



Date: 18 January 2024

Dear Sir / Madam,

**Parental Consent for the Purchase of Personal Learning Device ("PLD")**

This letter provides important information on the purchase of the PLD for your child/ward as part of the National Digital Literacy Programme ("**NDLP**") and the accompanying applications that the school may be rolling out.

2. The NDLP was launched at MOE's Committee of Supply Debate in March 2020 to help students strengthen their digital literacy. One of the components of the NDLP is the introduction of the Personalised Digital Learning Programme ("**PDLP**") for all secondary school students, whereby every secondary school student will own a school-prescribed PLD. The PLD will be used together with the national e-learning platform – the Singapore Student Learning Space ("**SLS**") – as well as other educational technology to personalise and enhance students' learning. This will also enable students to acquire digital skills and apply these skills as they navigate an increasingly digitalised world.

3. **Purchase of PLD bundle.** The school has arranged for you to purchase the PLD from Acer Computer (Singapore) Pte Ltd for your child's/ward's use in school. The Vendor was chosen from an MOE panel of awarded suppliers based on the choice of device determined by the school. The PLD bundle which includes warranty and insurance for purchase by your child/ward will be:

Chromebooks are chosen for their variety of affordances, including seamless learning experiences alongside existing teaching and learning technologies such as the SLS, Google Suite for Education Apps and Microsoft Pro Plus. It is also a relatively lightweight and portable device that offers students convenient learning on-the-move. A full charge of the battery typically allows students to work on their PLDs for the entire curriculum hours.

Students will purchase the **11.6" Acer Chromebook Spin R756TN** as the school-prescribed PLD. This device is a touchscreen convertible laptop (i.e. can be used as a laptop or rotated 180° into a tablet) and comes with its own in-built stylus for inking functions.



The PLD bundle which includes warranty and insurance for purchase by your child/ward will be:

Brand	Acer
Model	Acer Chromebook Spin R756TN
Type	Chromebook
Processor	Intel Celeron N5200
Screen Size	11.6" Touch Screen
Display	HD 1366 X 768 resolution Multi-touch
RAM	8 GB
HDD	64 GB EMMC
Wireless Connectivity	802.11 AC (2 x 2)
Bluetooth	5.0
Built-in camera	1 x 720p HD Camera
Max Battery Run Time	10 Hours
OS	Chrome OS
Carrying Case	Yes
Weight	1.3 kg
What's in the box	Power Adapter, USB Wired Mouse, Lenovo Carrying Case and Stylus Pen
Device Bundle	Enhanced Bundle: 3 year warranty + Comprehensive Accidental Damage Protection (Insurance)

The price of the device bundle (inclusive of GST) is: **S\$570.00**

4. **Use of Edusave.** Students who are Singapore citizens can use their Edusave to pay fully or partly for the PLD, after setting aside provision for payment of miscellaneous fees. Parents/Guardians can also choose to pay cash for the PLD. 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 Edusave contribution of \$290 for secondary school students and \$230 for primary school students.

5. **Financial Assistance.** Subsidies are available for students who require funding support to purchase a PLD. Please note that it is compulsory for all students on the MOE Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS) to use their Edusave to pay for any remaining sums due for the PLD, after subsidies have been granted. Please see the table below for information on the eligibility for the subsidy:

Students eligible for subsidy	Income criteria	How to Apply for Subsidy
Students under MOE FAS	Gross Household Income ("GHI") is \$3,000 or less, or Per Capita Income ("PCI")* is \$750 or less	No action required. Automatically subsidised for the PLD.
Students under School-based FAS	GHI is \$4,400 or less, or PCI is \$1,100 or less	Approach the school's General Office to apply for a subsidy.
Students who are currently <u>not</u> under the MOE FAS or School-based FAS	GHI is \$4,400 or less, or PCI is \$1,100 or less	Approach the school's General Office to apply for a subsidy.

\* PCI refers to the GHI divided by the total number of family members in the household.

6. **IT Applications.** Schools will progressively roll out IT applications that will be vital for students' teaching and learning. These include:

- (a) **Student iCON:** Every secondary school student will be provided with access to the Google Suite set of tools, including email address.
- (b) **Microsoft Office 365:** Every secondary school student will be able to use Microsoft Office tools that include Word, PowerPoint, and Excel.
- (c) **Zoom:** Every secondary school student will be given a free Zoom account with a 40 min time limit for their video conferencing needs.

The school will need to use your child's/ward's full name, Student iCON ID and class to set up user accounts. Schools may also choose to roll out applications other than those listed above.

7. **Device Management Application ("DMA").** A DMA will come pre-installed on all PLDs purchased through the school and will be installed on any student-owned devices parents/guardians opt for the student to use in lieu of the PLD, subject to parental/guardian consent. The DMA has 3 main components which will support the use of the PLD in the classroom and safeguard students' cyber wellness:

- (a) Classroom Management Service. To help teachers manage students' use of the PLD during lesson time to improve classroom management and support effective teaching and learning.
- (b) Mobile Device Management Service. To help update and manage the PLD, protect the PLD from malicious software, and protects students from objectionable internet content.
- (c) Usage Management Service. To enable school and/or parents/guardians to better supervise and set helpful limits for students' use of PLD after school.

8. **Cyber wellness.** In rolling out the PLD, parents/guardians may have concerns regarding students' cyber wellness. The DMA allows the school to manage this by:

- (a) collecting data on usage by the student, such as the websites accessed on the PLD,
- (b) monitoring, filtering, and limiting the type of websites accessible to the student, and
- (c) placing restrictions on students' screen time to prevent cyber addiction.

Please refer to Annexes A, B and C for more details on the functions and features of the DMA, and on the collection and protection of personal data.

#### **Next Step**

9. To proceed with the purchase of the PLD, please fill in the online form at this link: <https://go.gov.sg/pdlpadmin> by **25 January 2024 (Thursday)**. If you are unable to submit the form online, please contact the school for a hardcopy version. **Singpass** will be required for this online form.



Purchase of Personal Learning Device ("PLD"): <https://go.gov.sg/pdlpadmin>

### **Other resources**

10. This parent handbook shares more information on how owning a personal learning device will enhance the child's learning as well as some digital parenting tips, strategies and resources.

Parent Handbook (I) on Learning with a PLD: <https://go.gov.sg/aeshandbook1>

Parent Handbook (II) on Learning with a PLD: <https://go.gov.sg/aeshandbook2>

11. NDLP Briefing slides for parents: Please access the NDLP briefing slides for parents at this link: <https://go.gov.sg/aesbriefingslides>

### **Further Queries**

12. Please refer to our **Frequently Asked Questions** for more information on NDLP.



Frequently Asked Questions: <https://go.gov.sg/aesndlpfaq>

13. Should there be any further queries or clarification, please contact the school at **6572 9100** or email us at [aes@moe.edu.sg](mailto:aes@moe.edu.sg). Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Vincent Toh  
Principal

### Annex A: Functions of the DMA

Functions	Details
<p><b>1. Mobile Device Management Service</b></p> <p>This facilitates the <b>updating and management of the PLDs, protects PLDs from malicious software, and protects your child/ward from objectionable internet content, or content that may not be conducive to teaching and learning during school hours.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitates automatic installation of apps required for teaching and learning</li> <li>• Filters objectionable content or content that may not be conducive to teaching and learning (e.g., pornography, gambling, or websites containing extremist content)</li> <li>• Protects your child's/ward's PLD from security vulnerabilities through the automatic updating and patching of apps and device Operating System (OS)</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Classroom Management Service</b></p> <p>Enables teachers to <b>manage the student's use of the PLD</b> during lesson time to improve classroom management and support effective teaching and learning.</p> <p>Teachers will only monitor students' activities during lessons.</p>	<p>During lessons, teachers will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage and control devices (e.g., using the "Eyes Up" function)</li> <li>• Launch specific applications and/or websites for teaching and learning on your child's/ward's device</li> <li>• Facilitate the sharing of content</li> <li>• Monitor your child's/ward's usage and activities during lessons (e.g., screen sharing, monitoring your child's/ward's browsing history)</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. Usage Management Service</b></p> <p>Enables the school and/or parents/guardians* to <b>better supervise and set helpful limits for your child's/ward's use of PLD after school.</b></p> <p><i>* Only available for parents/guardian on Default Option and Option A</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Screen time control ensures that your child/ward does not use the PLD excessively</li> <li>• School and/or parents/guardians can control installation of applications to ensure that the device is used optimally for teaching and learning</li> <li>• Safe search and web content filtering protect your child/ward from harmful content</li> <li>• Parents/Guardians can monitor usage and activities by child/ward</li> </ul>

### **Annex B: DMA Settings After School Hours**

1. During school hours, the Default Setting will apply. Parents/Guardians are given a choice to opt for an Alternative Setting, which will apply only to after school hours. The following table outlines the different levels of restrictions, controls, and monitoring for the different DMA options after school hours.

	<b>Default Setting (This will apply if no Alternative Setting is chosen)</b>	<b>Alternative Setting: Option A (Modify DMA settings)</b>	<b>Alternative Setting: Option B (Disable DMA)</b>
	For parents/guardians who want their child's/ward's use of the device to be restricted only to teaching and learning, and who prefer to follow the Default Setting as set by the school during school hours.	For parents/guardians who want more leeway over their child's/ward's 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 after school hours to be regulated by the DMA at all.
Protects students from objectionable content	Web content filtering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Violent/extremist content</li> <li>Sexual/pornographic content</li> <li>Gambling-related content</li> </ul>	Parents/Guardians can apply additional content filtering.	No content filtering at all.
Reduce distractions from learning through control of applications	Parents/Guardians and students will be <b>unable</b> to install additional applications.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parents/Guardians and/or students will be able to install additional applications after school hours.</li> <li>Applications installed by parents/guardians and/or students after school hours will be disabled during school hours.</li> </ul>	
Limit screen time	The school will set the hours during which the child/ward will be able to use the device online in a day.	Parents/Guardians can modify the amount of screen time for their child/ward.	No control over screen time.
Monitor students' cyber activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A parent/guardian account will be provided to allow parents/guardians to monitor their child's/ward's PLD activities after school hours.</li> <li>Parents/Guardians will only be able to track their child's/ward's browser history after school hours.</li> <li>School DMA Admin will have access to the child's/ward's browser history logs.</li> <li>Teachers will only have access to the child's/ward's browser history logs for the class that they teach. Teachers will not have access to the child's/ward's browser history logs outside of that specific class.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parents/Guardians will <b>not</b> be provided a parent/guardian account.</li> <li>Parents/Guardians will <b>not</b> be able to monitor or control their child's/ward's use of the device through the DMA. No data will be collected during the use of the PLD after school hours.</li> </ul>	

2. Parents/Guardians may wish to consider the following questions before deciding on which Alternative Setting option is best for their child/ward.

**a. Child's/Ward's current device usage habits**

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

**b. Parental/Guardian 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?

## Annex C: Privacy and Data Security

### Part 1: Data Collected and Managed 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 applications
- Documents and photos stored in the PLD
- PLD location
- Webcam videos and microphone recordings

2. The information collected by DMA will be accessible by the following personnel:

<b>Data Collected by DMA</b>	<b>Appointed Admin from MOE HQ and school</b>	<b>DMA Vendors</b>	<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Parent/Guardian</b>
<u>Data for DMA administrative purposes such as:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students' and parents'/guardians' information (Name, school name, email addresses, and class)</li> <li>Apps installed in your child's/ward's PLD</li> <li>Device and hardware information (e.g., device model, storage space)</li> </ul>	Y	Y	Y	Y
<u>Data for web content filtering such as:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>URLs accessed on the PLDs (<i>Actions performed on websites are <b>NOT</b> captured</i>)</li> <li>Date and time that a website is accessed</li> <li>Student profile (Name, School name)</li> </ul>	Y	Y	Y <sup>1</sup>	Y
<u>Data for ensuring that installed applications are updated and functioning properly such as:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Installed applications and programmes</li> <li>Date and time that the applications and programmes were last updated</li> <li>Application error data</li> </ul>	Y	Y	Y <sup>2</sup>	Y
<u>Views of students' screens when CMS is used during lessons<sup>3</sup></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The screen view will <b>NOT</b> be stored by the DMA</i></li> </ul>	N	N	Y	N

*Note: No data is collected after school hours for Alternative Setting: Option B.*

<sup>1</sup> The teacher will only be able to access the logs pertaining to the student's browser history for the class that the teacher teaches and will be able to access the logs outside of lessons. The teacher will not have access to the student's browser history outside of those specific lessons.

<sup>2</sup> Teachers will not have access to the application error data.

<sup>3</sup> This function is only available during lessons when the teacher is using the CMS on either a Windows or a Chromebook device. Teachers will not have access to students' screen views after the lesson ends.



3. 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.
4. All user data collected through the DMA (see paragraph 2) 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 subjected to regular security review and assessment by independent reviewers.
5. 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.

## **Part 2: Data collected and managed by the IT Applications**

6. **IT Applications.** For the IT Applications (Student iCON, Microsoft Office 365, and Zoom), the school will use your child's/ward's personal data such as his/her full name, birth certificate number and class to set up user accounts. This data will also be used for the purposes of authenticating and verifying user identity, troubleshooting and facilitating system improvements. In addition, the commercial providers of these platforms (e.g., Google, Microsoft) will collect and deal with user data generated by your child's/ward's use of these applications. The collection, use and disclosure of such data are governed by the commercial provider's terms of use, which can be found here:
  - Student iCON: [https://workspace.google.com/terms/education\\_terms.html](https://workspace.google.com/terms/education_terms.html)
  - Microsoft Office 365: <https://portal.office.com/commerce/mosa.aspx>
  - Zoom: <https://zoom.us/docs/en-us/schools-privacy-statement.html>
7. All user data which is collected by MOE will be stored in secure servers managed by the respective vendors of our systems. The Government has put in place strong personal data protection laws and policies to safeguard sensitive data collected by public agencies such as MOE. Please refer to this website for more information on these laws and policies: <https://www.smartnation.gov.sg/about-smart-nation/secure-smart-nation/personal-data-protection-initiatives>