

# Year 1 and 2 Knowledge Organiser History – Castles and Knights

## Key Vocabulary

1	castle	A large strong stone building where a noble family lived with his family and servants. Castles were usually built as a way to keep people safe from attacks.
2	moat	A deep ditch dug around a castle, often filled with water. They are used to make it harder for enemies to attack.
3	portcullis	A heavy metal gate that slides up and down to stop enemies getting into a castle.
4	battlement	The top part of a castle wall with gaps to hide behind and shoot arrows through.
5	drawbridge	A wooden bridge that can be lifted up to stop people from crossing the moat.
6	catapult	A big machine that throws rocks or other things to break walls or scare enemies.
7	knight	A brave warrior who wears armour and fights to protect the castle and its people.
8	chainmail	A type of armour made of tiny metal rings linked together, worn by knights.
9	shield	A big, strong piece of metal or wood a knight holds to protect themselves in battle.
10	gauntlet	A metal glove worn by knights to protect their hands.
11	coat of arms	A special picture or symbol used to show which family or group someone belongs to.
12	motte and bailey	A type of early castle with a wooden tower on a hill (the motte) and a village area below (the bailey), surrounded by a fence and a moat.
13	siege	When an army surrounds a castle and stops food and supplies from getting in, trying to make the people inside surrender.

## Key events

<b>1066</b> <b>The Battle of Hastings</b>	The Norman-French army of William the Duke of Normandy defeated the Anglo-Saxon King Harold – beginning the Norman conquest of England.
<b>1200</b>	The last motte-and-bailey castle was built in 1200.
<b>1265</b>	The siege of Dover castle and the attack on Eleanor Demontford.
<b>1571</b>	The attack on Edinburgh castle and Mary Queen of Scots.

## Parts of a Castle

