



1

CAUSE & OPPORTUNITY

AD 410

Romans abandoned Britain



Picts (Scotland) & Scots (Ireland)



raided defenceless Southern Britain

Britons did not have organised armies or soldiers. They had become reliant on Roman soldiers to defend them.



2

RESPONSE

Britons invited warrior Anglo-Saxon tribes to help



Germanic people descended on Britain

Jutes Angles Saxons



protect Britons in return for: money and land

Anglo-Saxons decided to stay



AD 450 settled near rivers or the sea and renamed villages Britons were absorbed into Anglo-Saxon culture (way of life) or fled to the hills in the West.

3

RELIGION

Anglo-Saxons held pagan beliefs

believed in gods of nature thunder harvest

Pope Gregory the Great (Leader of the Roman Catholic Church)

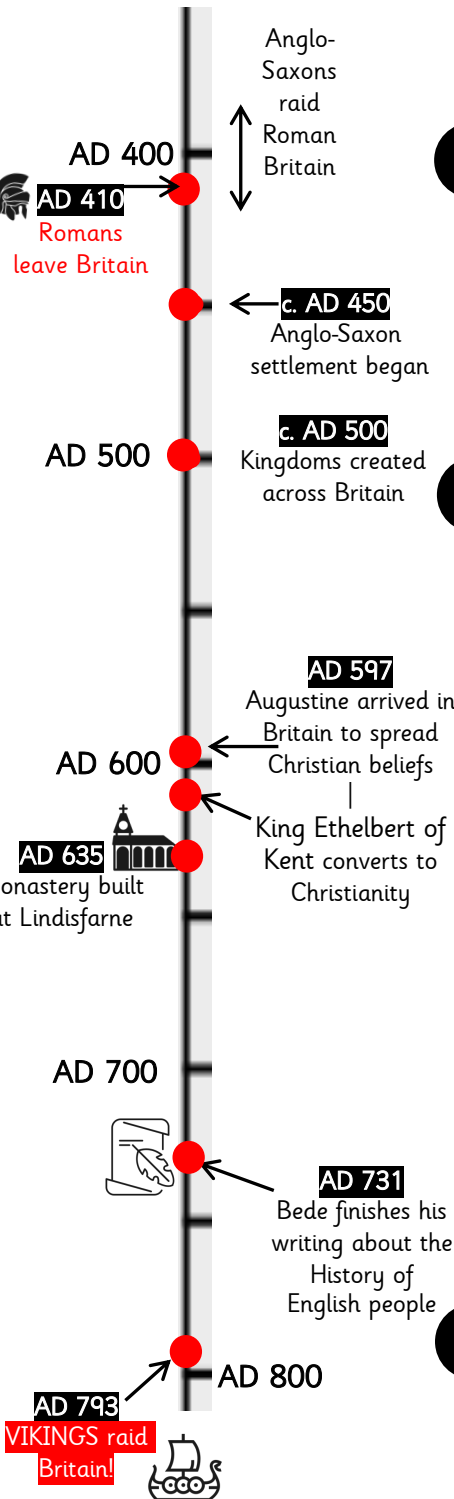


AD 597 sent Augustine, a missionary, to Britain to convert people to Christianity.



KINGDOMS

many sporadic kingdoms were formed powerful Chieftains or kings rose or fell from power a few kingdoms became dominant



7 major kingdoms formed across Britain

- Wessex
- Sussex
- Kent
- Essex
- East Anglia
- Mercia
- Northumbria

4

CHRISTIANITY

King Ethelbert of Kent was converted to Christianity by Augustine



Christianity spreads

churches and monasteries built



c. AD 635

The holy island of Lindisfarne is the site of a new monastery

EVIDENCE

AD 731 Bede, a monk, finished his manuscripts about the History of the English people It is the best written evidence we have about early Britain

