

Anglo-Saxon, Scots & Vikings

Year 3

Key end points of the 'Anglo-Saxon, Scots & Vikings' unit are:

- Anglo Saxons came to England after the Romans left
- Anglo Saxons comprised of the Angles, Saxons and the Jutes
- During this time, England was divided into kingdoms
- The Picts and the Scots were early settlers in Scotland
- Many Anglo Saxons were farmers and grew crops and kept animals
- Many Anglo Saxons & Vikings, who originally had Pagan beliefs, converted to Christianity
- The Vikings raided, invaded and settled in England
- Many Vikings lived on farms, growing crops and looking after animals
- Danelaw was an area of England ruled by the Vikings
- King Alfred was the Anglo-Saxon King of Wessex
- King Alfred defeated the Vikings and made an agreement to trade peacefully
- King Canute was a Viking King; he understood the limits of his power
- Later, England had an English King called Edward the Confessor, who left no clear heir
- The Battle of Hastings was fought in 1066

This unit builds on chronologically from previous units include the Stone Age to the Iron Age, and Romans in Britain and covers approximately 650 years, from around 410 CE – 1066 CE. The pupils begin the unit recapping what they have learned so far about the Romans in Britain. They learn that after the Romans left, a mix of tribes from Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands began to **migrate** to England. The three biggest tribes were the Angles, the Saxons and the Jutes. This group of people are known today as the Anglo Saxons.

During this period, England was not a united country but was separated into kingdoms, each ruled by different kings. The pupils can apply their geographical knowledge of England to look at Anglo Saxon kingdoms and locate their school within one of them. They can also apply their knowledge of Europe, including Northern Europe, to locate where the Anglo Saxons and Vikings originated from. In Year 1, the pupils studied 'The UK'; in Year 2, the pupils studied 'Northern Europe', and in Year 3, the pupils studied 'Settlements' – all of these geography-based units, give pupils the prerequisite knowledge to access this history unit. Later, in Year 3, pupils can apply their history knowledge when studying 'Anglo-Saxon Art'.

The pupils will learn about the lives of people who lived in this period, how they lived, their homes, their jobs, what they ate and what they did for fun. They will discuss how we know about the lives of people who lived so long ago and learn about primary and secondary sources such as artefacts found at Sutton Hoo, places such as West Stow and the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle. They will also look at **religious beliefs** of both the Anglo Saxons and the Vikings, and how both were gradually converted from their Pagan beliefs to Christianity.

They will learn about the monk and scholar, Bede the Venerable, who wrote a book about the English people and the church.

In this unit, the pupils will also learn about the Picts and the Scots. They will discuss how historians find out about these people in the past, and how they engage in historical debate, such as what the symbols on Pictish Stones can tell us.

During this unit, the pupils will learn about the Vikings and the significance of Viking Long ships that enabled them to travel, trade, raid and invade. They will look at the relationship between the Anglo Saxons and the Vikings; the battles and the compromises that took place during this period. They will learn about the lives of significant people during this period such as Alfred the Great, King Canute and Edward the Confessor. This unit ends with the Battle of Hastings in 1066, which leads on chronologically to the next unit on Law and Power.

Throughout the curriculum, the pupils will build on the concepts developed in this unit, such as **migration** and **religion** in England from 1066.

Key substantive concepts focused on in this unit are **migration, invasion, law, trade, settlement, religion** and **monarchy**.

Key disciplinary concepts focused on are **similarities & differences** (between the ways the Anglo Saxons and the Vikings lived on their settlements) and **continuity & change** (how did life change in England between 450 and 1066, how did religion change over this time period). They will also look at **sources and evidence** (including Julius Casear's account of the Picts, extracts from the Anglo Saxon Chronicle, and looking at artefacts left behind which tell us about life at the time)