

Key Event Timeline-WW2	
30 January 1933	Adolf Hitler becomes Chancellor of Germany. Starts rearming Germany.
23 August 1939	Nazi-Soviet Pact is signed. Alliance between Germany and USSR (Russia).
1 September 1939	Germany invaded Poland. They used a new method called Blitzkrieg.
3 September 1939	Britain declare war on Germany.
Spring 1940	Dunkirk. After German Blitzkrieg tactics, thousands of allied troops evacuated from Dunkirk to England.
July-October 1940	Battle of Britain. British Royal Air Force [RAF] defend Britain from Germany's air force, Luftwaffe.
June 1941	Germany turn against Russia and invade.
7 December 1941	Japanese launch a surprise attack on the US Naval Base at Pearl Harbour, Hawaii. Leads to USA joining the war.
June 1942	The Battle of Midway. Japanese forces beaten by US forces stooping their advance.
July 1942- February 1943	The Battle of Stalingrad. Russian forces fight back against German invasion and push them back.
October- November 1942	El Alamein. British troops defeated German troops in Africa. Winston Churchill called it the 'turning point of the war'.
6 June 1944	D-Day. Allied troops landed on the beaches of Normandy, forcing German troops back.
30 April 1945	Hitler commits suicide and Germany surrender days later.



St. Benet Biscop Catholic Academy – Humanities Faculty
 Knowledge Organiser- Year 9
 Topic: Conflict at Home and Abroad: World War Two



- Enquiry questions**
- How did war spread across Europe?
 - What was the British response to war on the Home Front?
 - How did war impact on women and children, in Britain and Germany?
 - Who faired better in 1942?
 - How did the war come to an end in 1945?

- 'If we want to understand the war, we have to grasp that fighting and home fronts, strategic decisions and economic effects, military contingencies and political opportunities were all interconnected. Only by linking them together can we start to understand the course and consequences of the war'.
- 'It's important to put Britain's experience of war into international context in order to understand how distinct it was, and just how lightly the British managed to escape from their second encounter with a modern war'.



Selected Key Words and Definitions	
Appeasement	The policy of giving someone what they want in the hope that they will stop their demands.
Blitz	The German air raids on major British cities in 1940-1941
Blitzkrieg	The intense German military campaign using tanks, aircraft and troops to bring about a swift victory.
Colony	A country controlled by another country as part of its Empire.
Conscription	The Government policy of forcing men to join the armed forces in wartime.
Evacuation	Being taken from places at risk during war, such as cities, to safer places, such as the countryside.
Home Front	The civilian population of a nation whose armed forces are engaged in war abroad.
Luftwaffe	The German air force until the end of the Second World War.
Munitions	Military weapons, ammunition, equipment and stores.
Rationing	Officially limiting the amount of items such as food allowed to each person during wartime.
Zeppelin	A large German airship used during the First World War for reconnaissance and bombing.

