

8 February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Free Touch-Typing Programme

Due to the current pandemic and the subsequent schooling arrangements, our pupils are spending more time working on their computers. We understand that for some this is a breeze, but for others it presents several challenges. We are delighted therefore, to be able to give all our pupils the opportunity to improve their typing. This will benefit them, not just for now, but also into their future.

Our interactive web-based programme guides them through learning the keys, with correct hand posture, in over 600 short lessons. It is a highly structured game-based programme, with rewards at each level, that are tailored to individual pupils and their performance. We understand the hours sat at the computer at present however it takes just a few minutes regular practice each week to begin on the road to mastery.

Despite an increasing use of talking technologies, learning to type remains a fundamental skill. Learning to type at speed and with accuracy has many benefits: it saves us time, makes us more productive, increases our focus and provides us greater opportunities. *Expert touch-typing means developed muscle memory, which means that our brain has less to concentrate on. This lets pupils focus on thinking about the work they are doing, the quality of the answers they are providing and the depth of knowledge they can show.*

If your son/daughter would like to join the programme, please email me (wheelera@testvalley.hants.sch.uk)

It is a perfect time to take up learning this new skill with online learning meaning additional regular practice!

Keep safe, keep well, keep learning.

Kind regards

Ali Wheeler, SENCo