

	Y4 – The Battle of Britain
Links made with other subjects	English, Geography
The BIG Question	How did Britain help to defeat the Germans during the Battle of Britain? Was Britain always likely to win WW2?
The BIG Outcome	Short explanation to answer the big question
History objectives (link to NC) Prior knowledge What prior knowledge is needed for children to be successful in this unit?	 To develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British and world history Note connections, contrasts and trends over time and develop the appropriate use of historical terms They should regularly address and sometimes devise historically valid questions about change, cause, similarity and difference, and significance Understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources Children already know: Y1 – Changes within living history/beyond recent history)
Future learning Consider the conceptual knowledge within a subject that pupils need for future learning not just the recall of facts but the importance of concepts	This unit gives prior knowledge to: Y4 – WW2 in Bradford Y4/5/6 – British History (Romans, Anglo Saxons and Vikings)
Historical strands	 <u>Historical enquiry/ skills</u> Ask and answer question about the topic Us a range of sources to find out about the past Consider why and how different sources are useful Use artefacts, pictures, stories, visits, online sources, photographs, newspaper articles, written accounts, radio Primary and secondary sources
	 <u>Continuity, change, cause and effect</u> Describe the impact of then on now Describe how Bradford changed during this time – industry, workforce, architecture Devise historically valid questions about change, cause, similarity and difference and significance
	 <u>Governance/ Rulership</u> Britain's Prime Ministers - Neville Chamberlain and Winston Churchill Leader of Nazi Party – Adolf Hitler <u>Chronology</u>
Vocabulary/	 Sequence important dates on a timeline using a dated scale WW2, Hitler, Luftwaffe, evacuation, declaration, home front, front line, bombs, Blitz,
Glossary	air raid shelters, production, factories, civilians, strategy
Knowledge (see italics for knowledge to remember)	The knowledge that children will learn and remember:

History Scheme of Work



- World War II was a global war that lasted from 1939 to 1945. World War II was by far the deadliest conflict in human history, and resulted in 70 to 85 million fatalities, a majority being civilians.
- The news that Britain was at war was broken by Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain at 11.15am on Sunday 3 September 1939. In a 5 minute broadcast on the Home Service, he announced that as Hitler had failed to respond to British demands to leave Poland.
- 3. Dunkirk

On 10th May 1940, Germany invaded Belgium and the Netherlands. Hitler issued Directive 13, which called for the Luftwaffe (Germany's Air Force) to defeat the trapped Allied forces and stop their escape from Dunkirk. Hitler ordered the panzer groups to continue their advance, but most units took another 16 hours to attack. *Historians considered the failure to order a timely assault on Dunkirk to be one of the major German mistakes on the Western Front* and was referred to as "one of the great turning points of the war".

- 4. Surrounded by marshes, Dunkirk boasted old fortifications and the longest sand beach in Europe, where large groups could assemble. After continued engagements and a failed Allied attempt on 21 May at Arras to cut through the German spearhead, the BEF (The British Expeditionary Force) was trapped, along with the remains of the Belgian forces and the three French armies.
- 5. On 27 May, the first full day of the evacuation, the Luftwaffe heavily bombed Dunkirk. The last of the British Army left on 3 June. Churchill insisted on coming back for the French, and the Royal Navy returned on 4 June to rescue as many as possible of the French. Around 16,000 French soldiers and 1,000 British soldiers died during the evacuation. 90% of Dunkirk was destroyed during the battle.

6. The Battle of Britain

The Battle of Britain was a military campaign in which the Royal Air Force (RAF) and the Fleet Air Arm (FAA) of the Royal Navy defended the United Kingdom against large-scale attacks by the Luftwaffe.

- The Battle of Britain has the unusual distinction that it gained its name before being fought. The British officially recognise the battle's duration as being from 10 July until 31 October 1940, which overlaps the period of large-scale night attacks known as the Blitz.
- 8. The primary objective of the German forces was to compel Britain to agree to a negotiated peace settlement. In July 1940, the air and sea blockade began, with the Luftwaffe mainly targeting coastal-shipping convoys, as well as ports and shipping centres such as Portsmouth. *As the battle progressed, the Luftwaffe also targeted factories involved in aircraft production and strategic infrastructure. Eventually, it employed terror bombing on areas of political significance and on civilians.*
- 9. The *Luftwaffe*'s poor intelligence meant that their aircraft were not always able to locate their targets, and thus attacks on factories and airfields failed to achieve the desired results. *The Battle of Britain marked the first major defeat of Germany's military forces,* with air superiority seen as the key to victory

10. <u>The Blitz</u>

It was decided to focus on bombing Britain's industrial cities, in daylight to begin with. The main focus was London. Initially, the change in strategy caught the RAF off-guard and caused extensive damage and civilian casualties.

11. Everyday life for people of Britain in cities - For eight consecutive months, every dawn brought a new terrible toll. More bodies, more craters in the street, more buildings reduced to rubble and more fires. People emerged from air raid shelters, from under railway arches or merely from under the stairs, to see if their homes were still standing, or if their neighbours were still alive. Then they dusted themselves down and went to work.



History Scheme of Work

	 12. Despite the bombing, British production rose steadily. After Hitler changed his strategy and began bombing cities, it gave Britain time to repair. There were numerous deaths and mass destruction but overall the Blitz was a loss for the Germans. 13. It might not seem as though it was a major turning point but it could be argued that without Britain's involvement in the war, we may have had a much different outcome.
SEND expectations	1. World War II was a global war that lasted from 1939 to 1945
	 Hitler called for the Luftwaffe (Germany's Air Force) to defeat the trapped Allied forces and stop their escape from Dunkirk. Hitler ordered the panzer groups to continue their advance, but most units took another 16 hours to attack. The Luftwaffe heavily bombed Dunkirk. The last of the British Army were evacuated on 3 June. The Battle of Britain was a military campaign to defend the United Kingdom against large-scale attacks by the Luftwaffe. The Luftwaffe's poor intelligence meant that their aircraft were not always able to locate their targets, and thus attacks on factories and airfields failed to achieve the desired results. The Battle of Britain marked the first major defeat of Germany's military forces, with air superiority seen as the key to victory Everyday life for people of Britain in cities It might not seem as though it was a major turning point but it could be argued that without Britain's involvement in the war, we may have had a much different outcome.