Computers are linked together in **networks**.

A network is just a group of computers which can share files, software and resources like printers.

The school network means that you can log on to any machine and get the files you were working on somewhere else.

To make a network you need to join computers together:

- using cables
- using wi-fi
- using bluetooth

Networks make sharing files and software much easier. You can also share the same resources - so not every computer has to have its own printer.

The problem with networks is that they can be difficult to set up and cost money. It can also be less secure.

The internet is an example of a very large computer network.

It makes it much easier to share information that is held on machines called servers in different parts of the world.

It makes communication between people much easier.