St. Benet Biscop Catholic Academy: <u>Humanities Faculty</u>

Knowledge Organiser: Year 9 Theme: Local Study Topic: British Empire

<u>1585 & 1607</u> - First British colonies set up in North America at Roanoke & Jamestown

<u>1754-1763</u> – Britain and France fought for control of North America. Americans call this the French and Indian War. In Britain it is known as the Seven Years War. Britain won and gained dominance in North America. Occupied 13 colonies on the East Coast

<u>1776</u> – The 13 colonies signed the Declaration of Independence on 4 July 1776. Known as Independence Day

<u>1857</u> - 'Indian Mutiny' or 'War of Independence'. Rebellion in India over British Rule

<u>1881-1919</u> - Scramble for Africa. Britain & other countries fought to colonise land in Africa

<u>1926</u> - Balfour Declaration—Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa were completely independent countries

<u>1960s</u> - Most of African & Caribbean colonies got independence

1600 - The East India Company (EIC) was set up. Trading stations all set up and run by one company. It had its own private army and navy.

<u>1773</u> – Boston Tea Party. As a protest to rising taxes to tea, a group of unhappy Americans boarded 3 ships in Boston and dumped 342 crates full of tea.

<u>1783</u> - Britain lost the American War of Independence and therefore their colonies in America in the Treaty of Paris

1919 - Amritsar Massacre—British massacre in India

1947 - India & Pakistan given independence in the Partition of India.

1997 - Hong Kong given back to China

Key Words	<u>Definitions</u>
Industry	The work and methods involved in making things in factories.
Industrial Revolution	A complete change in the way things were made; with changes in population, transport and cities between 1745 and 1901
Raw Material	Natural substances such as coal, iron, ore, gold, oil etc
Empire	A group of countries ruled over by a single monarch or ruling power
Colonisation	The idea of taking over land for your own gain.
Commonwealth	A group of countries who were previously part of the British Empire
Britannia	Name and symbol used to represent Britain
Raj	Name given to British rule in India, late 1800s to early 1900s
Infrastructure	Basic physical organisational structures e.g. roads, electricity lines etc.
Missionary	Someone who works to spread religious beliefs

The Importance of the North East

- The River Tyne allowed other companies to contribute to the British Empire. An example being the Tyne-Tees Steam Shipping Limited.
- Individuals from the North East played important roles in the British Empire. Sir William Armstrong is regarded as the inventor of modern artillery and was knighted in 1859 after giving gun patents to the Government. The Empire was created from largely superior fire power and the North East played its part.
- Britain went through a dramatic transformation in the period 1780-1850, otherwise known as the 'Industrial Revolution'. This was largely from industry within the North East driving to develop an Empire. The North East was a particular industrial hub driving and developing Britain. Coal mined from the North East, and transported on railways built up by George Stephenson, powered factories and ships.
- Lesser known individuals, due to the conditions and harsh nature of life in the North East, found opportunities in the Army and Navy.

