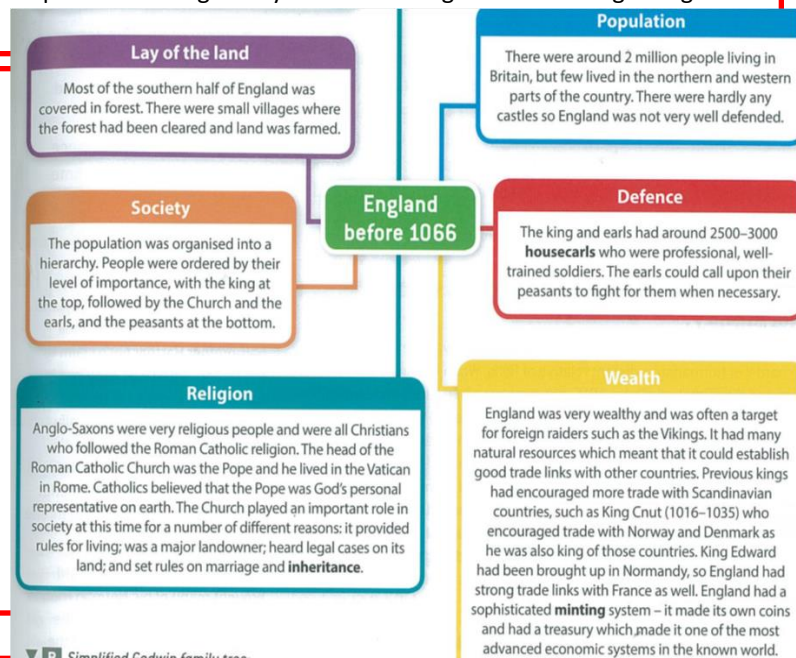


## KS4: History Knowledge Organiser: Norman England

### England before 1066:

- Sophisticated and civilised society with approximately 2 million inhabitants.
- Religion was key feature and everyone followed Catholic Christianity.
- What the church said was absolute fact.
- King Edward the Confessor had ruled since 1042 and his reign had been stable and peaceful.
- Prior to this, England had been ruled by Edward's half brother, Harthacnut, whose father was Danish (this is why we see so many claimants to the throne later on).
- The Godwin's were a powerful ruling family in Norman England controlling a large area of England in 1066.

### England before 1066



### Who were the Normans?

- William inherited Normandy at the age of 7 in 1035. Normandy was a rich area in North western France.
- Norman dukes had to acknowledge that French kings were superior, but they could raise their own armies, carry out their own justice and demand their own taxes.
- Once William's father had died (Duke Robert I), William's life was at risk as many older earls wanted to replace him as Duke of Normandy. As William was an illegitimate child, this made matters worse.
- William had to learn to fight from an early age, and proved himself to be a shrewd politician.
- He earned himself the title of 'Conqueror' due to his successful campaigns. He was a force to be reckoned with.

| Key Terms       | Definitions  |
|-----------------|--|
| Earl            | Man of great influence who ran his own area of the country or 'earldom'. |
| Illegitimate    | Born outside of marriage.  |
| Sub-regulus     | A deputy king  |
| Witan           | A group of leading earls and churchmen                                   |
| Aethling        | Of noble birth   |
| Post Obitum     | A designation or bequest of a throne                                     |
| Novissima Verba | To be promised the throne upon a deathbed                                |

### The rivals for the throne of England:

- William the Duke of Normandy - related to Edward through his mother's side. He was a distant cousin of Edward's. In addition, Edward had been raised in Normandy with Emma's family. He claims that Edward promised him the throne earlier in his reign.
- Harald Hardrada: King of Norway. Powerful and successful Viking. He was related to King Cnut. His claim was that, as Edward had no sons, a relative of the previous king should be chosen. It was said that Hardrada's father had been promised the throne by Cnut's son, Harthacnut.
- Harold Godwinson: most important earl in England (earl of Wessex). He was 'sub-regulus' and said that Edward had promised him the throne on his deathbed; he was supported by the English nobles and had the support of the Witan.
- Edgar the Aethling - great nephew to Edward. Related through the male line, so the closest blood tie to Edward. Edgar and his sister had both lived with Edward and was treated as an adopted son. Edgar was an Anglo-Saxon so was supported by many earls. He was known as an outlaw as after 1066 he led many rebellions against the Normans.

## KS4: History Knowledge Organiser: Norman England

### William prepares to invade:

- When Edward the Confessor died on the 5<sup>th</sup> January 1066, Harold Godwinson was crowned King of England the very next day.
- William started to mobilise his forces in preparation for the invasion of England as soon as he found out about Harold's coronation. He did not invade straight away. He chose to take a long term strategy and build up his military forces whilst preparing political and religious support for his campaign.
- **Support from God:** A Papal banner was given to William meaning that William had the Pope's support. It was now a Holy War.
- **Military Preparations:** William did not have a navy so built a number of flat-bottomed boats that could transport horses. Weapons were produced and 'flat-pack' castles were made. Once the Papal Banner had been given the army was relatively easy to find. Men were recruited from all over France. Recruits joined because of the banner but also because they were promised land and riches. 8000 men joined William's campaign.
- **Getting across the Channel:** ships and men were gathered for a long period of time but they were well looked after. William also made sure that his fleet left at the most appropriate place for England (River Somme to Pevensey).
- 28<sup>th</sup> September 1066 – William landed in Pevensey. Originally Harold had been waiting along these coast lines, but due to the Viking invasion, Harold had had to go up North to fight, leaving it unprotected.

### Harald Hardrada invades

- September 1066 saw Harald Hardrada invade England. Sailed up the River Humber with 300 ships and landed 10 miles away from the city of York. Earls Edwin and Morcar were waiting for him with the northern army and attempted to prevent the Norwegian forces from advancing to York. This became known as the Battle of Fulford Gate.
- Battle of Stamford Bridge: King Harold had to move fast to deal with the Viking invasion. He moved North with his private army and gathered forces as he advanced. He travelled 190 miles, lasting four days and eventually was ready for battle on the 25<sup>th</sup> September.
- Hardrada and his troops were caught out by Harold's attack. They had not expected Harold to reach Stamford Bridge so quickly. The Viking troops were split, consequently not allowing themselves to defend themselves properly.
- The battle was bloody. Hardrada and Tostig were both killed. Although this was a victory for Harold, this was going to be short lived. Three days later he had to race south to deal with William's invasion.

### Norman Warfare:

- Norman battles were very advanced during the medieval period in terms of both tactics and weaponry.
- Cavalry – men on horseback. Horses were trained to kick and bite.
- Archers were also used frequently.
- The army was divided into divisions, and flags called gonfanon were used to signal movement on the battlefield.
- The Norman army was made up of professional soldiers who spent many hours training.

| Key Terms  | Definitions   |
|------------|---|
| Gonfanon   | Flags used to signal any movement that was to be made on the battlefield. |
| Mobilise   | Getting troops ready to go and fight.                                     |
| Coronation | Crowning of the next monarch (King/Queen).                                |
| Fyrd       | Ordinary, peasant soldiers.   |

### Who was more prepared to win?

|                               | King Harold and the Anglo-Saxons   | Duke William and the Normans   |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Type and size of army         | Fyrd; around 7000  | Mixture of trained <b>mercenary</b> forces from Normandy and Western Europe; around 7000   |
| Specialist soldiers           | Housecarls and <b>thegns</b>   | Knights, trained from the age of three, riding horses that were trained to kick and bite in battle.  |
| Weaponry and armour           | Double-handed axes, pikes, large circular shields; Housecarls had armour; peasants used pitchforks, farming equipment, and weapons and armour taken from fallen soldiers.  | Bows, large tear-shaped shields that covered from chin to knee, pikes, armour  |
| Battle style                  | <b>Shield wall</b> formation: interlocking round shields to prevent enemy soldiers from penetrating the line; use of double-handed axe. Most soldiers were foot soldiers or <b>infantry</b> . King Harold was positioned in the centre of his troops on foot as Anglo-Saxons did not use horses in battle. | Various: infantry attacked on foot, archers were used to wear down the enemy. Troops were organised into divisions: each division commander used a system of flags to communicate so they could change tactics in battle. William rode a horse. Knights on horseback carried <b>lances</b> and made up the <b>cavalry</b> .  |
| Position in battlefield       | Positioned at the top of Senlac Hill   | Arrived at the battleground first. Chose a site at the base of Senlac Hill, on an old Roman road which ran over the top of the hill. There was marshy land on either side so the road itself became the battlefield. It was an important road – Harold had to use it to get to William, and William had to use it to get to London. It was a site that would change the course of English history. |
| Previous experience in battle | King Harold was an experienced general and had successfully fought against the Welsh and Vikings.  | Duke William had conquered many areas around Normandy and as far afield as Sicily.   |
| State of the army             | King Harold had marched his army north in four days to face Harald Hardrada on 25 September. He then marched his army south, arrived in London on 6 October, and left London on 11 October to face William. His army was exhausted.  | William had landed at Pevensey on 28 September. The Normans erected a castle and then made their way along the south coast, burning villages as they went. They arrived in Hastings and had several days to rest and prepare for the battle with King Harold and the Anglo-Saxons. William brought plenty of horses and supplies so the army could refuel before the battle.                       |
| Extra support                 | King Harold was a popular king amongst most Anglo-Saxons and had the support of the Witan and some of his brothers.  | Duke William had the support of the young King Philip I of France. He also had the Papal Banner from the Pope in Rome (and therefore the support of God).  |

## KS4: History Knowledge Organiser: Norman England

### The Battle of Hastings:

•Once William had landed in Pevensey he was keen to deal with Harold. He provoked Harold by making his way up the coast towards London, attacking and burning villages as he went. He arrived in Hastings and made his stand 7 miles outside the town.

•When William arrived at the site he decided to make his stand at the bottom of Senlac Hill.

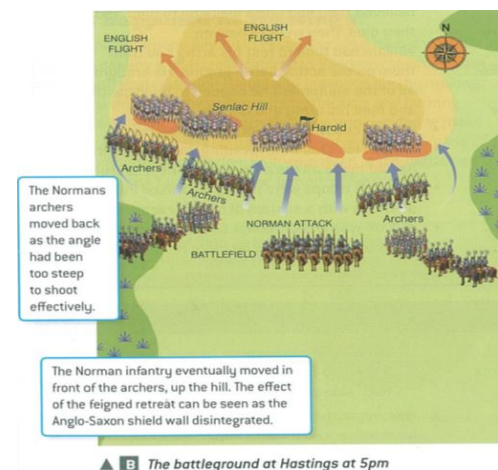
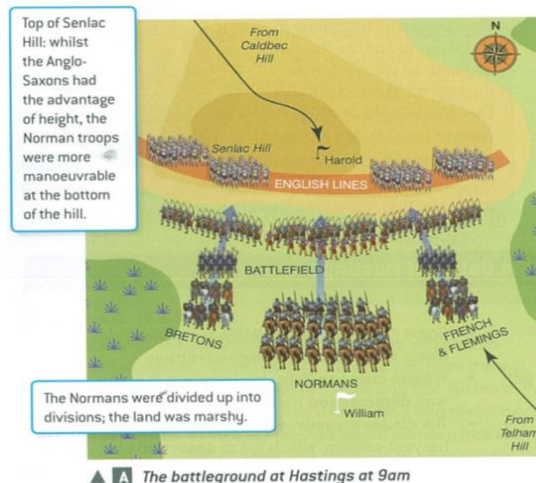
1. Battle started at 9am as Norman archers walked up to Senlac Hill and fired a volley of arrows. The archers were too close and most of the arrows flew over the heads of the Anglo-Saxons. Some Norman infantry charged up the hill but were blocked by the housecarls. The Anglo-Saxons main form of defence was the shield wall.
2. After the first Norman attack failed, a section of the Norman army ran away from the Norman line. Members of the Fyrd ran after them but became stuck in the marshy land at the bottom. The Normans turned and slaughtered the Anglo-Saxons. This tactic became known as the feigned retreat.
3. Around midday, there was a break in the fighting to allow both sides to remove their dead and wounded. William changed his tactics and moved his archers from the front of the battlefield to behind the infantry. This change in position allowed the archers to fire their arrows and hit their target.
4. William ordered the cavalry to charge. Harold's troops managed to stay in formation but the Normans used their feigned retreat again.
5. By 4pm, the Anglo-Saxon shield wall was beginning to disintegrate. All the Normans had to find was a chink in the wall in order to get into the Anglo-Saxon's defences. Once this happened, Harold was killed leading to many of the fyrd to break ranks and flee.

### Factors influencing the outcome of the Battle of Hastings

- King Harold hurrying to face William.
- Harold used the Anglo-Saxon tactics even though he had fought alongside William who developed new tactics.
- Harold chose to fight on foot rather than horseback. This limited communication.
- Harold split his army in the Spring of 1066, meaning once the northern army had defeated Hardrada, they had to march south to fight William.
- Hardrada and William launched their attacks at the same time.
- Weather delayed William's invasion giving Harold time to defeat the Vikings.
- Some say William's troops ran away which led to the idea of a feigned attack.
- William delayed his invasion which demoralised Harold's troops.
- The double invasion was during the harvest season meaning the fyrd left to work on the fields.
- William gained the Papal Banner so many of his soldiers believed they had God's blessing to fight.
- William had time to rest his army and train them on the battle ground.
- William chose the site of the battleground.
- William's troops were highly organised.
- William fought on horseback.

| Key Terms       | Definitions  |
|-----------------|--|
| Housecarls      | Professional soldiers within Harold Godwinson's army.  |
| Feigned retreat | Pretending to retreat and then turning back on your opponents. This weakened the opponents defensive wall. |
| Infantry        | Soldiers on foot.  |

### The battleground at Hastings at 9am and 5pm.



## KS4: History Knowledge Organiser: Norman England

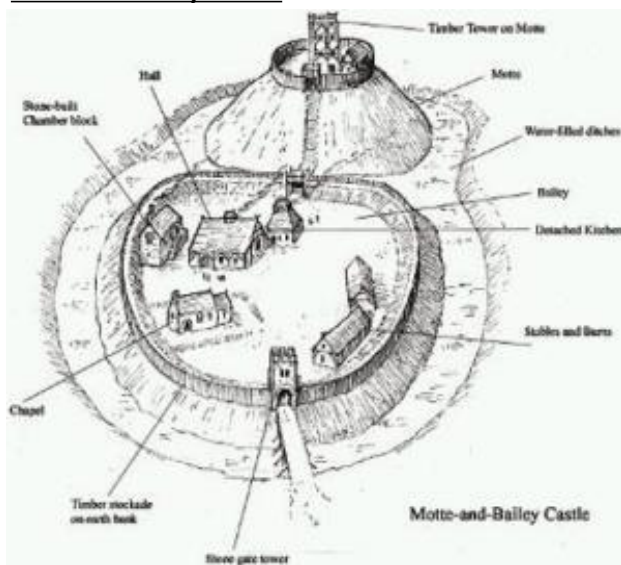
### The purpose of castles:

- The Anglo-Saxons built royal castles as a defensive feature.
- In contrast, the Normans built castles as bases for offensive patrols into the surrounding area.
- From castles, the Normans could attack.
- Norman castles were large, imposing buildings that were built to intimidate, bully and administrate the local area. They commanded the landscape in every direction.

### Where were castles built?

- On sites that were strategically important. For example, along the Welsh borders.
- They were also often built near existing towns, on high ground and close to a water source. Often, land had to be cleared to build the houses within the castle grounds, so any buildings in the area would be knocked down.
- The location was incredibly important. They had to be high enough to see attackers coming, defend important routes such as the old Roman roads or river crossings, have easy access to resources such as wood, food and water, and also have natural advantages for defence.
- Castles were often located near a bend in the river or on the coast as the water could provide a natural moat.

### Motte and Bailey castles



These castles were quick and easy to build. The motte was the mound of earth the keep was built upon, and the bailey was the outer area that surrounded the motte. The first motte and bailey castles were made out of wood. They were built until 1070, of which the stone castle then was developed.

| Key Terms | Definitions  |
|-----------|--|
| Motte     | Earth mound in which the keep was built on.  |
| Bailey    | Outer area that surrounded the motte. This was where houses, stables and so on were built.   |
| Keep      | Secure building which housed the Norman earls or those important people that needed shelter! |

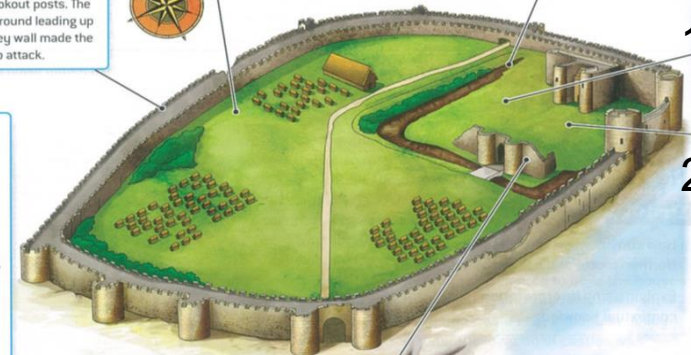
**Outer bailey:** the area within the outer wall that surrounded the motte and any other buildings, including houses, which needed to be kept safe. Defenders could push attackers off if they did manage to scale the wall. The Normans extended the existing Roman ruins by building a wooden, and then stone, motte and bailey. The old Roman road runs through the bailey.

**Keep:** made from stone (originally wood) and built on a motte, raised high above the surrounding area. Soldiers were positioned on the walls of the keep at all times to keep a lookout for any threats. The keep had high straight stone walls which were difficult to scale. There were also three guard towers. In addition, the keep contained a steep narrow staircase, which made it more difficult for attackers to advance and easier to defend. Norman nobles and their families stayed in the keep if they were attacked.

**Outer bailey wall:** very high walls with plenty of lookout posts. The slightly raised ground leading up to the outer bailey wall made the castle difficult to attack.



**Moat:** Not to be confused with the motte, the moat was a river, stream, sea, or manmade ditch that ran around the base of the bailey. Most moats, including Pevensey's, were dry ditches and were created when the earth was dug up to make the motte. At Pevensey, the Normans cleaned out and repaired the old Roman ditch. Defenders could throw missiles at attackers attempting to cross the ditch.



**Gateways and gatehouses:** the ways by which people could enter the different areas inside the castle. There was an old Roman gateway into the outer bailey and another gateway into the inner bailey. Soldiers were positioned on top of the gateways so that they could keep a lookout for trouble and also so that they could attack enemies by shooting arrows or missiles at them, while staying safely out of range of enemy attack. Some castles had a drawbridge as part of the gatehouse, which could be raised to stop attackers entering.

▲ □ There is debate among historians about what Pevensey Castle would have looked like in Norman times; this is an artist's impression

**1 Inner bailey:** The area within the inner wall. It protected the keep itself and was designed to be the last line of defence if attackers had managed to get through the outer bailey wall.

**2 Motte:** A mound, often steep-sided, around which the castle was focused. At Pevensey, the motte is less pronounced, as the whole area within the outer bailey wall is slightly raised.

## KS4: History Knowledge Organiser: Norman England

### Rebellions against the Normans

• **Rebellion of the Welsh border:** these borders had always been a problem, in 1067, Edric the Wild started a revolt with a large number of English followers. He gained support of the Welsh Princes and managed to steal property along the border. Edric failed to take control of this area, but launched another attack in 1069 which reached Cheshire and Staffordshire. His rebels were soon defeated once they came face to face with William and his forces.

• **The revolt of Eustace:** King Edward's brother-in-law attacked Dover Castle. Eustace was defeated by the knights in the castle and eventually made peace with William and Edric the Wild.

• **The south west and Exeter:** Exeter rebelled against William's rule in 1068 of which William dealt with this by besieging the city with an army of Normans and Englishmen. The city held out for 18 days, however, Exeter was forced to surrender and the king built himself a castle on the highest ground. On his way back to London, William suppressed Bristol and Gloucester. However, three of Harold Godwinson's sons landed on the Somerset coast to try and defeat William but this was unsuccessful.

• **The rebellion of the Norman earls:** in 1075, William faced a rebellion from his own earls. Ralph de Gael was the leader joined by Roger de Breteuil. The Norman earls had support from a variety of people. King Philip I of France wanted Roger to rebel as he did not want Normandy to be more powerful than the rest of France. Ralph and Roger were promised aid from overseas. William did not deal with this rebellion himself and left it to his regents, Lanfranc and Odo. The rebellion was quashed and this was one of the last serious threats to William's reign.

### Harrying of the North

• 1068 – **Edwin and Morcar**, with Edgar the Aethling, fled William's court, and went north. As Edgar had lost his claim for the throne, he needed allies to continue his pursuit for the crown. King Malcolm gave him his support. Malcolm had just married Edgar's sister so was now related to him.

• January 1069 – the situation up north was worsening. The Norman Earl of Commines and his men were murdered by English rebels. In addition to this, the bishop of Durham's house was set on fire and Edgar attacked the city of York. They also teamed up with Danish Vikings.

• The joint English and Danish army defeated Norman forces outside the castle in York and captured the castle itself. However, as William approached the Vikings returned to their ships and William paid them money to leave.

• In response to what had happened, William laid waste to vast areas of land around York, burning and salting the fields and killing any living creature. The event became known as the **Harrying of the North**.

• In 1086 the Domesday book was written, and it recorded that 80% of the land in Yorkshire was waste meaning it was uncultivated and unpopulated. This could have been a result of the Harrying.

| Key Terms | Definitions   |
|-----------|---|
| Regent    | Someone who rules the country in absence of the monarch.                                |
| Harrying  | Devastation (ruining?) of the north in 1070.  |
| Salting   | Throwing salt of farmland to make it infertile.   |
| Guerrilla | A type of warfare where soldiers fight in small groups and hide to catch the enemy out. |
| Fenlands  | Low area of marshy land.  |

### Hereward the Wake

- Edwin and Morcar continued to cause problems for William. They went to East Anglia where they met up with King Swegn of Denmark and Hereward the Wake (Wake = wary). The rebellion of Hereward the Wake is one of the most famous rebellions in the Norman period.
- Hereward held a grudge against William and his earls as they had confiscated land from his father and killed his brother. He joined a rebellion with the English earls and their foreign supporters.
- Hereward, King Swegn and Morcar launched a series of guerrilla style attacks in the marshes and fenlands of East Anglia.
- 1070 – attacked Peterborough looting and burning the Abbey. They set up base in the Abbey too. William could not use his usual tactics, and therefore had to develop different tactics to defeat Hereward.
- The events of Ely can be seen on the reverse of this knowledge organiser.



**Events at Ely**

1. William besieged the Island of Ely.



2. William built a rampart to cross the marshland. At 3 km (2 miles) long and with a castellum (a defensible platform) on the track, the rampart was an impressive achievement in Norman warfare.



3. Too many Norman soldiers crossed the rampart at once so it sank into the marshland.



4. William built a siege tower and, according to some accounts, brought in a local witch to torment the rebels. The witch stood at the top of one of the towers and shouted abuse and chanted spells.



5. Hereward set fire to the area, and the siege tower and part of the bridge caught fire.



6. Hereward was betrayed by Monks who told William about a secret route to Hereward.



7. The rebels surrender and Hereward disappears

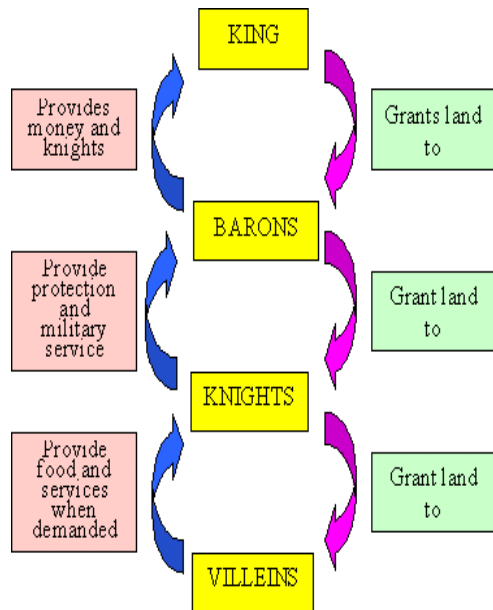


## KS4: History Knowledge Organiser: Norman England

### Controlling England

• Before the Normans arrived in 1066, the English were ruled by the King and the Anglo-Saxon aristocracy – the earls. England was divided up into earldoms. The king could make anyone earl, and give them an earldom, but he could also take land away. He could request the support of troops from earls during time of war and the earls had to give the service of their housecarls and their fyrd if they were to keep the king happy.

### The Feudal System



Feudalism was based on a system of give and take, and was very similar to what had already existed pre-Norman rule. However, one difference was that land ownership remained with William himself, and there were many more nobles such as barons who helped William run the country.

The king gave land and titles to his barons and in return they gave him their loyalty and their military service.

The barons gave protection, shelter, food, and sometimes land to their knights, and in return knights gave loyalty and military service. The knights gave peasants food, protection and shelter, and in return the peasants worked in the fields and gave their military service as part of the fyrd.

Everyone knew their position in this social hierarchy.

### What happened to English landowners?

- William wanted to reward those that had shown him loyalty during his campaign, but this did not mean all were Norman.
- However, by 1096, all senior positions were held by Normans due to the fact that English nobles were unlikely to provide the loyalty that William wanted.
- The English Feudal System was based on lordship and patronage. The Norman was based on William favouring and giving land to those that had shown him the utmost loyalty.

Write an account of the ways in which the feudal system changed under the Normans (8 marks)

| Key Terms        | Definitions  |
|------------------|--|
| Barons           | A person at the lower end of the nobility who held land from the king. |
| Social hierarchy | A system with layers of classes/groups.                                |
| Patronage        | Land, titles or power given to ensure individual's support.            |
| Geld             | Form of tax.   |

### The Domesday Book

• In 1085, William faced invasion from Danish Vikings and the Count of Flanders. He called together a war council in Gloucester. He needed to enforce a geld to pay for his army. However, the invasion never happened. Soon after, William ordered an inventory to be drawn up in order for him to collect tax.

• It is said that all major landowners had to send in lists of their manors and tenants, which were compared to existing tax records. Commissioners were then sent out to assess the situation on the ground, questioning local juries in detail. Each was assigned circuits containing two or more counties.

• Domesday allowed William to ensure that he got as much money as possible from taxes.

• Domesday means the 'Day of Judgement'.

• The Domesday Book is important as it tells us a lot about life in England. It sheds light on population and wealth that people did or didn't have. It estimates the value of land under Edward the Confessor and King William and also how this changed over the years. However, there are places that are left out of the Domesday Book such as London, Winchester, Bristol and the borough of Tamworth; nor Northumberland and Durham or much of north-west England. For Wales, only parts of certain border areas are included. Neither was it ever fully completed, being abandoned at some stage early in the reign of William Rufus, who succeeded to the throne in 1087.



## KS4: History Knowledge Organiser: Norman England

### Law and Order

| Keeping law and order | Continuity   | Change  |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| Shire courts          | Divided into shires. Shire court met twice a year looking at land disputes, crime, taxes and rebellion. These were heard by a sheriff.   | Large Anglo-Saxon earldoms were replaced with smaller Norman earldoms. Castles were built in shire towns and law and administration were based there. However, their overall importance did decline due to honorial courts and juries introduced.   |
| Hundred courts        | Shires were divided into 'hundreds'. 100 hides in size, about 120 acres. However, size could vary in shires. Hundred courts looked at local issues, such as land.  | The hundred courts met more frequently than shire courts and were run by the sheriffs deputy.   |
| Inheritance           | Under the Anglo-Saxons, it was common to divide up the land amongst families.  | After the introduction of the feudal system it was key not to have land intact, not split up amongst families. Primogeniture was a process where the eldest son inherited the land and title from his father. This meant that younger sons/daughters could be left with nothing.                          |
| The oath system       | Anglo-Saxons placed a lot of value on people's word or promises. People made an oath of allegiance which meant they promised not to be involved in major crime. If they did the entire family would be punished. | Murdrum fines were introduced. If a Norman earl was murdered then the entire area where that criminal lived would be fined. It was extended to include any Norman that was attacked or injured by an Anglo-Saxon. It was introduced because of the vulnerability of the large number of new Norman earls. |

| Key Terms     | Definitions  |
|---------------|--|
| Sheriff       | The king's chief legal officer in an area.   |
| Primogeniture | A process where the eldest son inherited the land and title from his father.                 |
| Murdrum fines | If a Norman earl was murdered then the entire area where that criminal lived would be fined. |

- Due to changes in inheritance laws and the introduction of fines rather than brutal punishments showed the Normans were quite modern in thinking compared to the old Anglo-Saxon ways. The Normans ended the concept of criminals paying compensation to victims and introduced paying fines to the government. Another way in which we see a more modern aspect of Norman enforcement is the fact that laws were written down rather than oral – making them easier to enforce.
- Changes were also made to language in law. This changed to Latin after 1066, and became the language of the government. It was therefore important for society to learn it!
- The Anglo-Saxon system was brutal, using capital punishment such as mutilation and the 'ordeal' system. However, the Norman system could be worse!
- **The Ordeal system** was based on 'the Judgement of God' to prove a person's guilt or innocence. Often guilty people would confess, rather than endure the ordeal.
- **Ordeal by Fire** – a person had to put their arm into boiling water or hold a red hot iron bar and walking three paces. Their arm would be bandaged. If it started to heal after three days they were innocent, if it didn't they were guilty.
- **Ordeal by Water** – a suspected person was strapped to a chair and thrown into a lake. If they floated they were guilty and executed. The accused died in any case, as they would most likely drown.
- **Ordeal by Combat** – introduced by the Normans. If a nobleman was accused of a crime he would fight his accuser, and whoever won would be classed as right. The loser was wrong and usually dead by the end of the ordeal.
- **Forest Laws** – King William liked hunted and did not tolerate people hunting on his lands. If anyone was caught hunting in forest, they would be fined and mutilated, or even executed.

Explain what was important about the reforms to law and order under William I.  
(8 marks)



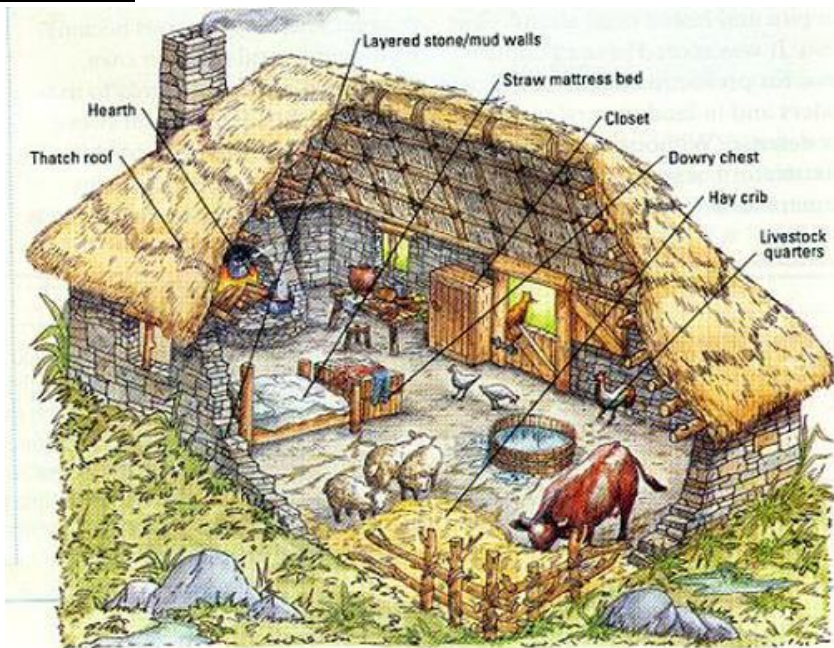


## KS4: History Knowledge Organiser: Norman England

### Life in a Norman Village

- 90% of people lived in the countryside during this period. The villages were controlled by the Lord of the Manor.
- For many peasants, the Norman conquest had little effect on them. They many have only had a new Norman landlord, their duties remained the same. They lived in cottages, grew crops and grazed their animals.
- At the centre of the village was a church made of stone. This was the most important building in the village. Peasants spent much of their time in church. In addition, the church was used to store goods, serve as a prison, and in times of danger as a fortress.
- The open filed system – farmland within and around the village was surrounded by hedges. Some fields were used to graze cattle, others for growing crops. The fields for crops were divided into individual strips but were not separated by fences/walls/hedges. About 25% to 35% of the land was kept for the use of the lord and the rest for the peasants. Each peasant was responsible for farming a number of strips and paid the lord rent in the form of money or a share of the crops.
- Some fields were left to lie fallow so the soil was given time to recover to then be replanted again.

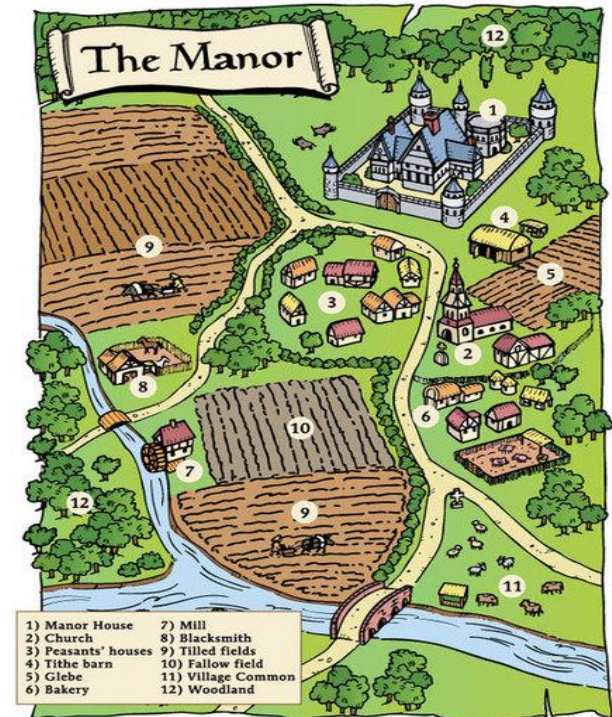
### Peasant Homes



| Key Terms      | Definitions  |
|----------------|--|
| Fallow         | Fields were left to lie empty for a year or two.                     |
| Serfs/Villeins | Poorest peasants   |
| Freeman        | Group of peasants that lived in the manor but still had to pay rent. |

### Manors

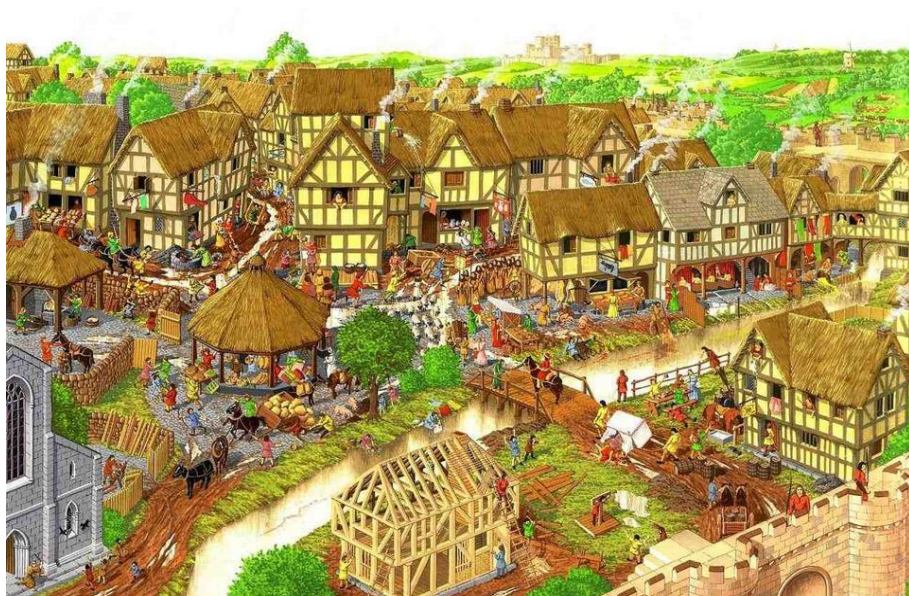
- Manors were specific areas within villages that included the manor house, barns, churches, villagers houses, grazing land and mills and had many roads running through them.
- Peasants did not own the land, they simply worked on it. However, they were offered protection from knights if they owned it.
- Manor houses were made from stone rather than wattle and daub (mud and straw), and were warmer and secure.
- Peasants could not leave their manor unless they were given permission to do so. Their lives evolved around obeying rules.



## KS4: History Knowledge Organiser: Norman England

### Life in a Norman Town

- London became increasingly important, as did Norwich.
- Smaller towns grew due to their markets.
- The Norman nobles encouraged local towns to develop as this would develop trade; this was especially the case for towns in the south as they had more links to Normandy and the continent.
- Between 1066 and 1100, 21 new towns were created around the country.
- A good indicator of the size and development of a town was the number of burgesses who lived there. They owed services and taxes to a lord and could buy and sell property. They had legal and administrative responsibilities but the amount of power they wielded did vary from place to place.
- Houses were built close together and conditions were cramped.



Write an account of the ways in which Norman life changed under the Normans.  
(8 marks)



| Key Terms | Definitions                                       |
|-----------|---|
| Burgesses | Town dweller from the upper ranks of townspeople. |

| Trade             | Impact on growth   |
|-------------------|--|
| Salt trade        | An important product that was used in food and as a preservative. Towns such as Droitwich grew rapidly due to the production of salt.  |
| Metalwork         | Production of iron and lead was important in Norman England for building houses and making weapons. Towns that specialised in metalwork were situated near woodland due to the fact that wood was used for the furnaces. One of these towns was Gloucester, wood was sourced from the Forest of Dean.                          |
| Wool trade        | Wool was in great demand for making clothes. Produced in the countryside, but was brought to markets via major rivers. Some coastal towns grew as centres of international trade. Trade in wool links to trade in fine cloth and wine too.   |
| Guilds            | Trades joined together in specialist associations. They often had considerable power.  |
| Markets and fairs | Could only be held with a franchise from the king or government. After 1066 grants were given. Markets gave traders somewhere to sell, fairs could mark religious events too. They were also economically important as they were sponsored by the church. Traders bought and sold products there, and there were entertainers. |

The Normans brought stability in trade during this period leading to the development of many towns.

## KS4: History Knowledge Organiser: Norman England

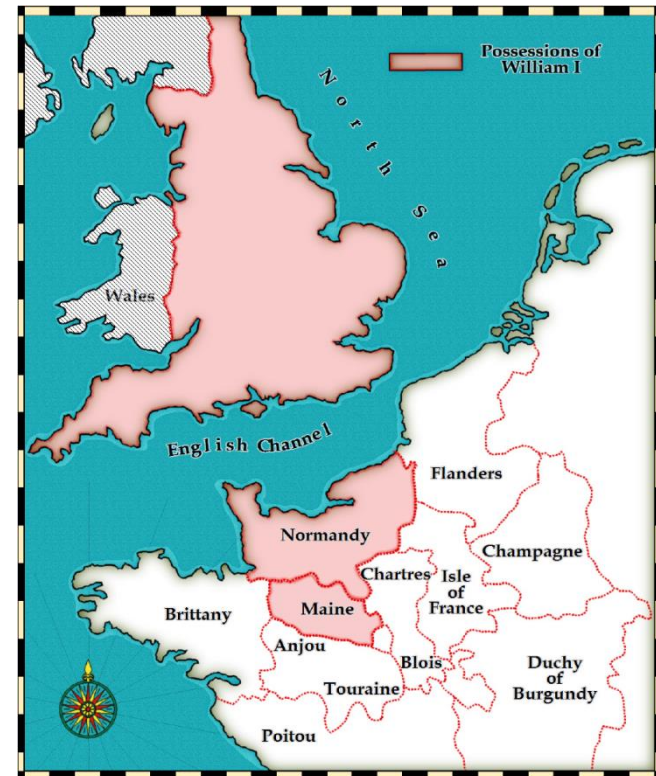
### Did the Norman Conquest change everyday life?

|                 | Aristocracy  | Peasants   |
|-----------------|--|--|
| <b>Land</b>     | Many Anglo-Saxon landowners rebelled against the Normans, so William took over the land. Gave some to the church, to himself and the rest divided amongst Norman earls. Due to this, it made it less likely that people would rise up against William as the earldoms were smaller. A new social class was formed – knights. They could also be landlords. | Life did not change significantly. Still worked on the land under new owners.  |
| <b>New Laws</b> | Introduced the Exchequer and minting system to Normandy as William was impressed by its use in England. Trial by jury and trial by combat introduced but the aristocracy were the only ones that could demand this.  | Some laws affected the peasants. New Forest Laws – peasants faced fines, imprisonment or death if they hunted in the forest (this was for the king). |
| <b>Castles</b>  | Built in order to protect themselves from the Anglo-Saxon locals. Role developed over time, so they also became centres for trade and commerce.  | Many locals worked and lived within the walls of the bailey.   |
| <b>Language</b> | Vast majority were Norman, language became French over English. However, the language of religion was Latin. As time went on the languages did start to merge 'Anglo Norman',  | Continued to speak English. However, Norman words did creep in such as arrow, bow, armour, battle, castle, baron, knight and earl.                   |

| Key Terms | Definitions                     |
|-----------|---------------------------------|
| Exchequer | Where the king's money is kept. |

### By how much did life change?

- Life did change, however, this depended on social status.
- For those that were at the top of the hierarchy when the Normans arrived, the impact was significant. There was an almost complete change from the Anglo-Saxon system.
- However for Peasants, there was little change.
- King William's intention was never to change every aspect of English life and make it completely Norman.
- He took positives from Normandy and England to make sure that both were successful, efficient, profitable and secure.



## KS4: History Knowledge Organiser: Norman England

### How religious was William I?

- King William was a deeply religious man. He was aware that the people who ran the English church were not following the rules set by the Pope in Rome. He was keen to reform the Church of England. Therefore, once he was king he set about changing and improving the English Church.
- William built new churches and cathedrals in England to show how grateful he was to God for the support in Hastings. He built an abbey on the site he fought in Hastings.

| Area          | Reform   |
|---------------|--|
| Bishops       | Anglo-Saxon bishops and archbishops were removed and replaced with Normans. By 1080, there was only one Anglo-Saxon bishop left.   |
| Architecture  | At first Normans stole treasure of many of the English monasteries and took the Church's land. However, the Normans soon began rebuilding churches and cathedrals in the Romanesque style e.g. Gloucester, Bath and Durham. This style favours clean lines, with a simple but impressive design. |
| Organisation  | After 1066, the church became better organised. Dioceses were divided into archdeaconries, which were then furthered into deaneries. New cathedrals were built in important towns and cities such as Salisbury.  |
| Legal issues  | 1076 – the Council of Winchester ordered that only the church courts could try the clergy. William also adhered to the Papal law and reintroduced a tax on 1p, which every household had to pay the Pope.  |
| Parish priest | Peasants did not experience changes to their religious experience under the Normans. Local priest were poorly educated and some were married.  |

### Archbishop Lanfranc (1010-1089)

In 1066 Lanfranc went to Rome to obtain the Papal Banner for William before the English invasion. He advised King William on religious affairs, and played an important role in King William's reform of the church in Normandy and in England. He became Archbishop of Canterbury in 1070.

| Key Terms      | Definitions  |
|----------------|--|
| Reform         | Changing things                                      |
| Dioceses       | Area of land served by the church/cathedral          |
| Archdeaconries | The district for which an archdeacon is responsible. |
| Deaneries      | Group of parishes looked over by a rural dean.       |

### Relationship between the Norman kings and the Pope

- Although William had enjoyed the support of Pope Alexander II to fight at Hastings in 1066, his relationship was not entirely positive throughout his reign.
- Immediately after the battle, Pope Alexander ordered King William and his men to do penance for all of the killing and destruction that had happened during the campaign.
- As a result, King William built Battle Abbey. William used a geld (tax) to extract money from religious houses to do this and was continued by his son.
- Both William I and William II used religious positions to promote or reward people, but it was only the Pope or the Church who had the power to do this, not kings. This led to disagreements.

### Normans and the wealth of the church

- Both William I and William II used the church for their own personal gain.
- For example, in a monastery in Abingdon, a Norman monk melted down a chandelier for £40 (£35,000) and carried off precious dishes to Normandy.
- Statues of Virgin and Child were stripped of the gold, silver and gems that decorated them.
- Normans often stole from English churches.
- However, although these stories are common, they were written by chroniclers who probably wanted to portray the Normans unfavourably.

## KS4: History Knowledge Organiser: Norman England

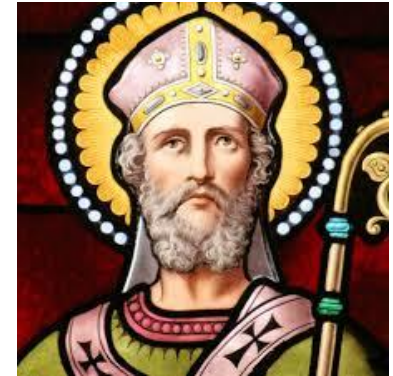
| Key Terms  | Definitions   |
|------------|---|
| Last rites | (In the Christian Church) rites administered to a person who is about to die. |

### Archbishop Anselm (1033-1109)

- 1063 – was made Prior of Bec monastery (later Abbott), where he was highly respected, and wrote books about Gods existence and faith.
- Summoned to England to succeed Lanfranc as Archbishop of Canterbury in 1093.
- Had many arguments with William II and Henry I about their abuses of the church. He was banished on two occasions and went to Rome to support the church.
- He remained Archbishop of Canterbury until he died.
- He always put the Church before the King.

### How important was Anselm?

- When Lanfranc died in 1089, King William did not replace him and simply took money from church property while he managed the area himself. He had to deal with a number of rebellions and the money he acquired helped him with this. However, when he became ill in 1093 he thought it was due to his greed and stealing from the church so asked Anselm to hear his confession and administer his last rites. Anselm was appointed as Archbishop as recognition of this.
- Anselm proposed reforms for the Church in Europe.
- In 1097, William II and Anselm argued over a campaign regarding Wales. Anselm asked to leave and fled to Rome.
- This showed that Anselm recognised the authority of the Pope rather than the King.



### Church reforms of Pope Gregory, 1073-1085

- Be independent of the monarchs of Europe and take care of its own affairs.
- Remove corruption within the church.
- Develop moral principles of the clergy.
- Ensure monks and priests were celibate.
  
- In 1078, Pope Gregory banned kings from appointing bishops and abbots in order to retain the Church's independence. This led to a struggle between the Pope and the monarchs of Europe.

Explain what was important about the Norman reforms of the Church.  
(8 marks)



## KS4: History Knowledge Organiser: Norman England

### What were Norman religious buildings like?

- Romanesque.
- Norman cathedrals were used as a form of intimidation.
- Scale and beauty of cathedrals and abbeys were designed to show the strength of the Norman faith.
- Cathedrals were built in a cross to symbolise the crucifixion of Jesus.
- Cathedrals were also powerful political bases as bishops played a role in running the country.
- They also attracted pilgrims as they often had shrines.

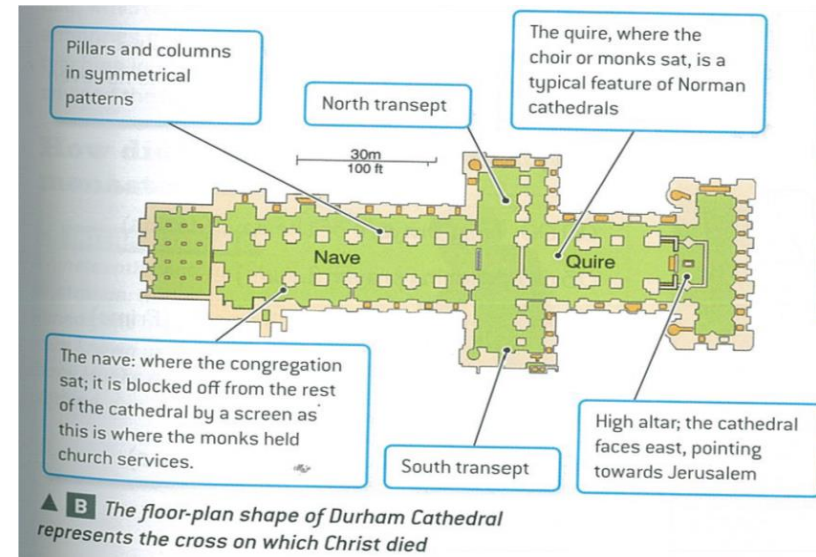
### Durham Cathedral

- Strategic position on high ground above the River Wear.
- Structure dominates the landscape and reminded people that the Normans were in control.
- Durham also has a fortified castle, which provided additional protection.
- Durham was politically important offering a buffer zone along the border with Scotland.
- Earls found it difficult to control the area so the kings gave the Bishop of Durham additional secular powers meaning he had legal powers outside of the church.
- Later, the Bishop became a prince bishop which meant he could raise an army, impose taxes and mint coins to raise revenue (income), as long as he defended the border for the king.
- In 1093 building work started in Durham on a monastic cathedral for Benedictine Monks.
- Construction was started under by William of Calais and finished by Ranulf Flambard, both Bishops of Durham.
- It intended to house the shrine of St. Cuthbert (important to Anglo-Saxons) and attract pilgrims.

### Timeline of Durham Cathedral

|                     |  |  |                               |                              |
|---------------------|--|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1072                | 1075   | 1093–1133                                | 1096                          | 1128                         |
| Norman Chapel built | Bishop of Durham becomes Prince Bishop of Durham | Cathedral is built over a 40 year period | The <b>quire</b> is completed | The <b>nave</b> is completed |

| Key Terms | Definitions  |
|-----------|--|
| Shrines   | A holy or sacred place, which is dedicated to a specific deity, ancestor, hero, martyr, saint, daemon, or similar figure of awe and respect. |



**KS4: History Knowledge Organiser: Norman England**

**Durham Cathedral**