



Key Vocabulary

| Word | Definition | ● / ● |
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| Angles | Tribes from an area known today as Denmark that settled in Britain from 450 AD . They became known as some of the first Anglo-Saxons | |
| Anglo-Saxons | Made up of the Angles, Saxons and Jutes (from Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands), these tribes ruled Britain between the time after the Romans left and before the Vikings arrived. | |
| Celts/Britons | Those people who lived in England and Wales | |
| Christianity | A religion based on the teachings of Jesus Christ. | |
| Heptarchy | The 7 kingdoms of Britain: Northumbria, Mercia, East Anglia, Essex, Sussex, Wessex and Kent. | |
| Invaders | People who enter an area and take control of it by force. | |
| Jutes | Tribes from the Netherlands who settled in Britain from 450 AD . | |
| Kingdom | An area ruled by a king or queen. | |
| Pagan | Someone who follows the Paganism religion worshipping many gods | |
| Picts | Tribes from Scotland who were often feared for their fierce fighters. | |
| Saxons | Tribes from Germany, who settled in Britain from 450 AD . They were also among the first Anglo-Saxons | |
| Scots | People from Ireland who were fierce and powerful fighters. | |

Key Facts

- The early Anglo-Saxons believed in Paganism and worshipped many gods with festivals and sacrifices.
- Pagans also believed in good and bad omens, lucky charms, spells, rituals and magic.
- At the end of this period, Christianity became the main religion in Britain. In AD 597, a Roman monk called Augustine was sent to tell the Anglo-Saxons about Christianity. King Ethelbert of Kent was the first to be converted and was baptised along with 10,000 of his people. Over the next 100 years, the rest of the kingdoms converted to Christianity too.
- Many Christian places of worship were then built.
- A monastery was built on Lindisfarne. This Holy Island was influential and monks here spread Christianity across North England.

- After the Romans left Britain, Britain was mostly left to those who lived there before the Romans.
- They were **the Celts** (who lived in **England and Wales** and became known as the **Britons**); the **Picts** (who lived in **Scotland**); and the **Scots** who came from **Ireland**.
- These tribes began to fight and the Britons couldn't defend themselves well. However, there were three tribes of strong fighters in Europe: the Jutes, the Angles and the Saxons.
- They joined the Britons to help defend their land. The Angles joined with the Saxons, becoming the Anglo-Saxons.

Previous Knowledge

In Year 1, you learnt to use timelines effectively; make historical comparisons; and about significant historical events. In Year 2, you learnt to identify the impact of historical events; use sources to support your knowledge; and began to understand sequencing on a timeline. This year, you learnt about the tools, homes, food, culture and practices from Ancient Rome and Ancient Egypt. This included how Britain changed throughout these periods.

Key Figures in Anglo-Saxon Britain

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| King Vortigern | The king left in charge after the Romans left Britain. |
| Hengest and Horsa | King Vortigern's brothers from Jutland (in modern day Denmark). They helped to keep the Picts and Scots out of Britain. |
| Augustine | A Roman monk who was sent to Britain to persuade the Britons to become Christians . After his death, he was made a saint. |
| King Ethelbert | The king of Kent who was the first King to convert to Christianity . |
| Columba | An Irish abbot (head of a monastery) who introduced Christianity to Scotland. |
| King Oswald | The king of Northumbria who introduced Christianity to his people. |
| Aidan | An Irish monk who helped King Oswald introduce Christianity in Northumbria. He became the first bishop of Lindisfarne. |

Timeline

Princess Bertha | Christian (and wife of Aethelbert) who helped Augustine convert the King to Christianity

King Aethelbert | King of Kent who created the first Germanic law code in the early 7th century

King Offa | King of Mercia and most of England in the mid 8th century

Gildas | Monk who wrote about the Roman and Saxon invasions of Britain

Bede | Monk in Northumbrian monastery who wrote a history of the English church and people

AD 1500

Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms

Key Questions

- When was the Anglo-Saxon period?
- Who were the Anglo-Saxons made up of?
- Why did the Anglo-Saxons come to Britain?
- Where did the Anglo-Saxons come from?
- Why were the Scots and Picts a threat to Britons?
- Who were the Celts/Britons?
- What was the main religion in Britain during the Anglo-Saxon period?
- How did this change over time?
- Who were some key figures from this time period?
- How was Britain divided into kingdoms?
- Are there any lasting effects from this time period on life in Britain today?

Timeline

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| 410 CE | Last Romans leave Britain and the Picts begin to attack the Britons |
| 449–450 CE | Angles, Saxons and Jutes begin to settle in Britain |
| 515 CE | Battle of Mount Badon – between the Britons and the Anglo-Saxons |
| 570 CE | Heptarchy emerges in England |
| 597 CE | St Augustine brings Christianity to England from Rome |
| 613 CE | Northumbrian kings rule over most of England |
| 731 CE | Bede completes <i>Ecclesiastical History of the English People</i> |
| 757 CE | Offa becomes King of Mercia and arguably first king of all England |
| 789 CE | First recorded Viking attack (in Dorset) |