

What should I already know?

- The Romans used to rule Britain but left in 410CE to help in Western Europe.
- Anglo-Saxons invaded Britain
- There were different Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms.

Boroughs of Danelaw



Important Facts

- The Danes/Norse were pagan
- The Danes and the Norse are known as Vikings but Vikings is an adjective
- The Danes and Norse came from modern Sweden, Denmark and Norway
- England had still not be created but the Saxon kingdoms of Wessex, Mercia, Northumbria and East Anglia still existed
- Danes/Norse would travel across Europe and raid various countries. They built settlements in Ireland (Dublin is Norse), Isle of Man, France, Iceland, Greenland, North American, Russia (Swedish raiders where know as Rus hence Russia)
- Many Danes/Norse would serve as Mercenaries in the Eastern Roman Empire (Byzantine) in Constantinople.

Important People

- Alfred the Great– King of Wessex
- Athelstan (Alfred’s grandson)
- Guthurm: Danish/Norse leader of the great Heathen Army
- Ivar the Boneless, Ubba and Halfden Ragnarson

Vocabulary

| Word | Meaning |
|------------------|---|
| Dane | One of the Viking invaders of the British Isles in the 9th–11th centuries. |
| Norse | Norwegians or Scandinavians in ancient or medieval times. |
| Danelaw | The law in force in the part of England held by the Danes before the Norman Conquest |
| Religion | A belief and worship of superhuman power or powers, especially a God or gods. |
| Conquered | Having been overcome and taken control by military force. |
| Developments | A specified state of growth or advancement. |
| Chronology | The order in which events occur. |
| Pagan | A person holding religious beliefs other than those of the main or recognized religions. |
| Oral History | The study of historical information through interviews with people having personal knowledge of past events. |
| Primary Source | An original source of information about the topic, such as, an artefact, document or diary. |
| Secondary Source | Information that was created later by someone that did not experience first-hand or participate in the events in which the author is writing about. |

What will I know by the end of this enquiry

- The Danes/Norse were pagan
- The Danes/Norse occupied most of Britain apart from Somerset, Devon and Cornwall
- King Alfred of Wessex hid in the Somerset levels until he had an army and then pushed the Danes/Norse out of Wessex and Mercia
- After Alfred’s victories, Britain was split in half with line between the mouth of the Thames and Mersey. In the south was Saxon Mercia and Wessex in the North was Danish Land known as Dane Law
- Alfred’s grandson, Athelstan, would eventually conquer all of the Danish/Norse lands in mainland Britain and England would be formed

Time Line

