

**The term "struggle":** The Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle involved many Viking raids. This was the start of forceful and violent efforts between the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings for control of Britain.

### Key Information :

- The Vikings came from Scandinavia and Denmark to Britain.
- They were good sailors, with a wide sphere of influence from Greenland to Constantinople and Russia.
- They were fierce raiders, but also came to trade, settle and farm
- Lindisfarne raid of 793 is recognised as the start of the Viking age in Britain
- The Battle of Hastings was in 1066 and the succession to throne of William I marks the end of the Viking era

### How do we know? Evidence:

- Literature survives from Anglo-Saxon times: monks like Gildas and the Venerable Bede wrote histories.
- The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle gives a year by year account of what happened during these times.
- Evidence of Viking place names like -by, -thorp.
- Artefacts (weapons, cooking utensils, pottery).
- Places like York (Yorvik).

### Vocabulary

Danelaw	the part of north and eastern England that stayed under Viking control and law
Isle of Athelney	two small pieces of higher ground in the Somerset Levels where King Alfred of Wessex sought refuge from the Viking armies (and where he burnt the cakes)
Lindisfarne	The Holy Island of Lindisfarne was the site of the first major Viking raid in 793AD. There was much slaughter of the innocent monks and the attack sent shock waves through the kingdom of Northumbria
King Alfred the Great	king of the West Saxons who gained important victories against the Viking armies and negotiated the Danelaw. He encouraged education and the arts
Long boats	were narrow and flat capable of sailing in rough seas and shallow rivers. They were also light enough to be carried over land
Yorvik	Viking city of York. Extensive archaeological research has helped build the attraction which takes visitors on a tour of the Viking city
Exploration	skilled navigators and sailors, who reaching as far as Newfoundland in the west and to the Middle East
Wessex	one Anglo-Saxon kingdom that held out against the Viking armies. The capital was Winchester



### National Curriculum:

- know and understand the history of these islands as a coherent, chronological narrative, from the earliest times to the present day: how people's lives have shaped this nation.
- understand historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance, and use them to make connections, draw contrasts, analyse trends, frame historically-valid questions and create their own structured accounts, including written narratives and analyses.