



## The Stuarts

### Year 4

This unit builds on from the '*Kings and Queens*' unit in Year 1 and is designed to be taught in Lower Key Stage 2, ideally in Year 4 after the children have studied '*Law and Power (1154-1272)*', the '*War of the Roses*', and reformation of the church during the *Tudor* period (Henry VIII and the Reformation).

This unit aims to develop a chronologically secure understanding of this significant period of British history by diving deeper into the changing power of the monarchy during the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Throughout the unit, the children will use a range of sources to interpret the cause and consequence of significant events, such as the English Civil War, The Gunpowder Plot and the Great Fire of London, as well as analysing the influence of significant people including Oliver Cromwell and Sir Christopher Wren. When learning about Oliver Cromwell, the children will look at different historical perspectives of him and his time in power. During the unit, the children will develop a sound understanding of the political and religious context of this period and will be able to make comparisons and draw contrasts between the reigns of each monarch/leader, as well as looking at continuing and change over time.

Teachers may wish to consider exploring what happened in their local area during the plague of 1665-66 so that children can apply their historical knowledge in a local context.

This unit is focused on the key substantive concepts of **monarchy, law, religion** and **war**, providing children with important knowledge that will support their learning in Years 5 and 6. In particular, this unit develops an early understanding of the changing role of monarchy and parliament which will be built on during UKS2, where the children will focus on the 18<sup>th</sup> century through to the present day. The children will also be able to use their knowledge of the English Civil War learned during this unit to compare and contrast with more recent wars, such as *World War I* and II as well as the events of the *French Revolution*. Furthermore, this unit will help provide the political context of the *British Empire*.