

# The Vikings are coming! How did they change the life of the people of Britain?

**Key Vocab:** Primary & secondary sources, Anglo-Saxons, Danelaw, longship, monastery, pagan, rune, chieftain, freeman, thatched, trader, Lindisfarne, invasion, settlement, conquer,



## Timeline

- AD 700- The Viking Age begins.
- AD 793- First invasion to Britain raiding monasteries on the coast, including Lindisfarne.
- AD 866- Danes capture York (which the Vikings called Jorvik) and make it their kingdom.
- AD 876- Vikings settle permanently in Britain.
- AD 886- King Alfred defeats the Vikings but allows them to settle in Eastern England.
- AD 1001- Vikings land in America and establish a settlement.
- AD 1014- King Canute of Denmark becomes King of England.
- AD 1066- Battle of Hastings take place and William the conqueror is crowned King.
- AD 1100- End of the Viking age.

## Key Figures:

**King Alfred the Great (AD 849-899):** Alfred did a lot of great things for England including defeating the Vikings in several battles and keeping part of England under Anglo-Saxon rule.

**Aethelstan (AD 927 -939)** – First King to unite English kingdoms

**Guthrum (AD 879-890)** – King of the Vikings in Danelaw at the time of the treaty with the Saxons

**King Canute (AD 995-1035):** Viking King of England, Denmark and Norway.

**Edward the Confessor (AD 1042-1055)** – penultimate Saxon King of England (before Harold II who lost at Hastings)

**William the Conqueror (AD 1028-1087):** Became King of England in 1066 after winning in the Battle of Hastings.

## Sequence:

*Immersion: The invasion!*

*Invasion and settlement*

*Where the Vikings came from*

*How the Vikings travelled*

*Order of raids and why monasteries were raided*

*Impact on the people of Britain, particularly the Anglo-Saxons*

## Historical skills:

*Developing a sense of chronology*  
*Gathering information from different sources*

*Hypothesising using artefacts*

*Selecting information to prove/disprove theories*

*Sequencing using reasoning*

*Comparing and contrasting*

*Summarising factual knowledge*



## Writing opportunities:

*News report for tv news announcing the invasion – write script and present report with interviews from eye-witnesses (drama opportunity).*

*Diary entries from a Viking and a Briton about the same event*

**Key Thread: Knowledge of key periods of world and British history on timelines**