

## Anglo-Saxons

## **HISTORY KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER**

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY	
Angles	Tribes from an area today known as modern day Denmark that settled in Britain from around AD 450. They were one of the tribes that became known as the first Anglo-Saxons.
Saxons	A tribe from the north coast of Europe, especially Germany, that settled in Britain from around AD 450. They were one of the tribes that became known as the first Anglo-Saxons
Picts	Tribes originally from Scotland who were often feared.
Scots	People from Ireland who, like the Picts, were fierce and powerful fighters.
Invaders	People who enter an area and take control of it by force.
Kingdom	An area ruled by a king or queen
Pagan	Someone who follows the Paganism religion and worships many gods and goddesses.

## Time Line

**AD 449-**Thought to be when Anglo-Saxon invaders arrive in Britain.

**AD 450-** Saxons from Germany land in Britain and settle in Kent.

**AD 600-** Seven kingdoms are created across Britain.

**AD 617-** Northumbria becomes the supreme kingdom of Britain.

AD 793- The Vikings attack from Norway. They attack the Monastery of Lindisfarne in Northumbria. This is just a raid; they will return to invade later.

**AD 886-** Alfred the Great, King of Wessex is crowned King of the Anglo-Saxons.

**AD 927-** King Athelstan of the Anglo-Saxons is crowned the first King of England.

**AD 1016-** Cnut becomes King of England. He is also crowned King of Denmark in 1018.

AD 1066- William, Duke of Normandy defeats Harold Godwinson at the Battle of Hastings to become King of England. He becomes known as William the Conqueror.



## **Key themes**

The Romans preferred living in towns but the Anglo-Saxons preferred to live in small villages. Anglo-Saxon influence can be seen in place names in Britain today. Wessex was a place named after the West Saxons who settled there. Sussex was named after the South Saxons. The kingdom of Mercia (which means border people) was named Mercia because it had so many borders with other kingdoms

By c. AD 410, the last of the Romans had left Britain. This made Britain vulnerable to invasion. The warriors that invaded became known as the first Anglo-Saxons. Most of Britain was divided into seven Anglo-Saxon kingdoms.

The Picts and Scots were a constant threat without Roman support.

- 1 Northumbria
- 2 Mercia
- 3 East Anglia
- 4 Wessex
- 5 Essex 6 Kent
- 7 Sussex







