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### CAUSE & OPPORTUNITY

AD 410

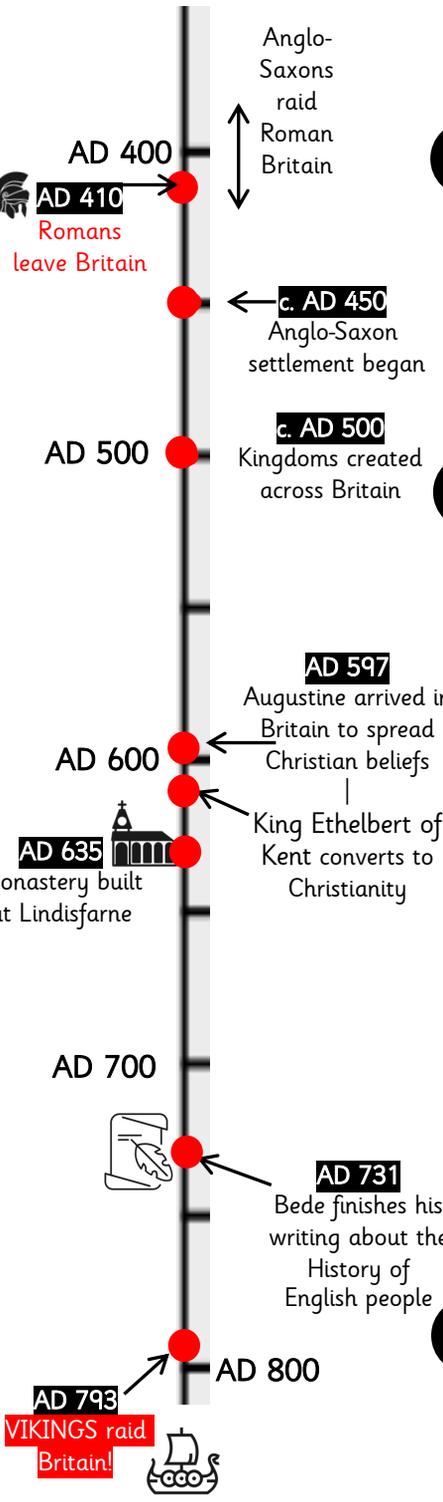


Romans abandoned Britain

**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

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### 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

