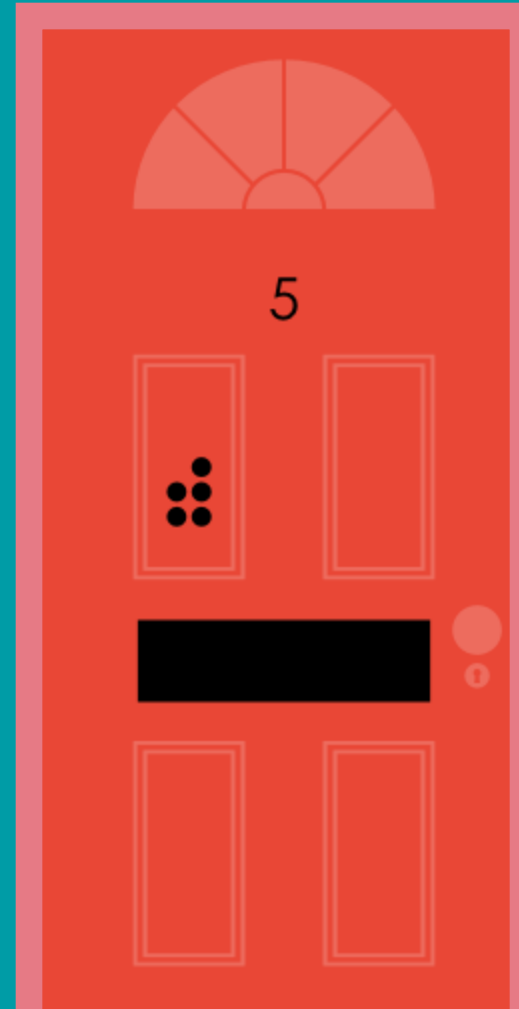


# Sorting Office Maths Challenge

## How are letters and parcels sorted?

Key words: postcode, barcode, grouped.



Supported by



# Sorting letters and parcels

Technology is used to speed up the process of sorting the mail.

At the sorting office letters and parcels are sorted separately.



# What happens to letters?



Letters are loaded onto a large conveyor belt which carries them up to a revolving drum.

# Sorting by size



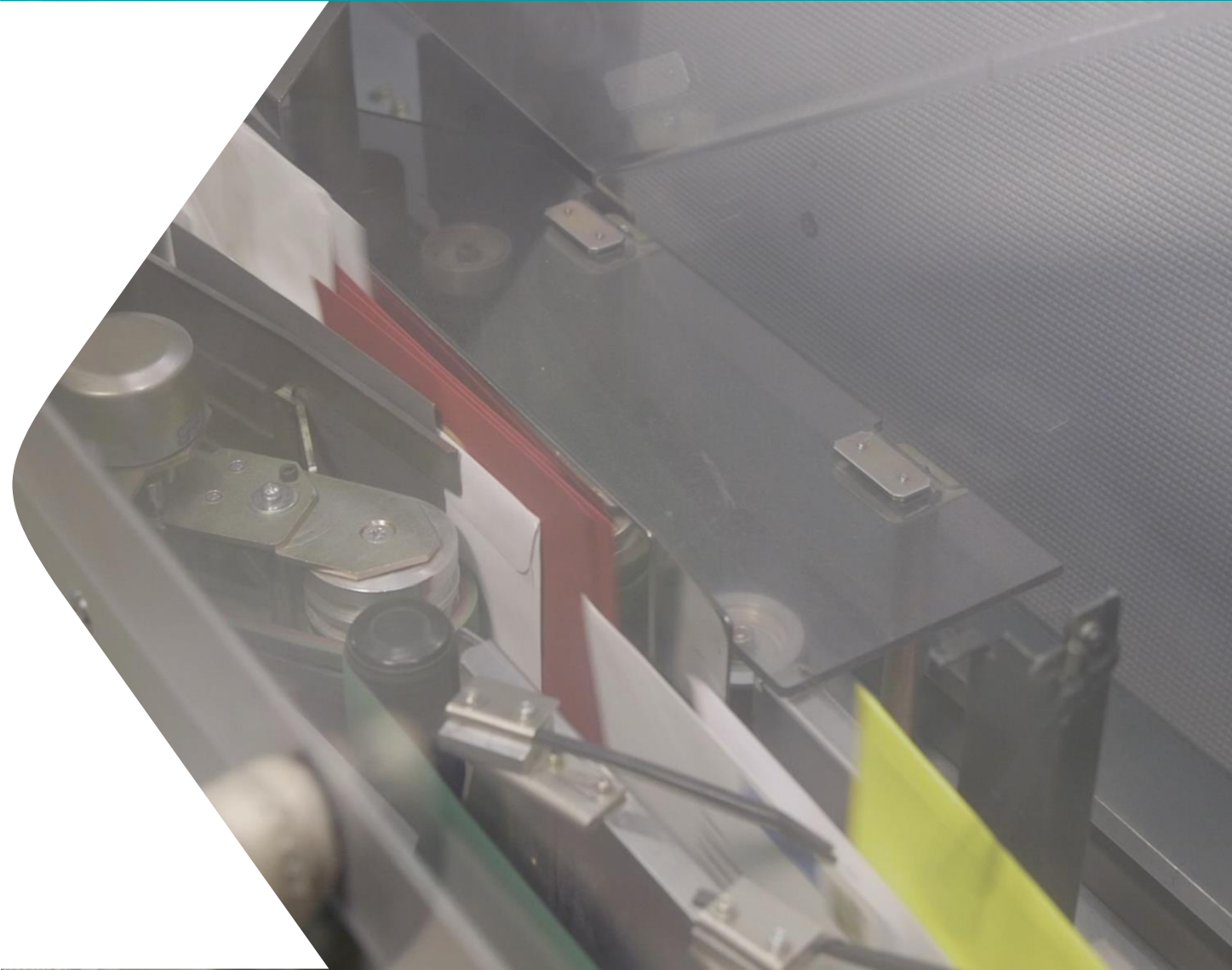
As the drum turns it sorts letters by their **size** and **thickness**.

Smaller letters and cards pass into the next part of the **machine**.

# Reading the envelopes

The machines make sure that the letters are all **facing forward**.

This will allow the **information** on the front of the **envelopes** to be read by the machines.



# Sorting by postage stamp



The 1<sup>st</sup> class and 2<sup>nd</sup> class post is then **separated**.

Letters with stamps are sorted using **UV light**.



Letters with a 1<sup>st</sup> class stamp are sorted **before** those with a 2<sup>nd</sup> class stamp.

# Postcodes and barcodes

The Intelligent Letter Sorting Machine reads the **postcode** and prints a **barcode**.



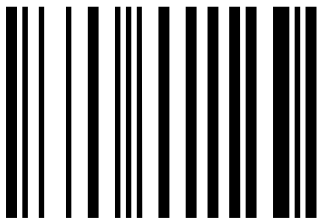
The barcode tells the machines **how and where** to sort the

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# What happens to parcels?

Parcels are sorted using much **larger machines**.

Parcels arrive with a **barcode** or **QR code**.



They tell the machine how and where to sort the parcel.





# Sorting and loading into yorks

Mail that is being delivered to a similar **area** are grouped together in trolleys called **Yorks**.

These trolleys are named Yorks because they were designed in the city of York, England.

Letters



Parcels



# Sending to the delivery office

The letters and parcels are then ready to be loaded into lorries.

The lorries transport them to the closest delivery office to their destination.

