

## Ardenleigh Secure CAMHS Media Policy (October 2023)

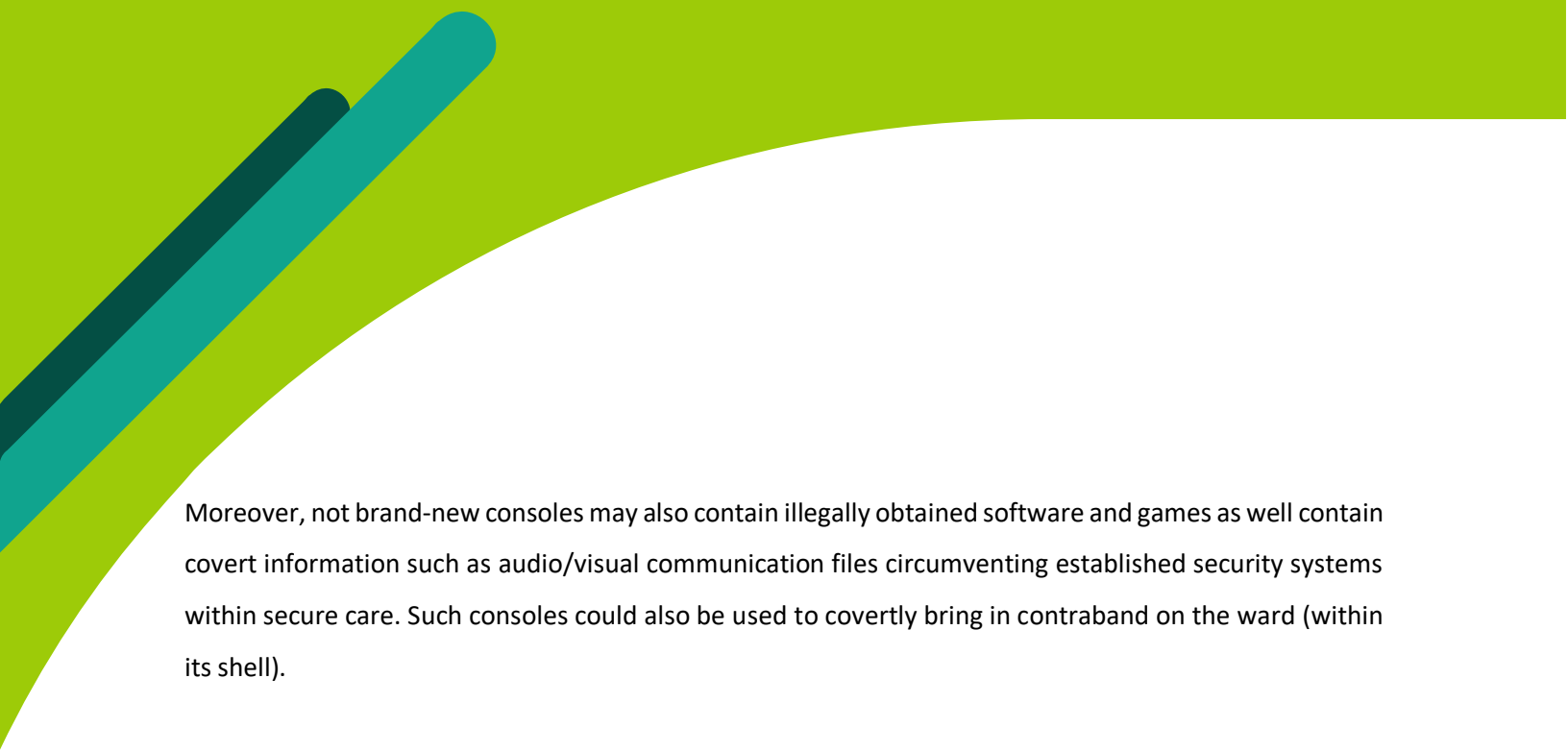
This is an addendum policy that should be read in conjunction with the 'Broadcast, Digital Media & Devices policy' for secure services.

### Games consoles



The current media policy, ratified in March 2019, allows the purchase of consoles that have networking capabilities i.e. through a wireless interface. Due to concerns about the extensive storage capability of games consoles, patients were not permitted to bring their games console in from home, as referenced in the Broadcast, Digital Media and Devices policy.

There are additional concerns that these devices can be modified from their original firmware externally (software programmed into the device), which can open-up the console to unvetted security protocols and exploit vulnerabilities in systems. There are additional concerns about the potentiality of consoles connecting to the internet and breaching security systems.





Moreover, not brand-new consoles may also contain illegally obtained software and games as well contain covert information such as audio/visual communication files circumventing established security systems within secure care. Such consoles could also be used to covertly bring in contraband on the ward (within its shell).

For **LSU services**, gaming consoles that are permitted must be brand new and at the time of security checks, they would need to be unopened in its original retail packaging. Service users must request in the weekly Clinical Team Meeting (CTM) the nature of the gaming console that they wish to bring onto the unit. Each individual young person will have a risk assessment completed in relation to the safe use of the console. The new console is to then be PAT tested before it can be used by the service user on the ward. This PAT test needs to be completed on an annual basis from then on.

Most consoles do not allow connectivity with one another. However, the Nintendo Switch is a special case. It is imperative that the Nintendo Switch's parental controls is managed by the clinical staff. This is to ensure that the Nintendo Switch continuously runs in "Airplane" mode. This restriction will help to manage this risk.

All consoles are to be checked monthly. This includes a review of the integrity of the device as well as checks on the connectivity settings to ensure there is no breach of security such as the "Airplane" mode being switched off for the Nintendo Switch.

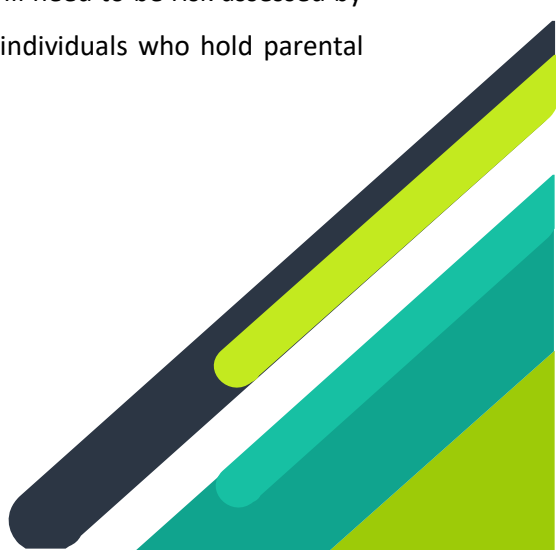




For **MSU services**, access to gaming consoles will be restricted and any consoles will not be allowed on the unit, apart from the already purchased consoles by the ward. These consoles will be available for use by patients in the dedicated games room. All console access will be supervised in the games room. All consoles are to be checked monthly. This includes a review of the integrity of the device as well as checks on the connectivity settings to ensure there is no breach of security such as the “Airplane” mode being switched off for the Nintendo Switch.

For **both services**, in the event gaming consoles have to be updated to the latest official firmware to allow certain video games to be played, these updates must be done independently by trained security or clinical staff such as OT/activity workers/OT assistants/other healthcare staff. This may be done without the host console connecting to the internet, as the latter should not be available on the unit in the first place. For example, the PS4 can be updated via USB stick and the software can be downloaded onto the USB stick from another computer, which would then need to be connected to the PS4 thereafter. If the latter is not possible, then this would need to be done over a private internet source that does not encroach into the space of the clinical areas of Ardenleigh. To ensure that clinical systems do not get compromised, the downloading of the software must take place outside of the trust internet networks i.e. done privately.

The nature of video games must also be age appropriate. In cases, where there is a suspicion that a video game may negatively contribute to the risk profile of the user then this will need to be risk assessed by the clinical team. In achieving the final decision, attaining the views of individuals who hold parental responsibility will also be important.



### MP3 players

Not all types of MP3 players are permitted. Devices that can record and store audio and video are not allowed. It is becoming increasingly difficult to find MP3 players that do not have Bluetooth technology embedded within it. By not permitting MP3 players that allow voice or video recording, this will mitigate the risk of secret messages being shared between service users.



To support young people in attaining access to music, the clinical team will provide an MP3 player to all inpatients. However, the music content for the MP3 player must have been obtained or purchased legally to avoid infringements in copyright. Young people will be allowed to purchase CDs so that they can be downloaded directly into the MP3 players. The process of downloading music from the CDs must be done by OT/activity workers. Access to internet-based music archives for the purpose of downloading content like Spotify and SoundCloud is strictly prohibited.

Young people will need to sign a contract to be allowed access to a MP3 player. They will be provided one MP3 player free of charge from the trust. If there is any damage to the MP3 player, then the young person will be liable to being charged for the item.

MP3 players cannot be taken home or sent away with non-clinical staff, as this could potentially be a portal for breaching security communications and copyright laws.

### **Video players e.g. DVD, Blu-ray**



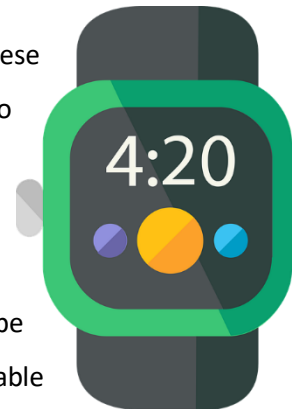
Young people will be allowed access to video players, but each individual will need to be risk assessed as such devices often have to be connected to other devices via multiple wires. Video players that have internal storage are not allowed.

Globally, getting access to video players without SD cards inputs are increasingly becoming difficult so these video players are allowed. This is not seen to be a major security threat as SD cards are not permitted onto the hospital as highlighted in the Broadcast, Digital Media & Devices policy.

### **Smartwatches/fitness bands**

Smartwatches for young people are not permitted. This is because many of these devices allow the secret transfer of either audio, textual or visual information to others. This ban also applies to staff.

Basic fitness bands that do not allow the secret transfer of information, as highlighted above, will be permitted. However, each individual item must be screened by security first before use due to the vast types of fitness bands available on the market.

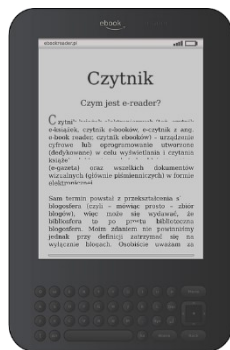


As there has been an increase in the availability of fitness of bands, with increased functionality of such bands, the clinical team will therefore provide a list of fitness bands that would be suitable for the security needs of the service.

### **Storage devices**

In addition to the restricted and prohibited items highlighted in the main Broadcast, Digital Media & Devices policy, it has been concluded that bringing in blank CDs is not allowed. However, these can be purchased directly from the Occupational Therapy team for the purposes of therapeutic sessions.

### **Tablet with only reading functionality**



There is the availability of tablet readers such as the black and white Amazon Kindle (with no additional media or connectivity options) that exclusively only allows the reading of e-books. As this device requires connection to the internet to download the respective e-book, it is imperative that the e-books are downloaded privately (off unit) by trained security or healthcare staff. These tablets can then be used on the ward by service users.

### **Miscellaneous**

All devices, regardless of whether it is new or not, will need to be PAT tested and this will need to be done on an annual basis. This will ensure that the respective item is safe. There will be a monthly audit, to ensure that these devices are checked on a regular basis.

Additional devices not covered in this policy that would be needed for therapeutic interventions will be subject to independent scrutiny and subsequent review through clinical governance.