

The Spring Partnership Trust – Knowledge Organiser

History Focus

Crime & Punishment

Year 6

When? (Key Knowledge)

AD410 - 1066
Anglo Saxons

Communities were divided into groups of 10 men, that were called **tithings**. These men were responsible for each other's behaviour. When a village needed to find a criminal, they would call upon all of the community to find them – this was called a **hue and cry**. Punishments ranged from hanging, branding and whipping to **trials by ordeal**

AD1066 - 1485
Middle Ages

Men from every village or town were appointed to keep law and order (**Parish Constables**). Whole villages were sent out to look for criminals and hunt them down. Punishments ranged from fines for murder, **wergild**, to hands being cut off for theft and tongues cut out for gossiping.

AD1485 - 1603
Tudor

The Tudors brought in even more terrifying punishments. Kings and queens were worried about **treason** – people plotting against them, so punishments for that were extremely severe. Public executions were very common. Public humiliation was also common; **drunkard's cloak** was introduced to embarrass those who were found to be inebriated (drunk).

AD1837 - 1901
Victorians

The **police force** was introduced (**peelers**). Some criminals were punished by being sent to live in Australia. This was called **transportation**. More prisons were built, which became the main punishment. **Hard labour** was carried out here.

Present Day

More sophisticated methods found to prevent and detect crime. Efits, fingerprinting and DNA introduced. **Capital punishment** (hanging) ceased.

Background Information

Crime and Punishment have changed hugely since the Anglo-Saxons. Over time, acts that were once seen as criminal, such as being drunk in a public place, have been decriminalised, whilst other crimes have been recognised as being extremely serious, requiring severe punishment such as the death penalty or incarceration for life. Through this topic we will look at what has influenced these change; compare crime across the ages to present day and the punishments given.

What? (Key vocab)

Spelling	Definition
crime	An action which constitutes an offence and is punishable by law.
sentence	A punishment for a particular crime decided and declared in a court of law.
laws	The set of rules that people in society must follow.
capital punishment	The legally authorised killing of someone as punishment for a crime.
rehabilitation	To improve your state of being
evidence	Something that gives proof or something to believe
Reformation	To give up bad behaviour

Who?

Sir Robert Peel -

- Established the Metropolitan Police Force (**29th September 1829**).

