

Connecting computers

Year 3 Computing | Knowledge organiser

Digital devices take in information, process it and produce an output. Connecting devices helps us share information.

● How digital devices work

INPUT

Information goes in.

Example Drawing on a tablet

Touch the screen with your finger.

PROCESS

The device works on it.

The program follows instructions.

OUTPUT

A result comes out.

A coloured line appears on screen.

Input devices

Keyboard • mouse • microphone

Output devices

Screen • speakers • printer

Remember: a touchscreen is both an input and an output. One input can produce more than one output.

● Digital or non-digital

Digital: a tablet, laptop or digital camera can process information.

Non-digital: a pencil, paper or paintbrush does not process digital information.

Two ways to create a picture

With a painting program: undo mistakes, edit, save and share.

With paper and pencils: draw directly and erase or redraw.

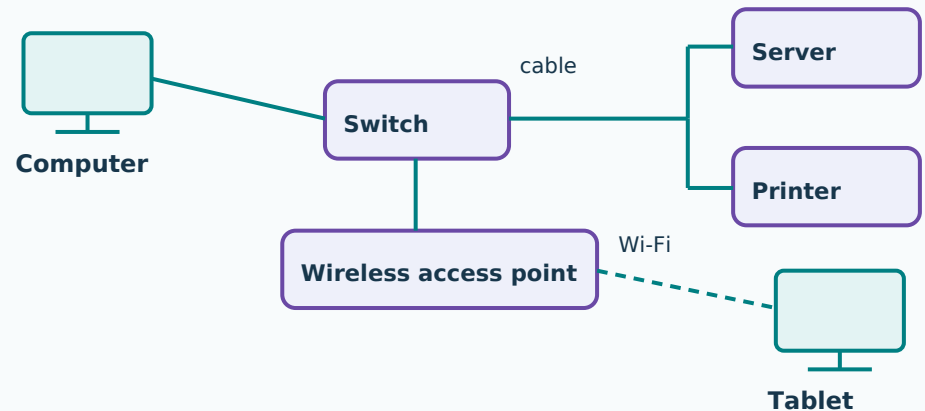
Both ways let us choose colours and make marks.

● Keep passwords safe

Use a long password that is hard to guess. Avoid your name or birthday. Keep it private and follow school guidance.

● A computer network

A network is a group of connected devices that can share information (data). Connections can be wired or wireless.



An example network Your school network may look different.

● Know the network parts

Switch

Connects wired devices and sends data to the right device.

Server

Provides shared files or services to other devices.

Wireless access point

Connects wireless devices to the network using Wi-Fi.

Router

Connects different networks, such as a school network and the internet.

Why connect? To share files, send messages, work together and use shared devices such as printers.

Remember: Wi-Fi is a wireless connection to a network. It does not always give internet access.