

Name of unit Autumn 1 – The Tudors: Henry VIII and the Reformation. How unusual was the English Reformation?	
Expected Outcomes Understand the key figures and ideas behind the Reformation in Europe. Explore how and why Henry VIII broke with Rome. Evaluate the political and religious consequences of the English Reformation. Develop comparison and source analysis skills. Understand England’s religious changes in a wider European context.	
Developmental Focus Opportunities Linked Activity: “Reformation Roundtable” Interactive Role-Play Students take on the roles of Henry VIII, Thomas Cromwell, Martin Luther, John Calvin, and others. Each learner contributes arguments for or against church reform and records group decisions. Communication and Language: Engage in structured debate and explain theological or political views in simplified terms. Physical Development: Design and present a visual timeline or poster using scissors, glue, and manipulatives to show changes from 1517–1558. Personal, Social and Emotional Development: Discuss motivations and conflicts faced by reformers and monarchs to build empathy and perspective-taking. Literacy: Write a persuasive letter to the Pope from Henry VIII's point of view, using formal language and historical argument. Mathematics: Create and interpret bar graphs showing how many countries in Europe remained Catholic vs. turned Protestant by 1600. Understanding the World: Use maps to track the spread of Reformation ideas across Europe; compare beliefs of various reformers. Expressive Arts and Design: Create stained glass-style panels that depict religious reform ideas or key historical turning points.	
Key Learning Points	Powerful Knowledge
Causes and spread of the Protestant Reformation. Differences between Lutheran, Calvinist, and Anglican beliefs. Henry VIII's political motivations vs. religious reasoning. The English Reformation within a European context.	The Reformation was both a religious and political revolution. Changes to the Church were rooted in complex personal, national, and international factors. Belief systems are shaped by power, resistance, and identity.
Subject-Specific Vocabulary	Reading Opportunities
Reformation Papacy Protestant Excommunication	Extracts from: Treason by Berlie Doherty – A gripping story of religious conflict and loyalty during Elizabeth I’s reign, told from the viewpoint of a young boy.

Heresy Monastery Supremacy Parliament Indulgences Doctrine	Horrible Histories: Terrible Tudors by Terry Deary – A humorous and fact-filled introduction to Tudor life, religion, and monarchs. Tudors: A Graphic History by Peter Chrisp – A comic-style visual history of the Tudors, ideal for visual learners and reluctant readers.
Possible Misconceptions	Cross-Curricular Links
That Henry VIII's only motive was love for Anne Boleyn That all Protestants believed the same thing That religion and government were fully separate in Tudor times	RE: Beliefs and practices in Christianity English: Persuasive writing and historical narratives Geography: Mapping the Reformation across Europe Art: Religious symbolism in stained glass and iconography