



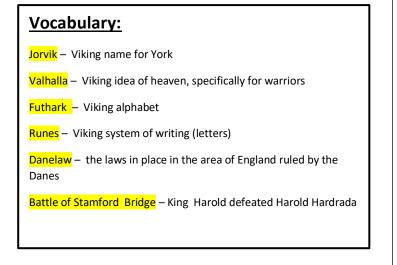
## Topic: What was the legacy of the Vikings?

## What I should already know:

- 1 Previous example of conquest and settlement
  - Romans

Year Group: 5

- 2 Previous example of conquest and settlement –Anglo-Saxons – where they came from and areas conquered
- 3 The Chronology of British History studied so far.
- 4 How to construct and use a timeline.
- 5 How to use artefacts and primary and secondary written sources to learn about the past.



## What I will know by the end of the unit:

- Why did the Vikings leave Northern Europe? Terrain of Scandinavia not good for farming so Vikings were in search of fertile land for farming. Another name for Vikings is Norsemen.
- Why were the Vikings so successful at seafaring? The Vikings had superior boats, capable of sailing in deep and shallow waters. They also had advanced sailing and navigational skills. Their longboats were long, narrow, wooden vessels. They first appeared in the 9<sup>th</sup> Century. These building methods are still in use today.
- The Vikings spoke in a language called Norse. They had their own system of writing made up of symbols called Runes. Their original alphabet had 24 letters, which was later expanded. Runes were regarded as sacred.
- Vikings lived in long rectangular houses made with upright timbers. They used woven sticks covered with mud to keep out the rain. They often consisted of one room with a central fire.
- In old Norse society, formal schooling for children did not exist. Boys worked on farms from a young age and girls contributed to the housework. Many children died at a young age.
- Vikings ate whatever food they could grow, hunt or make. They ate bread, porridge, oats, leeks, berries, nuts, spinach, deer, boar, trout, chicken, eggs, sheep and pigs. Vikings also ate honey from bees.
- The Vikings were skilled weavers and women and children often made clothes for their families. They used natural dyes from plants to give colour. Men wore tunics and trousers whilst women wore long trousers.
- According to custom, Vikings were encouraged and permitted to carry a weapon at all times, including bows and arrows, spears, knives, swords, axes and slings.
- They believed if they died in battle they went to Valhalla

