
Parents information evening on Senior Cycle Devices

26/2/2026

Welcome and thank you for attending



Parents information evening on Senior Cycle Devices

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Ms. Murphy - Deputy principal

Ms. Scanlon – IT Co-ordinator

Jamie Johnston from Wriggle Learning



Agenda

- Why we are discussing students having 1 to 1 devices
- Feedback from students, parents and teachers
- Experiences of teachers and students
- Information from Jamie from Wriggle



Why?

- Suggested by STUDENTS
- Digital demands of new Senior Cycle AACs and project work
- Shared devices in school are not sufficient to meet needs of new senior cycle and Junior cycle students
- Digital skills required for college and future careers



Subject Options

- 15 subject your son/daughter will choose from for their Senior Cycle option subjects
- 11 currently have an AAC or existing project, journal or digital portfolio worth 20-50% depending on the subject
- The others along with the core subjects will be added in the coming years
- ICDL(in Computer classes) in TY is preparing students with the skills needed

Subject	AAC/Digital portfolio/Other digital Project or practical
Accounting	Not yet
Agricultural Science	Yes
Art	No**
Biology	Yes
Business	Yes
Chemistry	Yes
Construction Technology	Yes
DCG	Yes
French	Not yet
Geography	Yes
German	Not yet
History	Yes
Home Economics	Yes
Music	Yes (Music technology option)
Physics	Yes

**but digital access needed to do research for project

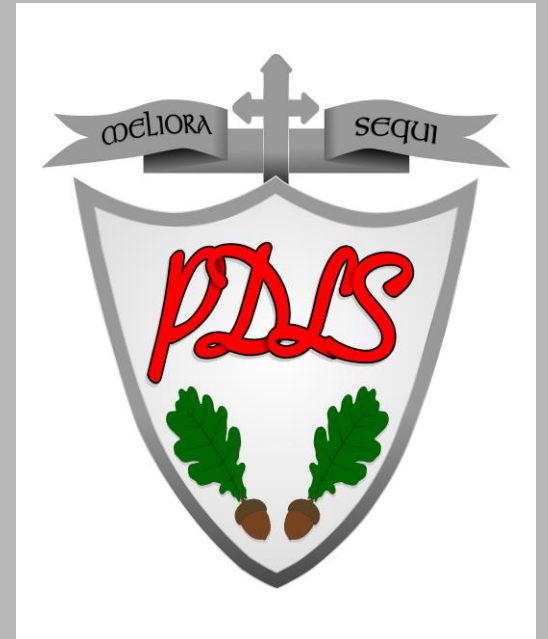
Process

Student council presented to the Board of Management last May suggesting students having their own devices as opposed to shared trolleys

Surveyed 5th year students currently doing some AACs and portfolios for Senior Cycle

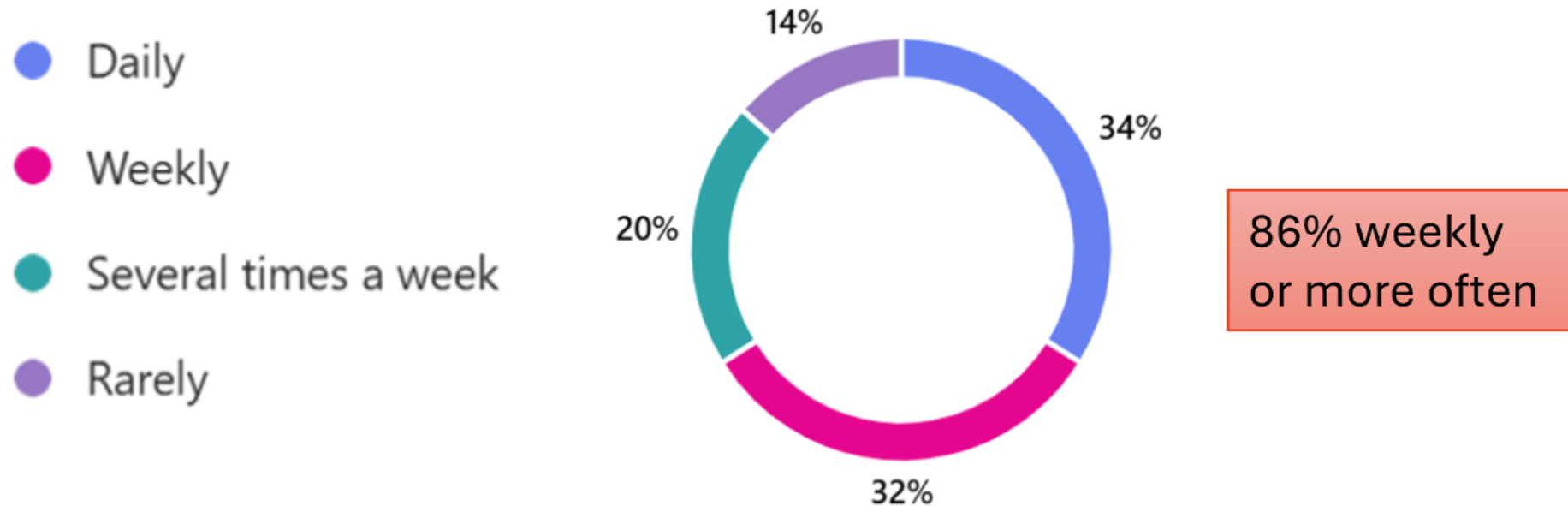
Surveyed parents of those 5th years

Surveyed teachers



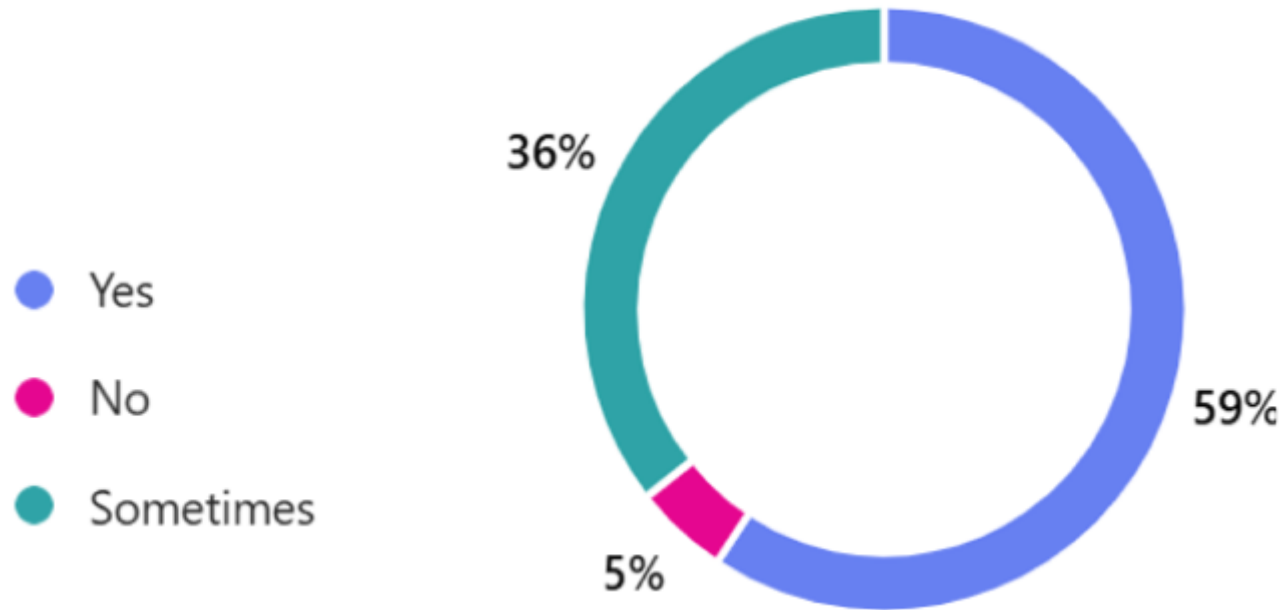
Student responses

How often did you need a digital device for classwork or project work this school year

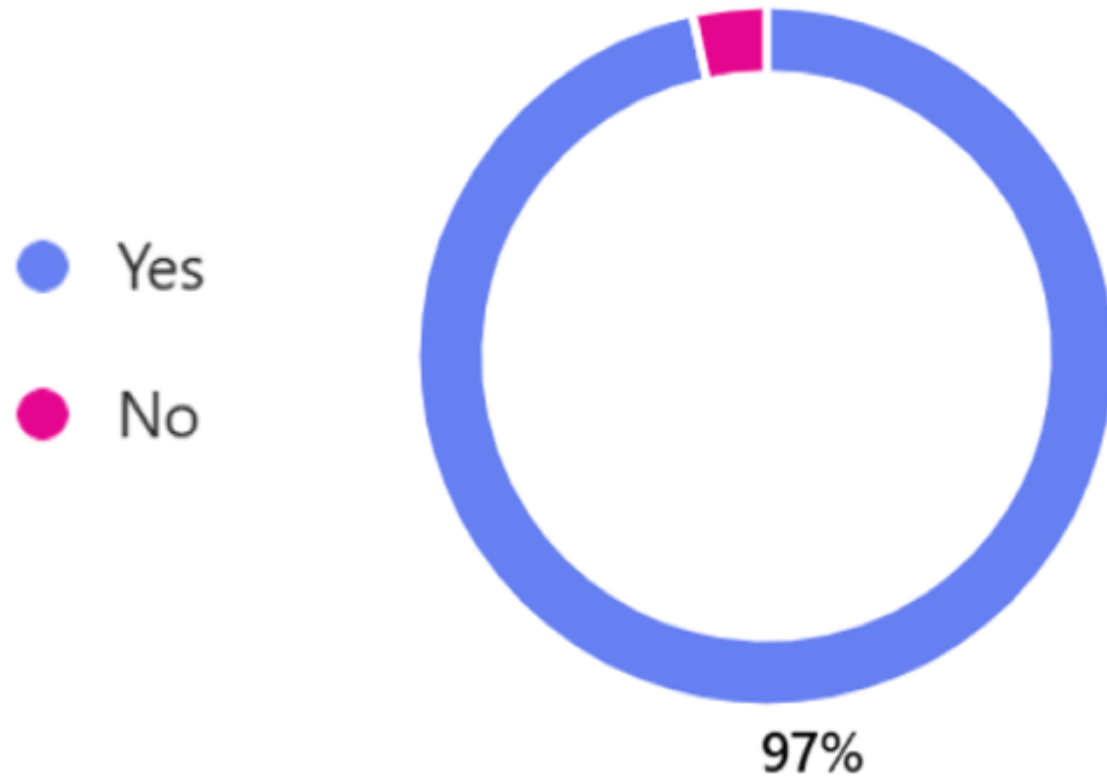


Student responses

Did limited access to shared laptops affect your ability to complete coursework



Would having your own device from the start of 5th year have made it easier to do your coursework



What benefits do you think having your own device would provide?

- Ability to work on projects anytime
- Able to log in faster and get more done in class time
- Better organisation of notes and assignments

With this idea us students would have all our notes, assignments, and resources stored in one place. Less need to carry heavy books and folders and getting our notes lost, Easy to track homework and deadlines also. It would also help students who may struggle with learning difficulties so they could use adjustable text size, screen readers, and speech-to-text tools to help them. It also would teach care and security of their own device.

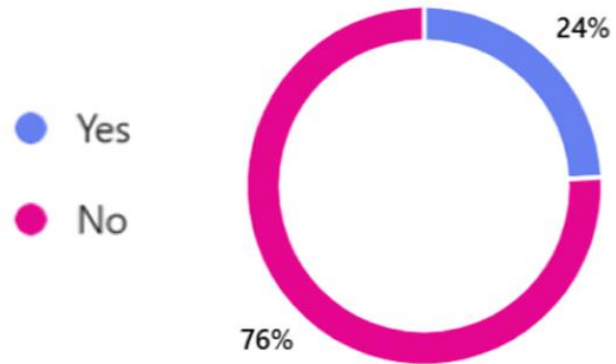
Having personal devices would speed the process of project work up as you can be quicker as no issue with your device, more organised saving or downloading research etc to device and available to work in and out of school hours

Having my own personal laptop will enable me to get work done quicker help me with studies and boost overall working skills

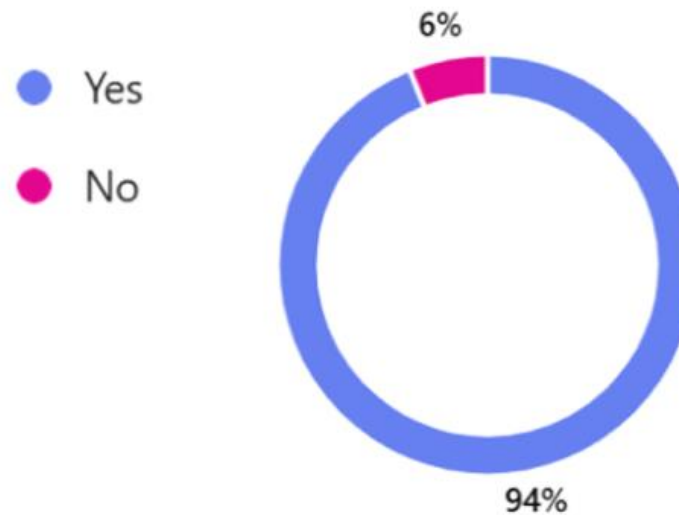
The laptops can be hard to book for teachers at times so getting work done can be hard when you are limited to such a short time frame when you do eventually get them, I think students using personal devices would be a great benefit, being able to sit down straight away when getting to class and start to work on projects and work with no delay, especially leading up to the leaving cert.

Parent responses

Were you aware of the digital requirements for the new Senior Cycle course?



Do you believe having their own device would have benefitted the students learning and helped with project work



What concerns would you have about such a program

- Cost
- Maintenance and repairs

I would prefer to buy a laptop ourselves that would then be owned by the student. I presume the laptop on this scheme would have to be handed back at the end of 6th year?

I think in the current environment there is too much evidence against using devices to replace hardcopy books. We are trying to discourage so much time online but yet suggest that our students go digital for their schooling. This is not something I would support.

The majority of jobs in the future will be in the digital domain. 5th year students should be using a computer moving towards college where everything is digitalised

Teacher Perspective

Brian Doyle

Student Perspective

Cian O' Reilly



Benefits for our students

- Ability to access their own device for work
- Inclusivity- student who require assistive technology can use it without feeling that they stand out from their peers
- All students have the same device which is fully managed, has a 3 year warranty, 3 years accidental damage cover and full support for students and parents
- 1 to 1 device will work better for longer than shared devices as there are less people using them
- Be better prepared for college, apprenticeships and working life



Important

- **NOT** a replacement for books and copies-exams will still have to be written
- Students can't bring in their own devices- must be the same managed devices from one company to ensure a safe and focussed learning environment
- Devices can be unlocked at the end of 6th year for students to use after school with a full years warranty continuing.
- This year was chosen due to the upcoming demands of next years subjects



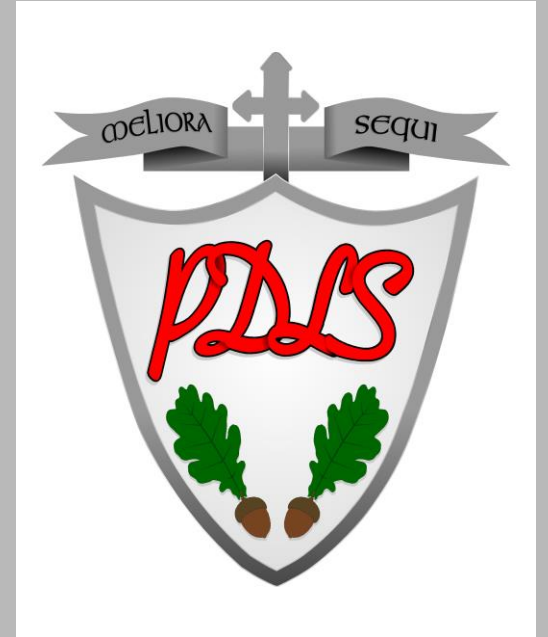
Next steps

Survey of TY parents to assess interest for incoming students

Survey of current transition year students

Information evening update
March 12th

Meeting Board of
Management



Contact us with further questions or queries

Thank you

