

INFORMATION

for parents and guardians

Many pupils in the 5th and 6th school years at new secondary schools (1st and 2nd grades), the lower levels of academic secondary schools (1st and 2nd grades) and special schools will be provided with a notebook or tablet from the autumn.¹

This is designed to create a level playing field that enables all school pupils to have access to digital education. As an agency of the Austrian federal government, the OeAD supports the government's Digital Learning initiative and is available to answer any questions you may have about this initiative.

Do you have any questions? You can contact the OeAD at digitaleslernen@oead.at and, from 28 June 2021, by phone too.



This information for parents is also available in other languages on the website: digitaleslernen.oead.at.

WHY DIGITAL DEVICES?

Digital skills are becoming increasingly important in everyday life and at work. Notebooks, tablets and digital media also enrich the learning experience through more varied and innovative lessons, and enable pupils to be effectively supported on their individual learning paths.

THE DIGITAL DEVICES

Your school has made the decision in the School Community Committee to become a digital school and has selected the type of device in line with its educational concept. In order to facilitate the smooth deployment of digital devices and efficient device management at the school, each school site will use only one type of device.

Would you like to know which type of device your child will receive? Your school will be happy to provide you with information and explain to you how the devices will be integrated into school life.

DIGITAL DEVICES

- + notebooks
- + tablets or
- + convertibles
(in the case of Chromebooks)

DIGITAL COMPETENCE

- + proficient and safe use of digital devices
- + responsible use of the internet and digital media

Your child will also be able to use the device at home. It should last for at least four years of school lessons. This means that your son/daughter must use the device responsibly.

At school, there will be clear rules on using the devices.

Please support your child at home in learning to use their device responsibly.

Advice on how to support your child effectively will be provided, for example, in the webinars held by the OeAD in partnership with Saferinternet.at and the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF). To find out more, visit digitaleslernen.oead.at.

CONTRIBUTION

There is a 25% usage contribution for private use of the device. This contribution is to be paid by parents and guardians. It will come to around €100 and may vary slightly depending on the type of device. Your school will let you know how much you need to pay.



¹ The Federal Act on Funding the Digitalisation of School Education (SchDigiG) is the legal basis that provides the implementation framework.

HANDOVER OF DEVICES AND GUARANTEE

Before you receive the device, you will be informed about the legal conditions, including your obligation to pay a 25% usage contribution (around €100) and the handover procedure for the device.

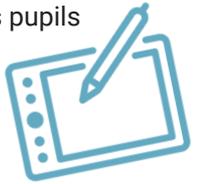


When the device is handed over to you, ownership of the device is then transferred to you/your child, as are all risks and the responsibility for the guarantee. The devices have a four-year guarantee. We also recommend that you take out voluntary insurance so that you are covered for all eventualities (e.g. for loss). You will receive detailed information about the guarantee and insurance.

APPLYING FOR AN EXEMPTION

Under certain circumstances, you may apply for an exemption from the 25% usage contribution. You may be exempt if: you received a grant (Beihilfe) for a sibling in the previous school year, if you receive minimum income benefit (Mindestsicherung), social assistance (Sozialhilfe), compensatory allowance (Ausgleichszulage) or emergency assistance (Notstandshilfe), or if you are exempt from paying broadcasting licence fees.² The OeAD will provide you with an overview of the official documents that you can submit if you wish

to apply for an exemption from the usage contribution. You will also receive information about how to apply for an exemption. In the event that your child changes school during the school year, for example, and moves to a school that uses a different type of device, there will be a pool of devices available that enables pupils to exchange their previous device for the type of device they need at their new school.



QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS ABOUT THE DEVICE INITIATIVE

If you have any queries, please contact the OeAD.

You can find a wide range of content on the Digital Learning device initiative's website (digitaleslernen.oead.at). The website includes a raft of information about the initiative, dates of events, a separate page for parents and guardians (video guides on the most important topics coming soon!) and a FAQ section with answers to commonly asked questions.

If you have any questions about the device initiative, you can contact the OeAD team by email at digitaleslernen@oead.at and also by phone from 28 June 2021. Contact details are provided at digitaleslernen.oead.at.



Please support your child in learning to use their new notebook or tablet responsibly.

Stay up-to-date by registering for our newsletter:



Free webinars

Starting in September, webinars will be available for parents and guardians: whether you're looking for information about how the devices will be used in lessons or want to find out more about using the digital devices at home, your questions will be answered in these webinars.

Participation is free of charge; further information about the specific events is available on the OeAD website.

