**#include <iostream>**

this is known as a pre-processor directive. it instructs the compiler to locate the file that contains code for a library known as iostream.

**int main()**

**main** It is referred to as the entry point for the application when you start execution of the program on your computer.

**int** portion is the return type of the method

The empty parentheses **()** after the method name indicate that this a method and that it takes no arguments, in other words, there are no parameters for passing in values.

**cout** (pronounced "see out") to send the text Hello World! to the console for output and display

The **std::** prefix to this command is a way of indicating that cout is part of a namespace known as std

The **::** is is used to indicate that cout is part of the std namespace.

**return 0** The return statement is used to end a function or method when a value is expected to be sent back to a caller. In this case, the caller is the operating system and the value returned is an integer value of 0

In the past, programmers would return 0 to indicate successful execution and non-zero values to indicate that an error had occurred in the program somewhere.