Financial assistance</b> (via School General Office)	6501 0800
<b>School ICT Helpdesk</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Troubleshooting of device issues</li> <li>• Solve connectivity issues</li> <li>• Collection of devices to be sent for repairs</li> </ul>	6501 0891

# Blended Learning Day

- ❑ **Fortnightly BL Days** on even week Fridays from 14 February 2025.
- ❑ 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 Monday of the next 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.