Touch Typing

Typing programmes Using IT effectively is a key life skill. It is particularly useful for children with special needs. However, it requires a number of key skills.

To use ICT effectively, particularly with a view to recording work in a classroom as an alternative to writing, a child needs to be able to understand how to save, file and find their work effectively and independently. This means that practicing typing skills is a really good activity. There are lots of online programmes to help children learn to type correctly and quickly.

Children need to know how to:

• Link upper- and lower-case letters

• Find letters on the keyboard proficiently

• Manipulate their fingers to land on the correct keys quickly

Useful Websites to learn these basic skills include:

BBC Bitesize Dance Mat Typing - This is free and teaches the basics.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zf2f9j6/articles/z3c6tfr

Typing.com - This has clear graphics with little fuss which works well for some children.

https://www.typing.com/en-gb

Typing club - This is an American Website similar to Typing.com and it is free.

https://www.typingclub.com/kids-typing

Nessy Fingers - Designed for children with dyslexia and the licence costs £30 per year.

https://www.nessy.com/uk/product/nessy-fingers/

IT and Apps - Another way to help your child to use IT to record work if they are struggling with typing, is investigate voice to text apps that are becoming increasingly available on devices. These may require some 'tuning in', practice and checking as they are not always totally accurate!