

Back-to-School device readiness

checklist for K-12 IT teams





Everything you need to prepare, secure, and distribute student devices before day one.





Pre-deployment planning



- Audit your current inventory and record device conditions
- Set device lending goals and define student-to-device ratios
- Assess device needs for new enrollments and program expansion
- Review last year's lessons and adjust planning accordingly





Procurement and repairs

	Repair or retire damaged devices from last year

Factory reset and prep reusable devices

Finalize procurement based on inventory gaps and budget

Log all device serial numbers and assign Prey IDs





Security policy & compliance updates

Update Acceptable Use Policies (AUP) for students
Ensure policies meet FERPA/CIPA/compliance requirements
Collect digital or physical parent/guardian consent forms
Enable encryption, MFA, and firewall protections





Software & access configuration

Install	essential	learning	applications	and updates

Set user permissions, app restrictions, and allowed usage hours								
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Configure network access and school do	l domain	policies
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Device loan setup & monitoring

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- Schedule and document distribution days and locations
- Set loan duration, renewal, and overdue policies
- Automate reminders for returns and loan expiration





Lost or stolen device response plan

Set up Prey geofences around school and off-campus zones
Enable alerts for unauthorized movement or tampering

Train staff on how to report and escalate incidents

Test remote lock, wipe, and missing report workflows





Cybersecurity & data protection

Install anti-malware and endpoint protection on all devices
Ensure OS and app patches are up-to-date

- Conduct cybersecurity awareness training for staff and students
- Limit admin access and enforce password policies





Rollout strategy & follow-up

Start with a small teacher/staff group to pilot distribution
Expand to full grades only after addressing pilot issues
Document feedback and adjust rollout as needed
Schedule follow-up audits and tech support windows

Want the full playbook?

Want a deeper dive into school device distribution?

Download our full guide: Beginning of the School Year Device

Distribution Best Practices. It's packed with tips on planning, privacy, incident response, and rollout strategies.

Download guide

Let's build a stronger—and on-budget—1:1 program together



Too many devices, too little time?

We help K–12 IT teams like yours to track, secure, and manage school tech—without the spreadsheet gymnastics. Let's chat about how Prey can fit into your 1:1 or shared device strategy.



About Prey

Prey is a cross-platform **Device Tracking & Security** tool to stay in control of remote assets. It's a service that protects over 8 million devices and their data every day, all around the world.

Prey started in 2009 as a small tech company with a sole purpose: helping people keep track of their devices. 15 years later, our service evolved into a trusted multi-tool for both people and businesses. We are experts at tracking, protecting and managing your work and play tech tools. And a proud team of people willing to support you.

Prey for: People | Businesses | Schools

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