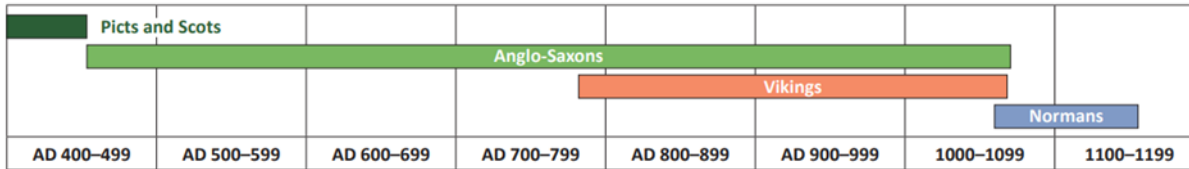


Invasion

After the Romans

After the Romans left Britannia in AD 410, many towns fell into disrepair and the country became vulnerable to attack. This marked the beginning of a period of invasions from different groups: Picts and Scots from Scotland and Ireland; Anglo-Saxons from Germany, the Netherlands and Denmark; Vikings from Scandinavia and Normans from France. This time in history is called the early Middle Ages.



Timeline showing the periods of invasion and settlement in Britain from AD 410-1199

Power

- After the Romans left Britannia in AD 410, Britain was vulnerable to attack.
- The Picts and Scots tried to invade England after AD 410. In AD 449, a British leader, Vortigern, asked Hengist and Horsa, two Jutes, to come to England to help the Britons. However, the Jutes realised that the land in England was good for farming, so they, along with the Angles and Saxons, invaded England.
- After invading, the Anglo-Saxon rulers of the seven kingdoms fought each other for land and power.
- Over a period of 60 years, the Vikings continued to raid England in the spring and summer, before returning to Scandinavia in the winter.
- After 60 years of summer raids, a huge army of 3000 Vikings arrived on the south coast to invade England in AD 865. They conquered every kingdom other than Wessex and took control of Jorvik (York).

	<p>Alfred the Great Alfred the Great was the King of Wessex from AD 871-899. He defeated the Viking leader, Guthrum, at the Battle of Edington in AD 876. He made peace with Guthrum and insisted that he was baptised as a Christian. Alfred the Great split England into Viking Danelaw and Anglo-Saxon Wessex.</p>		<p>Christianity Christianity declined in England after the Romans left, so Irish and Roman Christians were sent to Britain to reestablish Christianity. Monks like St Columba, St Aiden and St Augustine converted the Anglo-Saxon kings, and then their people, to Christianity. They also established churches and monasteries.</p>
	<p>Settlement The Anglo-Saxons invaded the east and south coasts of England and pushed the Celtic Britons west. They split England into seven kingdoms, which became known as the heptarchy. By AD 800, there were five main kingdoms: East Anglia, Kent, Mercia, Northumbria and Wessex. Celtic Britons still lived in Wales, Cornwall, Scotland and Ireland.</p>		<p>Legacy There are still aspects of life in modern England that date back to the Anglo-Saxons, including the English language, the rule of law, place names, Christianity and even the layout of England itself.</p>
	<p>Viking life The Vikings lived in a similar way to the Anglo-Saxons. Most Vikings were farmers or craftspeople, but they were also warriors who carried out frequent raids. Men and boys trained in boat building, weapon making, crafts and combat. They lived in longhouses, with a central fire and thatched roof. When the Vikings first invaded, they were pagans and worshipped many gods. Over time, they converted to Christianity.</p>		<p>Normans Invasion When the King of England, Edward the Confessor, died in 1066, he left no successor to the throne. His adviser, Harold Godwinson, was crowned king. Harold eventually fought William, Duke of Normandy at the Battle of Hastings. William won the battle and was crowned king on Christmas Day in 1066. He became known as William the Conqueror. This was the end of Anglo-Saxon or Viking rule in England.</p>

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.
Danegeld	"Paying the Dane". King Ethelred paid the Vikings 4500kg of silver to go home but they kept returning and were paid 22,000kg of silver in Danegeld altogether.
invade	To enter and occupy land.
longship	long, wooden, narrow boat used by the Vikings.
pagans	A religion where many gods and goddesses are worshipped.
Picts	tribes originally from Scotland who were often feared.
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
Scots	People from Ireland who, like the Picts, were fierce and powerful fighters