



Timeline

700 AD – The Viking Age begins

793 AD – The first invasion of Britain (raiding monasteries on the coast)

866 AD – Danes capture York (Jorvik) and make it their kingdom

876 AD – Vikings settle permanently in Britain

886 AD – King Alfred defeats the Vikings

1014 AD – King Canute of Denmark becomes King of England

1042 AD – Edward the Confessor becomes King

1066 AD – Battle of Hastings



Viking helmet

Key knowledge Anglo Saxons and Vikings

Key knowledge

- The Vikings (also known as Norsemen) came from three countries of Scandinavia: Denmark, Sweden and Norway.
- The name 'Viking' means a 'pirate raid'.
- Vikings travelled the seas on longboats raiding and pillaging lands.
- They invaded Britain in 793 AD at Lindisfarne, NE England.
- In 886 AD, Alfred the Great defeated the Vikings but lets them settle in Eastern England (this area becomes known as Danelaw and is ruled by the Viking King, Guthrum).
- The Vikings continue to attack the country and King Canute of Denmark becomes king.

Why was Alfred called 'Great'?

He loved learning, he created a strong Anglo Saxon navy, he developed fortified towns, created a legal code and promoted Christianity throughout England.

Battle of Hastings

- Edward the Confessor died in 1066 leaving no heir to the throne.
- Harold Godwinson named king but two other rivals (Harald Hardrada – King of Norway, William – Duke of Normandy)
- Harald Hardrada's Viking army landed in the north, so Harold Godwinson's army raced to the North and defeated the Vikings at the Battle of Stamford Bridge (killing Harald Hardrada)
- William's (Norman) army arrived in the south, so Harold's army went South
- 14 October 1066 AD – the two armies fight at Battle of Hastings and King Harold is killed
- William crowned King of England on Christmas day 1066

Fortified towns	Stronger and more developed defences in towns to stop invaders
Figureheads	Dragon heads were often on the front of Viking ships to scare away evil spirits
Longboats	Vikings used longboats to attack
Invaders	A group of people that enter another country forcefully, with the aim of taking over
Settlement	A place where people come to live and build homes
Treaty	An agreement made between two or more people, groups or countries



Viking Longboat