

In this piece of coursework I will be talking about I.C.T in the Community. I will be talking about the communities of Halesowen which is a town near to Birmingham.

Here are some of the buildings, in the community that use technology; Libraries, Halesowen Library, Queensway, The Cornbow, Halesowen, B63 4AZ, these use computers at the front desk, they can check what books are in stock and can set accounts up for holders with a library card. West Midlands Fire Station, Halesowen Fire Station, Hagley Road, Halesowen, West Midlands, B63 4JS, they use technology to record places which have had fires or where they have had to called to in an emergency. Hospitals, Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospital, Dudley Road, Birmingham, West Midlands, B18 7QH, they will need to use a lot of technology in order for the hospital to run, they will need to use computers to save peoples records after an accident, operation, check-ups and personal information. They will also need to use technology in their theatres during surgery in order for the operation to be successful. Airports, Birmingham International Airport, Birmingham, B26 3QJ, airports need to use technology for scanning, this allows staff to check for any devices that shouldn't be taken to other countries, such as smuggling drugs or illegal possessions from one country to another illegally. They also use technology with metal detectors these work by detecting if you have anything metal on a beep shows if you have, they do this just incase you have a knife or any dangerous objects hidden in your pockets.



#### ATM

An ATM is an automatic telling machine; it is on 24 hours a day. It allows people to check their balance and take money out at any time of the day and you don't have to wait in the long cue at a bank.

This machine is handy because you can take out money if you run out, when you have gone out with your friends or family.

This machine is not that handy because recently there has been a crime, where when you put your card in the slot and put your pin number in, it would record the pin number, from the hidden camera, and it would not give you back your card. So then when the thieves go to collect all the data they have recorded,

they will be able to take out money so soon there will be none left in the owner's bank account.

An ATM works by you having a bank card and with that card a pin. You then have to put your card in the slot and enter your pin, then you have a number of options from checking your balanced to withdrawing money, it gives you a choice to receive a receipt when you withdrawal money.

There is a Lloyds TSB ATM on the Hagley Road for people in the community to use.



#### Tills

In shops they have tills, that when you purchase a product from the shop you can pay and the money will go into the till, if you need change, the cashier will put the amount given into the till and it will automatically tell you how much change you will need to give.

The disadvantage is that anybody could come and take out money when the cashier is not looking, although most tills now have a special pin and a key to get access to the money.

Most shops have tills, for example Woolworths or Sainsbury's.



#### Traffic Lights

Most streets have traffic lights; streets need traffic lights to make the roads safer. Without traffic lights cars will be crashing onto each other, as they wouldn't know who's right of way it is and the people's right of way may not be applicable on some streets. It is safer for pedestrians that we have traffic lights to.

The lights are on for 24 hours a day, they never stop, they are programmed to sequence which means they will be on time for an equal, sensible amount of time, red to green.

Most roads have traffic lights stopping and helping the public be safe, for example there's traffic lights on Kent Road outside of our school for the safety of students and other people in the community.



#### Street Lights

Street Lights help us when it is dark, otherwise in the winter nights when it is really dark we wouldn't be able to see the road and other traffic.

These are not on 24 hours of the day; they have a sensor on the top of the light where when it is dark it automatically turns the light on.

Most roads have street lights to light up the streets for example Long Lane near our school.



### Speed Cameras

The disadvantage to a speed camera is that when a sign for speed camera appears cars tend to slow down, when they actually see the speed camera they slow down to the appropriate speed, but once the speed camera is out of view cars tend to speed up again, so having a speed camera doesn't make a lot of

difference.

The penalty if you get caught by a speed camera is three points or more depending on the speed you were going out, off your licence and a fine. If you get up to twelve points on your licence your licence will be taken off you. It may make drivers think twice once they have points, to drive at the speed.

Speed Cameras work by shining a light which will detect what speed the car is going and if it is over the speed limit the camera will take a picture of the car for future evidence.

Some roads have speed cameras which have been spots for accidents for example Wolverhampton Road.



### CCTV

CCTV stands for Close Circuit Television.

These are used for security reasons to protect shops or houses and our community and it will help to prevent crime

The tapes can be evidence for the police for example, if there is a robbery, the tapes can

be sent to the police to help find the thieves.

Some roads have CCTV for example the Bullring Shopping Centre.

### Evaluation

There are many services that people can get access to however there are also many limitations to them. People can access their money at anytime of the day without having to actually get to the bank. But there is a limit to the amount that you can get each day about £250. Also if there is a problem you cannot get all of the information that you need. Tills help to improve the service offered to customers meaning that people can be served faster.

There are many things in the community that make people feel safer. It helps people to walk down the street safely at night as they can see where they are walking. It prevents people from tripping over things and not walking into the road and getting injured. CCTV helps to act as a deterrent to criminals and should make people feel safer. However many criminals know that they won't be caught as the quality of the image that is taken is poor and often grainy making it difficult to see who has committed the crime. To improve these more digital cameras should be employed as they capture a better quality image and it is easier to see the criminals. Speed camera should work to slow down traffic and prevent accidents, but most car drivers slow down as they approach the camera and then speed up as they go past it. This means they only slow down for a small amount of time.