

WWII

Curriculum Links:

A study of an aspect or theme in British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066
A local history study

Key Facts:

- WWII was the most destructive war in history and was fought between the Allies (Britain, the US, Soviet Union) and the Axis (Germany, Japan, Italy) between 1939 and 1945.
- Adolf Hitler had been voted as leader of the Nazi party in 1933, he made promises to make his country great again and to seize land from other countries. WWII began shortly after Germany invaded Poland.
- On the 3rd September 1939, Neville Chamberlain declared war on Germany.
- The Battle of Britain and the Blitz were military campaigns in which the RAF defended the United Kingdom against large scale attacks by Nazi Germany's air force: the Luftwaffe.
- Many measures were put in place to help keep the British safe: air raids, rationing and evacuation.
- Numerous campaigns were run by the British government to recruit soldiers, calm the public and give advice.
- WWII ended when the Allies accepted Germany's surrender, about a week after Adolf Hitler committed suicide. VE day celebrates the end of the war.
- Kent played a major role in the defensive operations of WWII

Possible trips/visits: We should already know:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WWII Workshop • Kent Life • Dover Castle • Chislehurst Cave | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The location of key countries in Europe • Characteristics of London • What remembrance day represents |
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Key Vocabulary

Air Raid	An attack by military aircrafts in which bombs are dropped
Allies	The armed force that fought against Germany—including the UK, USA and France
Axis	The armed forces that fought against the UK—including Germany, Japan and Italy
Blitz	A period between September 1940 and May 1941 where Britain was heavily bombed
Holocaust	A period in WWII where millions of Jews were murdered
Luftwaffe	The German Air Force
Nazi	A member of the far right political party in Germany
Propaganda	Information to promote a political cause—often biased or misleading
Rationing	A system of limiting the amount of food, water and other substances when there are not enough
Spitfire	The UK's main fighter aircraft