**Did the Norman’s annihilate Anglo-Saxon England?**

**Knowledge Organiser**

**Annihilate**  - completely destroy

**Castles** – The Norman’s built 500 castles by the end of the 11th Century. Some historians think it could be up to 1000 castles. They were only 3 Anglo-Saxon castles before. The Norman’s also built castles were there had been an Anglo-Saxon rebellion, to stamp control. For example, after the rebellion of Hereward the Wake, the Normans built a Castle and Cathedral in Ely.

**Society** – William introduced the **Feudal System** from France, to ensure control. Anglo-Saxons Ealdormen were replaced by Norman Barons and Thanes with Norman Knights.

Similar hierarchy structure to before but Ealdorman and Knights replaced and slaves removed.

**Church and Culture** – The Normans built 7000 churches and 30 cathedrals. Norman churches were made from stone and tended to be bigger. William deliberately replaced Winchester Cathedral with a bigger Norman one, as it was a special and important place to the Anglo-Saxons.

Priests could no longer marry. Most Bishops were replaced with Norman Bishops.

Anglo-Saxon religion - Christianity remained, celebrations, ceremonies such as marriages, funerals, Easter and Christmas.

Anglo-Saxon English language survived as women spoke to their children in English, servant women and nurse maids continued the language. French was spoken in court.